MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
September 17, 2026

BE IT REMEMBERED, That the Mississippi Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning of the State of Mississippi met in a regular session in the Conference Center at the Longleaf Plantation in Purvis, Mississippi, at 8:30 a.m., and pursuant to notice in writing mailed by certified letter with return receipt requested on November 24, 2025, to each and every member of said Board said date being at least five days prior to this September 17, 2026 meeting. At the above-named place the following members were present to wit: Ms. Amy Arrington, Mr. Don Clark, Jr., Dr. Ormella Cummings, Dr. Steven Cunningham, Mr. Jerry L. Griffith, Mr. Jimmy Heidelberg, Ms. Teresa Hubbard (via Zoom), Mr. Bruce Martin (via Zoom), Mr. Gee Ogletree, Mr. Hal Parker, Mr. Gregg Rader, and Mr. Charlie Stephenson. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Steven Cunningham, President, with Trustee Jerry Griffith providing the invocation.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Stephenson, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve the Minutes of the Board meeting held on August 20, 2026.

CONSENT AGENDAS

On motion by Trustee Stephenson, seconded by Trustee Cummings, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve the following Consent Agendas.

FINANCE

1. **MVSU** – Approved the request to enter a grounds maintenance and landscape management services agreement with Rotolo Consultants, Inc. The term of the contract is three years starting on October 1, 2026 and ending on September 30, 2030 with the option to renew for two additional one-year periods. The total annual contract amount is $1,945,667.97 for the three year term plus the two optional years. A breakdown of costs is included in the September 17, 2026 Board Book. The contract will be funded by E&G funds. 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.
2. **MVSU** – Approved the request for retroactive approval to enter a Beverage Sales and Sponsorship Agreement with PepsiCo Beverage Sales, LLC to provide comprehensive and exclusive beverage services to the MVSU campus. The term of the contract is ten years from June 1, 2026 through May 31, 2036. This is a revenue generating agreement with a total guaranteed monetary support of $590,00 for the ten-year term, $90,000 of total additional in-kind non-monetary support. The agreement also includes cash rebates, vending commissions, and equipment/service support. These amounts depend on actual sales volume and usage, so they are not fixed contract amounts. 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.

3. **UM** – Approved the request to enter an exclusive aviation fuel contract with Avfuel Corporation for the purchase and resale of fuel by the University-Oxford Airport (Airport). The term of the contract is five years beginning October 21, 2026 and ending on October 20, 2031. This contract is a commodity contract involving the purchase and resale of aviation fuel. The price per gallon will be calculated weekly based on various factors set out in the contract. The refuel trucks will be leased the following rates: Jet trucks at a monthly rental rate of $450 and Avgas truck at a monthly rental rate of $250. A breakdown of costs is included in the September 17, 2026 Board Book. The contract will be funded with 21 account – Airport Auxiliary funds. 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.

REAL ESTATE

4. **ASU** – Approved the request to increase the budget for IHL 201-256, ASU Bicycle Path Improvements, from $1,661,384.93 to $1,805,449.23 for an increase of $144,064.30. The increase is necessary to stay aligned with the current cost estimate provided by the design professional. The project includes the development and construction improvements on an existing one-mile walking and bicycle path including lighting and trail entrances. Funds are available from University Funds ($420,961.79) and Federal Transportation Alternative Grant Funds ($1,384,487.44).
5. **USM** – Approved the request to increase the budget for GS 114-033, Executive Education Center (JOC), from $4,800,000 to $5,150,000 for an increase of $350,000 and to modify the funding source to include internal funds as a funding source for the project. The project scope remains unchanged which is to create spaces to house USM's Executive Education Center and related facilities. Funds are available from HB 603, Laws of 2023 ($4,800,000) and University Funds ($350,000).

PERSONNEL REPORT

6. ***Employment***

Mississippi Valley State University
Patricia Hoffman-Miller; Dean of Graduate Studies/Chair of Education; salary $119,000 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 12-month contract; effective October 1, 2026

REGULAR AGENDAS

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Presented by Trustee Teresa Hubbard, Chair

On motion by Trustee Hubbard, seconded by Trustee Rader, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #1 as submitted on the Academic Affairs Agenda. On motion by Trustee Hubbard,

seconded by Trustee Cummings, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #2.

1. **STATE** – Approved for first reading substantive changes to the Mississippi Nursing Degree Programs Accreditation Standards based on input from the Mississippi Council of Deans and Directors of Schools of Nursing according to national nursing trends and contemporary nursing practice/education. If approved, the proposed policy will be filed with the Office of the Secretary of State in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act. Here is a summary of the revisions.

   STANDARD II. Faculty and Staff
   New Criterion added:
   2. State Specific Requirements. i. The program is responsible for oversight of preceptors (e.g. mentors, guides, coaches) to maintain a preceptor to student ratio that is ideal to ensure quality clinical practicum experience(s) for the student(s) to meet course objectives.

   STANDARD IV. Curriculum
   2. State Specific Requirements. c. Prelicensure Program Simulation Clinical Hours: A prelicensure program may use a 1:1 ratio of simulation hours to direct clinical care hours as a substitute for direct patient care clinical experiences. A program that uses simulation as a substitute for direct patient care clinical experiences shall adhere to the following:
   1. 25% or less of ~~traditional~~ direct patient care clinical hours substituted with simulation clinical hours in each individual clinical course ~~does not require approval~~.
   2. 26% up to 50% of ~~traditional~~ direct patient care clinical hours substituted with simulation clinical hours in each individual clinical course ~~requires approval~~ if the simulation center is accredited by the Society for Simulation in Healthcare.
   3. No more than 50% of ~~traditional~~ direct patient care clinical hours can be substituted with simulation clinical hours in each individual clinical course.

2. **SYSTEM** – Approved the proposed amendments to Board Policy 521 Applied Baccalaureate Degree for final reading. **(See Exhibit 1.)**

REAL ESTATE AGENDA

Presented by Trustee Gregg Rader, Chair

On motion by Trustee Rader, seconded by Trustee Heidelberg, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #1 as submitted on the Real Estate Agenda.

1. **SYSTEM** – Approved the request to repeal Board Policy 909 Design Professional Selection without replacing the policy number and without renumbering the policy section. This would be for final approval of the proposed amendment and to waive the requirement for a second reading of the revisions as required by Board Policy 201.0302 Procedures for Changing Board Policies and Adopting New Policies. MS Code 73-13-45(1)(a) requires that any public construction contract that is awarded on work that exceeds $100,000 must have a registered professional engineer or architect that prepares the plans, specifications and estimates for the said project. MS Code 73-13-45(1)(b) allows the state or any of its political subdivisions to engage in construction of public buildings involving the practice of engineering and architecture and using the political subdivisions' workforces without the supervision of a licensed professional engineer or architect, provided that the total cost

of the public building does not exceed $150,000. All universities have been following the requirements of Code Section 73-13-45. Board Policy 909 should be repealed because it contains language inconsistent with state law and is unnecessary as all universities are required to follow state law.

~~**909 DESIGN PROFESSIONAL SELECTION**~~

~~All new construction and repair and renovation projects with budgets in excess of $250,000 or more undertaken by the institutions must have plans and specifications drawn for the purpose of advertising and for the receipt of bids. Plans and specifications are to be drawn by a professional architect or engineer unless otherwise recommended by the Board's Real Estate and Facilities staff and approved by the Board.~~

LEGAL AGENDA

Presented by Trustee Jimmy Heidelberg, Chair

On motion by Trustee Heidelberg, seconded by Trustee Ogletree, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #1 as submitted on the Legal Regular Agenda.

1. **SYSTEM** – Approved for final reading proposed amendments to Board Policy 1102.02 Payment of Outside Counsel as shown below. The Board waived the requirement for a second reading of the revisions as required by Board Policy 201.0302 Procedures for Changing Board Policies and Adopting New Policies.

1102.02 PAYMENT OF OUTSIDE COUNSEL

A. **Submission of Invoice**. Following receipt and approval of an invoice by the University, the invoice~~, with approval noted,~~ should be forwarded to the ~~Attorney General's Universities Division~~ IHL Office of Legal Affairs and Risk Management with a cover letter reflecting that the invoice has been reviewed for accuracy, reasonableness, and compliance with the legal services agreement, and approved by the University. The Office of Legal Affairs and Risk Management will submit the invoice and cover letter to the Attorney General's Office for review and payment approval.

B. **Approval of Invoice**. ~~The invoice will be reviewed and compared to the contract authorizing the services and fees.~~ Upon approval by the Attorney General's Office, the Office of Legal Affairs and Risk Management will notify the University of approval to pay.~~, the invoice will be forwarded to the Attorney General's Universities Division. The Attorney General's Universities Division will forward an approval letter to the University.~~

C. **Alternative Submission Methods.** The Commissioner may grant written permission for a University to use an alternative method for the submission of invoices to the Attorney General's Office which substantially complies with this policy.

~~C.~~D. **Report to the Board.** The ~~Attorney General's Universities Division~~ Office of Legal Affairs and Risk Management will report the approved outside counsel fees and expenses to the IHL Board of Trustees at the next regularly scheduled meeting, ~~through the Legal Committee, the outside counsel fees and expenses approved during~~ the previous month.

D. E. **Commissioner Approved Increase.** The Board hereby authorizes the Commissioner, on the Board's behalf, to approve an increase in the Board approved maximum amount budgeted for payment to outside counsel, by up to 25%, not to exceed a total contract amount of $250,000.00, and subject to

approval by the Attorney General's Office, in the event the original Board approved maximum amount for payment is subsequently determined by the Commissioner to be insufficient to complete legal representation. Any increase in the maximum amount budgeted for payment which would exceed 25% of the amount already approved by the Board or cause the total contract amount to exceed $250,000.00 requires Board approval.

INFORMATION AGENDAS

Presented by Commissioner Dr. Alfred Rankins, Jr.

REAL ESTATE

1. **SYSTEM** – The Board received the Real Estate items that were approved by the Board staff subsequent to the August 20, 2026 Board meeting in accordance with Board Policy 904 Board Approval. **(See Exhibit 2.)**

LEGAL

2. **SYSTEM** – The Board received a report of the payment of legal fees to outside counsel. **(See Exhibit 3.)**

ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

3. **SYSTEM** – The following items have been approved by the Commissioner on behalf of the Board and are available for review at the Board Office.
    a. **MSU** – On August 7, 2026 Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Station (MAFES) / Mississippi State University and the U.S. Agricultural Research Services (ARS) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). MSU's MAFES and the Delta Research and Extension Center in Washington County has leased approximately 4,776 square feet of greenhouse space since September 1, 2010 through August 31, 2021, with one additional five-year extension that will expire August 31, 2026. This is a new one-year lease with the option to renew for three additional one-year terms with the final term ending August 31, 2030, at a cost of $1 per annum. The IHL Associate Commissioner for Legal Affairs and Risk Management reviewed this item and found it compliant with Board Policy 707.01 Land, Property, and Service Contracts. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.
    b. **UM** – On August 7, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Easement Agreement between the University of Mississippi and Jerry A. Morrison, the owner of property adjoining university-owned Greenfield Farm, which the University is developing as a retreat-style writer's residency. The purpose of the easement is to allow UM to construct and access a driveway on the adjoining property owner's land that meets minimum emergency vehicle access width to UM's property. There is no consideration involved in this agreement, but the university obtained an appraisal which valued the permanent easement at $7,000. The IHL Associate Commissioner for Legal Affairs and Risk Management reviewed this item and found it compliant with Board Policy 707.01 Land, Property, and Service Contracts. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.

c. **UM** – On August 24, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Right-of-Way Easement Agreement between the University and 4 County Electric Power Association to allow 4 County EPA to install electrical facilities (equipment) on the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Station North Farm property located in Oktibbeha County. The IHL Associate Commissioner for Legal Affairs and Risk Management reviewed this item and found it compliant with Board Policy 707.01 Land, Property, and Service Contracts. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.

d. **USM** – On August 7, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Amendment to Sublease Agreement between the University of Southern Mississippi and Saronic Technologies, Inc. This amendment will increase the existing 1,996.36 square feet of space being leased in the USM Roger F. Wicker Center for Ocean Enterprises to 3,290.65 square feet. This amendment also increases the monthly base rent from $7,319.99 to $12,065.73. All other provisions of the original sublease remain unchanged. The IHL Associate Commissioner for Legal Affairs and Risk Management reviewed this item and found it compliant with Board Policy 707.01 Land, Property, and Service Contracts. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.

e. **USM** – On August 7, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between the University of Southern Mississippi and The Nature Conservancy for approximately 332 square feet of space in the Oceanography Building at the USM Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, specifically Rooms 144, 147, 148, and 148A. The term of the agreement is three years effective August 15, 2026. Lessee will pay the University base rent in the amount of $1,660 per month for the three-year term. The IHL Associate Commissioner for Legal Affairs and Risk Management reviewed this item and found it compliant with Board Policy 707.01 Land, Property, and Service Contracts. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.

f. **SYSTEM** – In accordance with Board Policy 401.0102 Delegation of Authority and 801.09 Resignations, each institution must submit quarterly employment reports to the IHL Executive Office. Two distinct presentations are to be submitted: 1) Summary of Hires and 2) Summary of Separations. In accordance with Miss. Code §37-101-7, as amended, the Board delegates to the Commissioner the authority to approve the quarterly reports of employment. On August 25, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the submitted report for FY 2024 Q1 submissions which cover the employment period beginning July 1, 2023 and ending September 30, 2023. IHL financial staff have reviewed and approved the institutions' submissions. A copy of the report will be maintained in the IHL Department of Finance.

g. **SYSTEM** – In accordance with Board Policy 401.0102 Delegation of Authority and 801.09 Resignations, each institution must submit quarterly employment reports to the IHL Executive Office. Two distinct presentations are to be submitted: 1) Summary of Hires and 2) Summary of Separations. In accordance with Miss. Code §37-101-7, as amended, the Board delegates to the Commissioner the

authority to approve the quarterly reports of employment. On August 25, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the submitted report for FY 2024 Q2 submissions which cover the employment period beginning October 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2023. IHL financial staff have reviewed and approved the institutions' submissions. A copy of the report will be maintained in the IHL Department of Finance.

h. **SYSTEM** – In accordance with Board Policy 401.0102 Delegation of Authority and 801.09 Resignations, each institution must submit quarterly employment reports to the IHL Executive Office. Two distinct presentations are to be submitted: 1) Summary of Hires and 2) Summary of Separations. In accordance with Miss. Code §37-101-7, as amended, the Board delegates to the Commissioner the authority to approve the quarterly reports of employment. On August 25, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the submitted report for FY 2024 Q3 submissions which cover the employment period beginning January 1, 2024 and ending March 31, 2024. IHL financial staff have reviewed and approved the institutions' submissions. A copy of the report will be maintained in the IHL Department of Finance.

i. **SYSTEM** – In accordance with Board Policy 401.0102 Delegation of Authority and 801.09 Resignations, each institution must submit quarterly employment reports to the IHL Executive Office. Two distinct presentations are to be submitted: 1) Summary of Hires and 2) Summary of Separations. In accordance with Miss. Code §37-101-7, as amended, the Board delegates to the Commissioner the authority to approve the quarterly reports of employment. On August 25, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the submitted report for FY 2024 Q4 submissions which cover the employment period beginning April 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2024. IHL financial staff have reviewed and approved the institutions' submissions. A copy of the report will be maintained in the IHL Department of Finance.

JOINT ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

Committee members participated in the meeting in person or via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Charlie Stephenson, Chair of the Finance Committee, at approximately 2:00 p.m. The following items were discussed.

1. The Committee received the nursing workforce report. **No action was taken.**
2. Executive Session
   On motion by Trustee Griffith, seconded by Trustee Ogletree, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Committee members legally present and participating voted unanimously to close the meeting to determine whether to declare an Executive Session. On motion by Trustee Ogletree, seconded by Trustee Rader, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Committee members legally present and

participating voted unanimously **to enter Executive Session** for the reason reported to the public and stated in these minutes, as follows:

There is one topic for discussion in executive session, the discussion of which in open session would be detrimental to IHL's legal interest. This topic was a discussion of the prospective leasing of land by the Mississippi University for Women along with the receipt and discussion of confidential legal advice from the Board's attorney regarding the lease.

During Executive Session, the following matters were discussed:

The Committee discussed the proposed lease and received and discussed confidential legal advice from the Board's attorney involving the proposed lease of land by the Mississippi University for Women. **No action was taken.**

On motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Clark, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Committee members legally present and participating voted unanimously to return to open session.

3. On motion by Trustee Clark, seconded by Trustee Parker, with Trustee Hubbard absent and not voting and Trustee Martin participating via Zoom, all Committee members legally present and participating voted unanimously to adjourn.

The following Committee members were present: Mr. Charlie Stephenson (Chair of the Finance Committee), Ms. Teresa Hubbard (Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee) (via Zoom), Ms. Amy Arrington, Mr. Don Clark, Jr., Dr. Ormella Cummings, Dr. Steven Cunningham, Mr. Jimmy Heidelberg, Mr. Jerry L. Griffith, Mr. Bruce Martin (via Zoom), Mr. Gee Ogletree, Mr. Hal Parker, and Mr. Gregg Rader.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

Committee members participated in the meeting in person or via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Charlie Stephenson at approximately 3:00 p.m. The following items were discussed.

1. The Committee received a presentation on the Performance Funding Framework. **No action was taken.**
2. Executive Session

   On motion by Trustee Ogletree, seconded by Trustee Cunningham, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Committee members legally present and participating voted unanimously to close the meeting to determine whether to declare an Executive Session. On motion by Trustee Heidelberg, seconded by Trustee Ogletree, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Committee members legally present and participating voted unanimously **to enter Executive Session** for the reasons reported to the public and stated in these minutes, as follows:

   There are eight topics for discussion in executive session, the discussion of which in open session would be detrimental to IHL's legal interest. These eight topics pertain to the job performance of a specific employees – one at the Alcorn State University, one at Delta State University, one at Jackson State University, one at Mississippi State University, one at the Mississippi University for Women, one at Mississippi Valley State University, one

at The University of Mississippi, and one at the University of Southern Mississippi. The Board will also receive and discuss confidential legal advice regarding these personnel issues.

During Executive Session, the following matters were discussed:

The Committee received and discussed confidential information pertaining to the job performance of a specific employees – one at the Alcorn State University, one at Delta State University, one at Jackson State University, one at Mississippi State University, one at the Mississippi University for Women, one at Mississippi Valley State University, one at The University of Mississippi, and one at the University of Southern Mississippi. **No action was taken.**

On motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Clark, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Committee members legally present and participating voted unanimously to return to open session.

3. On motion by Trustee Rader, seconded by Trustee Heidelberg, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Committee members legally present and participating voted unanimously to adjourn.

The following Committee members were present: Mr. Charlie Stephenson (Chair of the Finance Committee), Ms. Amy Arrington, Mr. Don Clark, Jr., Dr. Ormella Cummings, Dr. Steven Cunningham, Mr. Jimmy Heidelberg, Ms. Teresa Hubbard (via Zoom), Mr. Jerry L. Griffith, Mr. Bruce Martin (via Zoom), Mr. Gee Ogletree, Mr. Hal Parker, and Mr. Gregg Rader.

ANNOUNCEMENT

President Cunningham announced the next Board meeting will be October 15, 2026.

FIRST EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion by Trustee Ogletree, seconded by Trustee Heidelberg, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to close the meeting to determine whether to declare an Executive Session. On motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Arrington, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously **to enter Executive Session** for the reasons reported to the public and stated in these minutes.

There are nine topics for discussion in executive session, the discussion of which in open session would be detrimental to IHL's legal interest.

Topic one is the receipt and discussion of confidential legal advice from the Board's attorneys involving a cyber security incident at the IHL Board Office.

Topics two through eight are personnel matters involving the performance of particular employees – one at the Alcorn State University, one at Delta State University, one at Jackson State University, one at Mississippi State University, one at the Mississippi University for Women, one at Mississippi Valley State University, one at The University of Mississippi, and one at the University of Southern Mississippi. The Board will also receive and discuss confidential legal advice regarding these personnel issues.

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

The Board received and discussed confidential legal advice from the Board's attorneys involving a cyber security incident at the IHL Board Office. **No action was taken.**

On motion by Trustee Rader, seconded by Trustee Ogletree, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve the request for Dr. Denise Jones Gregory to serve on the Board of Directors for the Mississippi Children's Museum.

A motion was made by Trustee Ogletree, seconded by Trustee Heidelberg, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, to amend all institutional executive officer contracts which contain an National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) compliance clause by substituting with the following NCAA compliance clause language with all other terms in the contracts remaining unchanged:

> Employee has an affirmative obligation to cooperate fully in the infractions process and the process of the designated enforcement entity (if applicable), including investigation and adjudication of a case. An individual found in violation of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) regulations is subject to disciplinary or corrective action as set forth in the NCAA infractions process or the designated enforcement entity, including suspension without pay or termination of employment.

All trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve the amended motion.

On motion by Trustee Arrington, seconded by Trustee Cummings, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to grant Dr. Glenn Boyce, Chancellor of the University of Mississippi, a new four-year employment contract. The contract shall contain the same terms and clauses as found in Dr. Boyce's current employment contract with the following exceptions. The contract shall have a start date of October 1, 2026, and an ending date of September 30, 2030. The contract will include a state salary of $562,500 in contract year one and $550,000 in contract years two, three, and four and the University of Mississippi Foundation salary supplement will remain at $450,000 per year, each to be paid pro rata. The dates and salary of the standard multi-year clause shall be adjusted accordingly. The standard National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Clause shall be amended to reflect the new language referenced above. In light of the Board's desire to retain Dr. Boyce as Chancellor of the University of Mississippi, that such contract will include a retention provision which provides that if Dr. Boyce remains employed as Chancellor on the following milestone dates, he may receive a retention payment, such amount to be determined by the University of Mississippi Foundation Board, up to a maximum amount indicated below. The

retention payment will be provided in full to the University by the Foundation and then paid by the University in a lump sum to Dr. Boyce within sixty days after the milestone date.

- June 30, 2027, a retention payment up to a maximum of $275,000
- June 30, 2028, a retention payment up to a maximum of $275,000
- June 30, 2029, a retention payment up to a maximum of $300,000
- June 30, 2030, a retention payment up to a maximum of $300,000

On motion by Trustee Parker, seconded by Trustee Heidelberg, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to grant Dr. Mark Keenum a new four-year employment contract as President of Mississippi State University, containing the same terms and clauses as found in his current employment contract with the following exceptions. The contract shall have a start date of October 1, 2026, and an ending date of September 30, 2030. The contract will include a state salary of $562,500 in contract year one and $550,000 in contract years two, three, and four and a Mississippi State University Foundation salary supplement will remain at $450,000 per year, each to be paid pro rata. The dates and salary of the standard multi-year clause shall be adjusted accordingly. The standard National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Clause shall be amended to reflect the new language referenced above. In light of the Board's desire to retain Dr. Keenum as President of Mississippi State University, the contract will include a retention provision which provides that if Dr. Keenum remains employed as President through the following milestone dates, he may receive a retention payment, such amount to be determined by the Mississippi State University Foundation Board, up to a maximum amount indicated below. The retention payment will be provided in full to the University by the Foundation and then paid by the University in a lump sum to Dr. Keenum within sixty days after the milestone date.

- June 30, 2027, a retention payment up to a maximum of $475,000
- June 30, 2028, a retention payment up to a maximum of $275,000
- June 30, 2029, a retention payment up to a maximum of $300,000
- June 30, 2030, a retention payment up to a maximum of $300,000

The Board discussed privileged legal advice from the Board's attorney regarding involving the performance of a particular employee at the Mississippi University for Women. **No action was taken.**

On motion by Trustee Ogletree, seconded by Trustee Stephenson, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to return to Open Session.

Trustee Teresa Hubbard was previously appointed the chair of the Mississippi University for Women Board Search Committee. The Board announced the following members of the committee

1. Amy Arrington,
2. Dr. Steven Cunningham,
3. Jerry Griffith,
4. Charlie Stephenson, and
5. Gregg Rader.

The committee will conduct a national search with the assistance of a higher education search firm. A formal request for proposal will be issued for the selection of a search firm. The target date for selection of a new president is early in the spring semester of 2027.

The Board proceeded to the annual retreat discussions.

PRESENTATIONS

The Board received presentations from Mr. John Harris, Chief Audit Executive; Mr. Brad Rowland, Association Commissioner for Real Estate and Facilities at the Board Office; Dr. Alfred Rankins, Commissioner of Higher Education; Dr. Portia Granger, Associate Director of Sports Counseling and Performance at the University of Southern Mississippi; and Dr. Julie Jordan, Senior Adviser for Artificial Intelligence and Date Governance at Mississippi State University. **No action was taken.**

SECOND EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion by Trustee Ogletree, seconded by Trustee Stephenson, with Trustees Martin and Rader absent and not voting and Trustee Hubbard participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to close the meeting to determine whether to declare an Executive Session. On motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Griffith, with Trustee Rader absent and not voting and Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously **to enter Executive Session** for the reasons reported to the public and stated in these minutes, as follows:

There are two topics for discussion in executive session, the discussion of which in open session would be detrimental to IHL's legal interest.

Topic one is the receipt and discussion of privileged legal advice from the Board's attorney regarding pending litigation filed against the Board and compliance with state and federal law related to House Bill 1193.

Topic two is the receipt and discussion of privileged legal advice from the Board's attorney regarding compliance with specific state laws.

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

The Board received and discussed privileged legal advice from the Board's attorney regarding pending litigation filed against the Board and compliance with state and federal law related to House Bill 1193. **No action was taken.**

The Board received and discussed privileged legal advice from the Board's attorney regarding compliance with specific state laws. **No action was taken.**

On motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Arrington, with Trustees Martin and Rader absent and not voting and Trustee Hubbard participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to return to Open Session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion by Trustee Heidelberg, seconded by Trustee Cummings, with Trustee Rader absent and not voting and Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, 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

EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1 Proposed amendments to Board Policy 521 Applied Baccalaureate Degree for final reading.

Exhibit 2 Real Estate items that were approved by the IHL Board staff subsequent to the August 20, 2026 Board meeting.

Exhibit 3 Report of the payment of legal fees to outside counsel.

EXHIBIT 1

September 17, 2026

Approved of the proposed amendments to the following policy for final reading.

521 APPLIED BACCALAUREATE DEGREE

The applied baccalaureate degree is specifically intended to serve the needs of adults who have completed a technical associate degree program, such as an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) or an Associate of Applied Technology (AAT) from a community college accredited by The Commission on Colleges and Universities ~~SACSCOC accredited community college~~ in the state of Mississippi or comparable ~~regionally~~ accredited community college from another state. The applied baccalaureate degree is an accelerated pathway designed to assist adult learners who need additional education to advance their careers. Building upon the AAS, AAT, or other technical associate degree program, the applied baccalaureate degree prepares adult learners to assume leadership roles and make a greater contribution in the workplace.

The AAS and AAT degrees offered in Mississippi follow the 30/45/60 stackable credential model. At 30 hours, a career certificate is awarded. At 45 hours, a technical certificate is awarded. At 60 hours, an AAS or AAT degree is awarded. The AAS or AAT degree requires 15 credit hours of general education core courses. The general education core courses earned as part of the AAS or AAT may be accepted as satisfying half of the general education requirements for the applied baccalaureate degree. Provided the general education component of this degree program complies with ~~SACSCOC~~ The Commission on Colleges and Universities, an IHL institution may exercise flexibility in determining the remaining general education core requirements for the applied baccalaureate degree based on specific needs of adult learners in the workplace.

Applicants who have earned technical credits but have not earned a technical associate degree program may be considered for admission into an applied baccalaureate degree program at the discretion of the admitting institution. An IHL institution may award credit for technical expertise using prior learning assessment (PLA) and competency-based education (CBE) as outlined in Policy 518.

The minimum number of hours required in the applied baccalaureate degree is 120 credit hours, which may include 60 hours of credit with a 2.0 GPA earned as part of the AAS or AAT degree. Credits earned through prior learning assessment and competency-based education may be included as part of the 120 hours. Credits may be earned online, using blended formats, or through courses taught in the evenings or weekends in order to accommodate working adult learners. Of the 120 credit hours, 30 shall be completed in residence at the degree-awarding institution and 30 shall be upper-division credit.

Each IHL institution may offer an applied baccalaureate degree as a new baccalaureate degree. In cases where applied baccalaureate degrees already exist, they may be redesigned to meet the criteria set forth in this policy. An IHL institution may choose to offer more than one applied baccalaureate degree.

EXHIBIT 2

September 17, 2026

SYSTEM: REAL ESTATE ITEMS APPROVED SUBSEQUENT TO THE AUGUST 20, 2026, BOARD MEETING SUBMISSION DEADLINE

NOTE: THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD'S REAL ESTATE AND FACILITIES STAFF IN ACCORDANCE WITH BOARD POLICY §904(A) BOARD APPROVAL.

Change Order Approval Note: No change orders approved by Board staff, as reflected within any of the following informational agenda items, increase the Board approved total project budget. The total project budget as approved by the Board provides for a contingency fund, which allows for an increase in the construction budget of between five and ten percent. Any increase in the total project budget caused by a change order, would require Board approval and could not be approved by Board staff until the budget increase is approved by the Board.

ALCORN STATE UNIVERSITY

1. **ASU-IHL 201-278 J.D. BOYD LIBRARY RENOVATIONS**
   Approval Request: Schematic Design Documents
   Board staff approved the Schematic Design Documents as submitted by Waycaster-Dungan Architects & Engineers, PLLC.
   Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 26, 2026

2. **ASU-IHL 201-279 TENNIS COURTS RENOVATION**
   Approval Request: Award of Construction Contract
   Board staff approved the Award of Contract in the amount of $1,173,050.00 to Pinnacle Construction Group, LLC.
   Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 3, 2026
   Project Initiation Date: June 15, 2023
   Design Professional: Major Design Studio, PLLC
   General Contractor: Pinnacle Construction Group, LLC
   Total Project Budget: $1,313,822.50

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

3. **DSU-GS 102-266B CAMPUS HVAC IMPROVEMENTS PH II**
   Approval Request: Change Order #2
   Board staff approved Change Order #2 in the amount of $64,485.60 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of S.M. Lawrence Company, Inc.
   Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 27, 2026
   Change Order Description: Change Order #2 includes the following: furnishing and installation of forty-seven (47) VAV heating 3-way control valves and furnishing and installation of new supply and return grilles for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd floor corridors in Ewing Hall.

Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to user/owner requested modifications.
Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Two (2) change orders for a total amount of $467,985.60.
Project Initiation Date: January 19, 2023
Design Professional: Engineering Resource Group, Inc.
General Contractor: S.M. Lawrence Company, Inc.
Total Project Budget: $2,900,000.00

JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY

4. **JSU-GS 103-319 MCALLISTER WHITESIDE RESIDENCE HALL RENOVATION – PHASE III**
Approval Request: Change Order #1
Board staff approved Change Order #1 in the amount of $156,170.88 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of Fountain Construction Co., Inc.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 19, 2026
Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: removal and disposal of caulking on four (4) doors found to contain asbestos material, replacement of three (3) inoperable fire hydrants near the project site, and replacement of the existing electrical transformer with a new 750 KVA transformer.
Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to latent job site conditions and user/owner requested modifications.
Total Project Change Orders and Amount: One (1) change order for a total amount of $156,170.88.
Project Initiation Date: October 19, 2023
Design Professional: Foil Wyatt Architects and Planners, PLLC
General Contractor: Fountain Construction Co., Inc.
Phased Project Budget: $25,566,704.34
Total Project Budget: $27,602,500.63

5. **JSU-GS 103-343 JOC T.B. ELLIS ROOFING IMPROVEMENTS**
Approval Request: Change Order #2
Board staff approved Change Order #2 in the amount of $11,479.33 and forty-three (43) additional days to the contract of Alliant Construction.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 18, 2026
Change Order Description: Change Order #2 includes the following: raising and re-securing the existing metal wall panels on the west façade of the mechanical room penthouse and removing existing sealant/caulk at three existing exterior duct enclosures and roof curbs at the penthouses.
Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to latent job site conditions.
Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Two (2) change orders for a total amount of $50,929.61.

Project Initiation Date: November 20, 2025
Design Professional: Vernell Barnes Architect, PLLC
General Contractor: Alliant Construction
Total Project Budget: $3,000,000.00

6. **JSU-GS 103-344 JOC T.B. ELLIS INTERIOR RENOVATIONS**
Approval Request: Change Order #1
Board staff approved Change Order #1 in the amount of $109,457.65 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of Alliant Construction.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 18, 2026
Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: incorporating Davis-Bacon prevailing wage requirements and Build America Buy America compliance and provisions into the construction contract, due to federal funding of the project.
Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to changes in requirements and/or recommendations by governmental agencies.
Total Project Change Orders and Amount: One (1) change order for a total amount of $109,457.65.
Project Initiation Date: November 20, 2025
Design Professional: EGH Architects, P.A.
General Contractor: Alliant Construction
Total Project Budget: $3,000,000.00

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

7. **MSU-IHL 205-363 ROSENBAUM BUILDING RENOVATIONS & ADDITION**
Approval Request #1: Schematic Design Documents
Board staff approved the Schematic Design Documents as submitted by LPK Architects, P.A.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 31, 2026
Approval Request #2: Waiver of Design Development Documents
Board staff approved the waiver of Design Development Documents and proceeding with Construction Documents.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 31, 2026

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

8. **UM-IHL 207-489 OLE MISS GOLF COMPLEX**
Approval Request: Design Development Documents
Board staff approved the Design Development Documents as submitted by JBHM Architects, P.A.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 12, 2026

EXHIBIT 2

September 17, 2026

9. **UM-IHL 207-507 GILLOM SPORTS CENTER IMPROVEMENTS**
   Approval Request #1: Construction Documents
   Board staff approved Construction Documents as submitted by PryorMorrow PC.
   Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 17, 2026
   Approval Request #2: Advertise
   Board staff approved request to advertise for receipt of bids.
   Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 17, 2026

10. **UM-IHL 207-498.1 NW MECHANICAL PLANT PH III (PIPING)**
    Approval Request #1: Schematic Design Documents
    Board staff approved the Schematic Design Documents as submitted by Eley Guild Hardy Architects, P.A and waiving Design Development Documents.
    Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 20, 2026
    Approval Request #2: Construction Documents
    Board staff approved Construction Documents as submitted by Eley Guild Hardy Architects, P.A.
    Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 21, 2026
    Approval Request #3: Advertise
    Board staff approved request to advertise for receipt of bids.
    Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 21, 2026

11. **UM-IHL 407-008.2 NW MECHANICAL PLANT (ELECTRICAL PHASE II) – 13KV ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION IMPROVEMENTS – PART B**
    Approval Request: Change Order #1
    Board staff approved Change Order #1 in the amount of $303,774.52 and forty-two (42) additional days to the contract of Advance Electric Co., Inc.
    Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 14, 2026
    Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: re-routing of the electrical path due to a future roundabout being constructed in the originally designed path and changing the riser configuration at Pole 108 to be compatible with the remaining distribution improvements.
    Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to user/owner requested modifications.
    Total Project Change Orders and Amount: One (1) change order for a total amount of $303,774.52.
    Project Initiation Date: June 16, 2022
    Design Professional: Atwell & Gent, P.A.
    General Contractor: Advance Electric Co., Inc.
    Phased Project Budget: $1,473,678.90
    Total Project Budget: $25,200,000.00

