

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
February 9, 2026**

BE IT REMEMBERED, That the Mississippi Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning of the State of Mississippi met in a special called meeting via Zoom at 12:00 p.m. on February 9, 2026, and pursuant to notice, to each and every member of said Board. The following members participated via Zoom: Ms. Amy Arrington, Mr. Don Clark, Dr. Ormella Cummings, Dr. Steven Cunningham, Mr. Jimmy Heidelberg, Ms. Teresa Hubbard, Mr. Gee Ogletree, Mr. Gregg Rader, and Mr. Charlie Stephenson. Mr. Jerry L. Griffith, Mr. Bruce Martin, and Mr. Hal Parker, were absent. The meeting was called to order by President Gee Ogletree.

ANNOUNCEMENT

President Ogletree took a moment to speak about the challenges that were presented by last month's Winter Storm Fern. Snow, ice, power outages, and blocked roads were just a few of the obstacles that stood before some of our universities, including Ole Miss, Mississippi Valley, and Delta State. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, he expressed thanks and appreciation not only for the leadership of these universities but also for the staff, especially the facilities teams and ground crews, who have worked tirelessly to address the damage from the storm and get the universities back up and running. Their dedication is appreciated. President Ogletree encouraged everyone to donate to the disaster relief fund at all three universities.

To comply with Miss. Code Ann. §25-41-5, as amended, all votes taken during this Zoom meeting were recorded by name in a rollcall. As reflected in the official meeting notice, the meeting was held to consider a contract for the cost of removing trees at the University of Mississippi damaged by the recent winter storms.

FINANCE AND BUDGET AGENDA

Presented by Trustee Charlie Stephenson, Chair

On motion by Trustee Stephenson, seconded by Trustee Hubbard, with Trustees Griffith, Martin, and Parker absent and not voting, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #1 as submitted on the Finance and Budget Agenda.

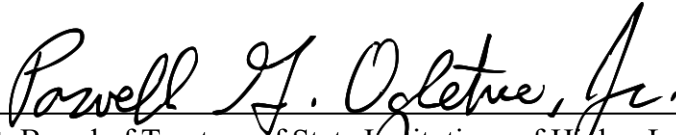
1. **UM** – Approved the request to amend an existing contract with Looks Great Services of MS, Inc. (LGS) for emergency debris removal services in the wake of the devastating impacts from Winter Storm Fern– including but not limited to – fallen trees, limbs, and various other types of vegetative and non-vegetative debris. This includes the trimming and cutting of trees and other plants, as well as hauling tons of debris to dump sites. The original contract capped the costs for the services at \$1,999,999, which is the Board's pre-approved threshold for the University. The need for emergency services from LGS is ongoing and will exceed this threshold for contracts. The original 90-day contract term began January 31, 2026, while the work began on January 29, 2026. The cost of the addendum to the original contract caps any expenses associated with the services at \$10,000,000 so work can continue without delay and

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interruption. The University will initially pay for the services with Internal R&R and will seek reimbursement from other funding sources including, but not limited to, FEMA, MEMA, and insurance. Legal Staff has reviewed the proposed agreement for compliance with applicable law and finds the same to be acceptable. The agreement is on file in the Board Office.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion by Trustee Hubbard, seconded by Trustee Heidelberg, with Trustees Griffith, Martin, and Parker absent and not voting, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.



President, Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning



Commissioner, Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning