

Meeting No. 1,244

THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS  
OF  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM

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March 18, 2024

Austin, Texas

MEETING NO. 1,244

MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2024.--The members of the Board of Regents of The University of Texas System convened a special called meeting in Open Session on Monday, March 18, 2024 at 4:01 p.m. via telephone conference call, in the Board Room, Second Floor, The University of Texas System Building, 210 West Seventh Street, Austin, Texas, with the following participation:

ATTENDANCE.--

Present

Chairman Eltife  
Vice Chairman Weaver  
Regent Crain  
Regent Gauntt  
Regent Jiles  
Regent Perez  
Regent Stedman  
Regent Warren  
Regent Austin, Student Regent, nonvoting

Absent

Vice Chairman Longoria

CONVENE THE BOARD IN OPEN SESSION TO RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION.--  
At 4:02 p.m., in accordance with a notice being duly posted with the Secretary of State and there being a quorum present, Chairman Eltife called the meeting to order in Open Session.

Chairman Eltife paused and reflected on the passing of U. T. Health Science Center - San Antonio President William L. Henrich.

Remarks by Chairman Eltife

Regents and Chancellor, before we recess to Executive Session, I want to pause and reflect on the passing of our extraordinary colleague and friend, Bill Henrich. Bill served as President of U. T. Health Science Center - San Antonio since 2009.

Bill was the epitome of strength and determination. He valiantly battled and beat cancer in 2012, with stem cells from his son that saved his life. He went on to serve another 12 years at the helm of UT Health San Antonio, where he transformed the institution into a top-ranked academic health center, with world-class programs in cancer, obesity and diabetes, dementia and aging.

Bill's cancer recurred earlier this year, and he was receiving treatments with plans to return to work in June. I know we will all remember our time with Bill with great affection, and we will all keep Mary and the entire Henrich family in our prayers. He was just an incredible individual, a class act, and did so much for not only the U. T. Health Science Center in San Antonio, but the entire U. T. System, so we are keeping them in our prayers.

Chairman Eltife then recessed the Board to Executive Session pursuant to *Texas Government Code* Sections 551.071, 551.073, and 551.074, to consider the matters listed on the Executive Session agenda.

RECONVENE THE BOARD IN OPEN SESSION TO CONSIDER ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS.--Chairman Eltife reconvened the Board in Open Session at 4:11 p.m. to consider action on the following items.

- 1a. U. T. System: Discussion and appropriate action regarding individual personnel matters relating to appointment, employment, evaluation, compensation, assignment, and duties of presidents (academic and health institutions including interim presidents); U. T. System Administration officers (Executive Vice Chancellors and Vice Chancellors); other officers reporting directly to the Board (Chancellor, General Counsel to the Board, and Chief Audit Executive); Board members; and U. T. System and institutional employees

No action was taken on this item.

- 1b. Stephen F. Austin State University: Discussion and appropriate action regarding the appointment of Neal R. Weaver, Ph.D., as President

Regent Crain made the following motion:

I move that Dr. Neal R. Weaver, currently President at Georgia Southwestern State University, be selected President of Stephen F. Austin State University, with terms of the appointment and compensation to be commensurate with the responsibilities of the office, negotiated in accordance with The University of Texas System policies, and submitted to the Board for approval via the usual budgetary procedures.

I further move that the Minutes reflect that, by approval of this motion, the Board has made a finding, as required by state law, that this appointment is in the best interest of Stephen F. Austin and U. T. System.

The motion was seconded by Regent Perez, and carried unanimously.

- 1c. U. T. Tyler: Discussion and appropriate action regarding individual personnel matters related to presidential search process

Chairman Eltife made the following motion:

I move that the U. T. System Board of Regents vote to approve the initiation of the search for the presidency at U. T. Tyler, using the alternative process authorized in Regents' Rule 20201, Section 1.9 to advance the name of Dr. Julie Philley, as a candidate for consideration.

I further move that the Board authorize the Chair to appoint a Special Committee and to refer the name of Dr. Philley for the Committee's consideration and request that the Committee provide advice and evaluation to the Board on the candidacy for Dr. Philley as president.

And, finally, consistent with the actions recommended for approval, I move that by approval of this motion, the Minutes reflect and serve as a public notice that the Board considers Dr. Philley a finalist for the position of President at U. T. Tyler.

At the suggestion of Regent Crain, the motion was noted as seconded and approved unanimously.

- 2a. U. T. System Academic Institutions: Discussion and appropriate action regarding proposed negotiated gifts, including potential naming features

No action was taken on this item.

- 2b. U. T. System Health Institutions: Discussion and appropriate action regarding proposed negotiated gifts, including potential naming features

No action was taken on this item.

3. U. T. System Board of Regents: Discussion with Counsel on pending legal issues

No action was taken on this item.

ADJOURNMENT.--There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

/s/  
Jasmina Hasanovic  
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Regents  
March 18, 2024