

**Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Regents
Presidential Search Committee
Murray State University
February 10, 2025**

Call to Order

The Murray State University (MSU) Board of Regents Presidential Search Committee met on Monday, February 10, 2025, in Special Session in Room 118 Wells Hall on the Murray State University campus. Chair Leon Owens called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m. and welcomed those joining the meeting.

AGENDA

Call to Order

Chair Leon Owens

Welcome/Presence Confirmation

Chair Leon Owens

Committee Orientation

**Dr. Wanda Bigham/
Dr. Margaret Venable**

Closed Session

Chair Leon Owens

- a. Pursuant to Kentucky Revised Statute 61.810(1)(f) – Discussions likely to lead to the appointment of an individual employee**

Open Session

Chair Leon Owens

Adjournment

Chair Leon Owens

Welcome/Presence Confirmation

Chair Owens reported that all members of the Board of Regents Presidential Search Committee were present with the exception of Regent Andy Belcher who had a schedule conflict. Ad Hoc members Jill Hunt, Senior Executive Coordinator for the President, Coordinator for Board Relations and Secretary to the Board of Regents; Rob Miller, General Counsel and Courtney Hixon, Director of Human Resources were also present, in addition to Dr. Wanda Bigham, Senior Consultant, and Dr. Margaret Venable, Consultant, with Academic Search.

Committee Orientation

Dr. Bigham reported that for the interviews, Chair Owens will welcome the individual and indicate there are twelve questions that are going to be asked by members of the Committee. She encouraged members of the Search Committee to keep the interview flowing from one question to the next. A few of the questions have two parts and Committee members were encouraged to alert the candidate accordingly. Search Committee members were encouraged to speak distinctly and a little louder than usual so candidates are able to clearly hear the questions being asked. The time will be managed by Chair Owens who will also keep the process flowing. After all questions have been asked and answered, the candidates will be invited to ask any questions they may have relative to what they want to know about Murray State. At the end of the interview, Chair Owens will thank the candidate and close out the session. Once the candidate has left the ZOOM call, the Presidential Search Committee will have time for discussion and Chair Owens will lead those approximate 15-minute sessions following every interview. After every second interview, the Committee will have a true 15-minute break. The Committee has been wonderful to work with throughout this process and Dr. Bigham appreciates their commitment to the process.

Chair Owens indicated that if the candidate asks a question relative to an area he is not qualified to address, he will call on another member of the Committee to provide clarification.

Confirmation was provided that follow-up questions are not allowed due to the number of questions that will be asked. Committee members were asked to thank the candidates for their response if it is carrying on too long. If a candidate does not address part of a question, the Committee member can remind them to address that topic.

Closed Session

Chair Owens indicated that he would entertain a motion for the Special Meeting of the Board of Regents Presidential Search Committee to go into Closed Session pursuant to Kentucky Revised Statute 61.810(1)(f) for discussions likely to lead to the appointment of an individual employee. Regent Ovey so moved, seconded by Vice Chair Fitch, and the motion carried.

Ad Hoc Presidential Search Committee members Secretary Hunt, General Counsel Miller and Director Hixon, along with Drs. Bigham and Venable, were asked to remain in the meeting room during Closed Session. Closed Session began at 8:24 a.m.

Reconvene/Open Session

Chair Owens indicated he would entertain a motion for the Special Meeting of the Board of Regents Presidential Search Committee to reconvene in Open Session. Regent Ovey so moved, seconded by Vice Chair Fitch and the motion carried. The Special Meeting of the Board of Regents reconvened in Open Session at 5:11 p.m. Chair Owens reported that no action was taken during Closed Session.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Presidential Search Committee, Chair Owens declared the Special Meeting adjourned. Adjournment was at 5:12 p.m.



Secretary Jill Hunt



Chair Leon Owens