12. **UM-IHL 407-013 WRITERS CABIN AND COMMUNITY**
    Approval Request: Award of Construction Contract
    Board staff approved the Award of Contract in the amount of $9,391,000.00 to the apparent low bidder, Roberts Builders, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 26, 2026
Project Initiation Date: January 16, 2022
Design Professional: Marlon Blackwell Architects, P.A.
General Contractor: Roberts Builders, Inc.
Total Project Budget: $12,000,000.00

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER

13. **UMMC-IHL 209-557 MEDCOM PES RENOVATIONS**
Approval Request: Change Order #4
Board staff approved Change Order #4 in the amount of $94,589.80 and forty-eight (48) additional days to the contract of Fountain Construction Co., Inc.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 14, 2026
Change Order Description: Change Order #4 includes the following: supply and installation of a 12-strand fiber run to UMMC Room 5, omitting a wall and ceiling work in Storage 230, handrails and bumpers in the corridor, installation of owner provided specialties, tie-in of the medical gas in the sub-basement, adding a fire pull at the nurse station, replacing outlet with emergency power, installation of full-height corner guards in Corridor 108, patching holes in the floor in PES evaluation rooms, installation of Exam 49 signage, replacing nine (9) receptacles in the PES suite with tamper-proof outlets, adding power, data and nurse call for TV in Exam 15, installation of HPDE plastic spacers behind the Ergotron Console units, relocation of an existing camera and new cameras in Processing 120, replacement of anti-ligature handles on eight exam room doors, adding anti-ligature soap and towel dispenser in Corridor 108, installation of heavy-duty door lite frames at Seclusion Room 118 and 119, and installation of curtain tracks at Holding and data in Storage Room 301.
Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to errors and omissions in the plans and specifications, latent job site conditions and user/owner requested modifications.
Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Four (4) change orders for a total amount of $332,861.94.
Project Initiation Date: June 16, 2016
Design Professional: Canizaro Cawthon Davis, P.A.
General Contractor: Fountain Construction Co., Inc.
Total Project Budget: $6,700,000.00

14. **UMMC-IHL 209-576 MS CENTER FOR MEDICALLY FRAGILE CHILDREN**
Approval Request: Change Order #6
Board staff approved Change Order #6 in the *credit* amount of $4,996.75 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of Mid State Construction of Mississippi, LLC.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 14, 2026
Change Order Description: Change Order #4 includes the following: *credit* for the contractor's contingency balance in the project, addition of drains in resident rooms,

additional thresholds at resident rooms, refinished floors at the new floor drain and drop chains for shower curtains.
Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to user/owner requested modifications.
Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Six (6) change orders for a total amount of $1,028,449.21.
Project Initiation Date: April 25, 2019
Design Professional: Eley Barkley Dale, a Joint Venture
General Contractor: Mid State Construction of Mississippi, LLC
Total Project Budget: $15,900,000.00

15. **UMMC-IHL 209-590 BATSON 2ND AND 4TH FLOOR FINISHES**
Approval Request #1: Construction Documents
Board staff approved Construction Documents as submitted by Burris/Wagnon Architects, P.A.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 10, 2026
Approval Request #2: Advertise
Board staff approved request to advertise for receipt of bids.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 10, 2026

16. **UMMC-IHL 409-006.2 SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY – BID PACKAGE A (SITE IMPROVEMENTS)**
Approval Request #1: Change Order #1
Board staff approved Change Order #1 in the amount of $86,003.60 and nineteen (19) additional days to the contract of Fondren Construction, LLC.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 10, 2026
Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: adding steel bracing at the existing Dental School, adding lintels and additional GPR at existing columns for demolition, demolition of the existing canopy and gas line relocation.
Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to errors and omissions in the plans and specifications, latent job site conditions and user/owner requested modifications.
Total Project Change Orders and Amount: One (1) change order for a total amount of $86,003.60.
Project Initiation Date: August 17, 2023
Design Professional: EGH Architects, P.A.
CMA: Innovative Construction Management, LLC
General Contractor: Fondren Construction, LLC
Package A Project Budget: $2,489,159.31
Total Project Budget: $40,000,000.00

EXHIBIT 2

September 17, 2026

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

17. **USM-IHL 208-301 REED GREEN COLISEUM RENOVATION**
Approval Request: Award of Construction Contracts
Board staff approved the Award of Contracts in the amounts listed below. The project is managed by a Construction Management Advisor (CMA), with each package being bid and awarded separately.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 11, 2025
Project Initiation Date: January 20, 2022
Design Professional: Wier Boerner Allin Architecture, LLC
CMA: Codaray Construction, LLC
Total Project Budget: $43,170,506.50
General Contractor: MitchCo Construction, Inc. (Package 3 – General Works)
Package 3 Award: $19,074,200.00
General Contractor: Daley Industrial Services, LLC (Package 4 – Electrical)
Package 4 Award: $3,262,433.00
General Contractor: Pat L. McKenzie, Inc. (Package 5 – HVAC/Plumbing)
Package 5 Award: $5,900,000.00
General Contractor: Southern Fire Sprinkler, Inc. (Package 6 – Fire Protection)
Package 6 Award: $324,000.00
General Contractor: MitchCo Construction, Inc. (Package 7 – Overbuilds and Seating)
Package 7 Award: $6,200,900.00

18. **USM-IHL 201-398 E-SPORTS ARENA AT THE HUB**
Approval Request: Schematic Design Documents
Board staff approved the Schematic Design Documents as submitted by CDFL Architects + Engineers, P.A.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 27, 2026

EXHIBIT 3

September 17, 2026

1. **SYSTEM – REPORT OF PAYMENTS TO OUTSIDE COUNSEL**

Legal fees approved for payment to outside counsel in relation to litigation and other matters:

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Brunini, Grower, Grantham and Hewes, PLLC (statements dated 7/23/26, 8/11/26 and 8/19/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of $612.50, $87.50 and $175.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 875.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Copeland, Cook, Taylor & Bush, PA (statements dated 7/14/26 and 8/10/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of $3,235.00 and $2,420.40, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 5,655.40

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statements dated 8/3/26, 8/18/26, 8/28/26 and 8/28/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of $29.41, $5,495.00, $543.00 and $551.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 6,618.41

