

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING**

**October 20, 2008**

**BE IT REMEMBERED**, That the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning of the State of Mississippi met in an emergency meeting via teleconference on October 20, 2008 at 12:00 p.m. with public attendance available in Room 935 on the 9th floor of the Paul B. Johnson tower building in the Education and Research Center in Jackson, Mississippi, in the President's Conference Room in the Lucas Administration Building on the campus of the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and in Room 112 of Allen Hall on the Mississippi State University campus in Starkville, Mississippi. The following members participated in the teleconference: Mr. H. Ed Blakeslee, Dr. Stacy Davidson, Dr. Bettye Henderson Neely, Mr. Bob Owens, Mr. Aubrey B. Patterson, Mr. Alan Perry, Ms. Christy Pickering, Ms. Robin J. Robinson, Mr. Scott Ross, Dr. Douglas Rouse, Mr. C.D. Smith and Ms. Amy Whitten. The meeting was called to order by Ms. Amy Whitten, President.

**In accordance with Miss. Code Ann., §25-41-5, as amended, all votes taken during this teleconference meeting were recorded by name in a roll-call fashion. This emergency teleconference meeting was held to discuss a personnel matter at Mississippi State University.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On motion by Mr. Perry, with Ms. Robinson absent and not voting, the Board voted to close the meeting to determine whether or not it should declare an Executive Session. On motion by Mr. Perry, seconded by Ms. Pickering, with Ms. Robinson absent and not voting, the Board **voted to go into Executive Session** for the reason reported to the public and stated in these minutes, as follows:

Discussion of a personnel matter at Mississippi State University.

**During Executive Session, the following matters were discussed and/or voted upon:**

On motion by Mr. Blakeslee, seconded by Dr. Davidson, and unanimously passed by those present, the Board accepted the resignation of Mississippi State University Interim President, Dr. Vance Watson, effective immediately, and acknowledged his decision to retire from Mississippi State University effective October 31, 2008.

On motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Dr. Rouse, and unanimously passed by those present, the Board appointed former Mississippi State University Vice President Dr. Roy Ruby as Interim President of Mississippi State University.

**On motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Robinson, and unanimously passed by those present, the Board voted to return to Open Session.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion by Mr. Perry, seconded by Dr. Rouse, with Mr. Owens and Ms. Robinson absent and not voting, the Board members voted to adjourn.



President, Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning