

**Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Regents
Presidential Search Committee
Murray State University
February 11, 2025**

Call to Order

The Murray State University (MSU) Board of Regents Presidential Search Committee met on Tuesday, February 11, 2025, in Special Session in Room 118 Wells Hall on the Murray State University campus. Chair Leon Owens called the meeting to order at 8:20 a.m. and welcomed those joining the meeting.

AGENDA

Call to Order **Chair Leon Owens**

Welcome/Presence Confirmation **Chair Leon Owens**

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**

Selection of Finalists for President of Murray State University* **Chair Leon Owens**

Adjournment **Chair Leon Owens**

(*Requires Board of Regents Presidential Search Committee action.)

Welcome/Presence Confirmation

Chair Owens reported that all members of the Presidential Search Committee were present with the exception of Regent Andy Belcher who had a prior commitment. 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.

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 Regent Meinschein, 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 8:22 a.m.

Reconvene/Open Session

Chair Leon Owens indicated that 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 Presidential Search Committee reconvened at 3:44 p.m.

Chair Owens reported that no action was taken during Closed Session.

Selection of Finalists for President of Murray State University, approved

Chair Owens reported that the Board of Regents Presidential Search Committee reviewed applications for the position of President of Murray State University and reduced the applicant pool to a list of semi-finalists to advance to the next stage of the process. This action was taken during the January 31, 2025, Special Meeting of the Board of Regents Presidential Search Committee. The Board of Regents Presidential Search Committee interviewed the semi-finalists for the position of President of Murray State University on Monday, February 10 and Tuesday, February 11, 2025.

Regent Roark moved that the Board of Regents Presidential Search Committee recommend the following candidates be advanced as finalists for President of Murray State University:

- Dr. Christian Hardigree
- Dr. Diana Rogers-Adkinson
- Dr. Chad Tindol
- Dr. Ron Patterson

Regent Ovey seconded and the motion carried.

Full Board Action – Selection of Finalists for President of Murray State University, approved

On behalf of the Board of Regents, Chair Owens moved that the Board of Regents accept the recommendation from the Presidential Search Committee for the following candidates to be advanced as finalists for President of Murray State University:


- Dr. Christian Hardigree
- Dr. Diana Rogers-Adkinson
- Dr. Chad Tindol
- Dr. Ron Patterson

Vice Chair Fitch seconded and the roll was called as follows: Dr. Fitch, yes; Mr. Hawkins, yes; Dr. Meinschein, yes; Mr. Ovey, yes; Dr. Price, yes; Mrs. Roark, yes; Dr. Shemberger, yes; Mr. Waldrop, yes; Dr. Wilson, yes; and Mr. Owens, yes. The motion carried.

Regent Wilson asked whether the constituency groups needed to prepare a list of questions for the finalists during their campus visits. Chair Owens indicated that it is preferred for the questions to be asked during the Campus and Community Town Hall forums. This will provide an opportunity for the finalist to be more spontaneous in their answer. Confirmation was provided that time will be allotted for each of the constituency groups to meet individually with the finalists. There is no expectation for the Presidential Search Committee to attend each of these constituency meetings but should plan to attend the Campus and Community Town Hall forums or another campus group of which they are a member that will be meeting with the finalists. These will represent in-person meetings in various locations across campus, pending being able to get everything scheduled within a relatively short timeframe. Confirmation was provided that an official Press Release will be issued with the dates for the finalist visits to campus. This information was also be made available via the usual news venues, including social media.

Adjournment

Chair Owens indicated he would entertain a motion of the Special Meeting of the Board of Regents Presidential Search Committee to adjourn. Vice Chair Fitch so moved, seconded by Regent Meinschein, and the motion carried. Adjournment was at 3:53 p.m.


Secretary Jill Hunt


Chair Leon Owens