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 7/29/26, 8/13/26, 8/26/26 and 8/26/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of $8,885.50, $5,621.00, $5,037.00 and $11,935.50, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 31,479.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Kaplan Kirsch (statement dated 8/17/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of $4,120.00, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 4,120.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Lightfoot Franklin White, LLC (statement dated 8/17/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of $9,424.50, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 9,424.50

EXHIBIT 3

September 17, 2026

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mayo Mallette, PLLC (statements dated 8/7/26 and 8/13/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of $3,147.00 and $250.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 3,397.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statements dated 5/12/26, 5/28/26, 6/11/26, 6/18/26, 6/18/26, 6/19/26, 6/26/26, 6/26/26, 7/10/26, 7/10/26, 7/14/26, 7/23/26, 7/23/26, 7/24/26 and 7/27/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of $5,150.00, $8,150.00, $6,150.00, $8,150.00, $1,000.00, $2,650.00, $5,150.00, $5,150.00, $2,650.00, $2,650.00, $2,650.00, $2,650.00, $2,650.00, $3,513.02 and $2,650.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 60,963.02

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Alexander Law, P.A. (statements dated 7/6/26, 7/6/26, 7/6/26, 7/6/26 and 7/6/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of $1,461.50, $4,421.50, $4,320.00, $460.00 and $715.00, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 11,378.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 6/12/26, 7/15/26, 7/15/26, 7/15/26, and 7/16/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of $2,440.00, $1,022.00, $620.50, $139.50 and $547.50, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 4,769.50

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Currie Johnson & Myers, P.A. (statement dated 7/17/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (This statement, in the amount of $7,023.99, represents services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 7,023.99

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Forman Watkins & Krutz, LLP (statements dated 6/8/26 and 7/22/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of $3,972.50 and $2,840.50, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 6,813.00

EXHIBIT 3

September 17, 2026

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Gore, Kilpatrick & Dambrino, PLLC (statements dated 6/25/26, 6/25/26 and 6/25/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of $1,5660.00, $320.00 and $3,827.50, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 5,707.50

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Hogan Lovells, US, LLP (statement dated 6/11/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (This statement, in the amount of $2,518.50, represents services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 2,518.50

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mayo Mallette, PLLC (statements dated 6/5/26, 6/12/26 and 7/7/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of $1,506.30, $2,160.00 and $6,350.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 10,016.30

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Page, Kruger & Holland, PA (statements dated 7/1/26, 7/1/26 and 7/1/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of $1,468.75, $1,201.90 and $40.00, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 2,710.65

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Steen, Dalehite & Pace, LLC (statements dated 6/30/26 and 6/30/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of $7,364.50 and $1,966.00, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 9,330.50

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Vernis & Bowling of Mississippi, PLLC (statements dated 6/15/26, 6/19/26, 6/19/26, 6/19/26, 6/19/26, 6/19/26, 6/22/26, 7/20/26, 7/20/26, 7/20/26, 7/20/26 and 7/20/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of $24,430.54, $620.00, $1,069.50, $140.00, $225.00, $1,590.00, $31,589.07, $9,069.00, $11,401.79, $805.00, $1,170.00 and $215.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 82,324.90

EXHIBIT 3

September 17, 2026

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Watkins & Eager, PLLC (statements dated 7/2/26, 7/9/26, 7/15/26, 7/15/26 and 7/15/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of $2,735.00, $1,750.00, $2,165.00, $1,518.00 and $1,320.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……..……..……$ 9,488.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by the Wise, Carter, Child & Caraway, P.A. (statement dated 7/10/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (This statement, in the amount of $70.00, represents services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……..……..……$ 70.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Scott J. Schwartz (statement dated 7/23/26) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of $4,485.00, represents services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……..……..……$ 4,485.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Starnes Davis Florie LLP (statement dated 7/31/26) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of $13,880.86, represents services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……..……..……$ 13,880.86

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statements dated 8/12/26, 8/18/26, 8/26/26) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of $2,190.00, $4,654.43, $2,000.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

TOTAL DUE……..……..……$ 8,844.43

Legal fees approved for payment to outside counsel in relation to patent and other intellectual property matters:

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Bradley Arant Boult Cummings, LLP (statements dated 7/20/26 and 7/20/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of $157.50 and $63.00, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE……..……..……$ 220.50

EXHIBIT 3

September 17, 2026

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Conley Rose, P.C. (statement dated 8/6/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (This statement, in the amount of $603.00, represents services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE……..……$ 603.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mendelsohn Dunleavy, P.C. (statements dated 8/7/26, 8/7/26, 8/7/26, 8/7/26, 8/7/26, 8/7/26, 8/7/26, 8/7/26 and 8/7/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of $41.50, $41.50, $41.50, $373.50, $207.50, $226.00, $1,275.00, $622.50 and $41.50, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE……..……$ 2,870.50

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Stites & Harbison, PLLC (statement dated 7/21/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (This statement, in the amount of $813.00, represents services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE……..……$ 813.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 7/29/26 and 7/29/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of $766.50 and $109.50, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE……..……$ 876.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Stites & Harbison, PLLC (statements dated 5/13/26, 5/13/26, 6/8/26, 6/8/26, 6/8/26, 6/8/26, 6/11/26, 6/11/26 and 7/21/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of $1,140.00, $2,014.00, $8,285.00, $3,712.00, $2,112.00, $114.00, $4,112.00, $798.00 and $228.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE……..……$ 22,515.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Workman Nydegger (statements dated 6/12/26, 6/12/26, 6/12/26, 6/12/26, 6/12/26 and 6/12/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of $2,750.00, $370.00, $491.09, $1,250.00, $154.00 and $1,516.00, represent services and expenses in connection with intellectual property patents.)

TOTAL DUE……..……$ 6,531.09

EXHIBIT 3

September 17, 2026

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 7/29/26, 7/29/26 and 7/29/26) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of $1,211.00, $861.00 and $1,138.00, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE……..……..……$ 3,210.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mendelsohn Dunleavy, P.C. (statements dated 7/8/26, 7/8/26, 7/8/26 and 7/8/26) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of $350.00, $735.00, $1,601.00 and $245.00, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE……..……..……$ 2,931.00