

KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
July 18, 2023

The July 18, 2023, meeting of the Kansas Board of Regents was called to order by Chair Jon Rolph at 9:00 a.m. The Board met virtually, and the meeting was accessible to the public at the Board Office located in the Curtis State Office Building, 1000 S.W. Jackson, Suite 520, Topeka. Proper notice was given according to law.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jon Rolph, Chair
 Carl Ice, Vice Chair
 Blake Benson
 John Dicus
 Cheryl Harrison-Lee
 Cynthia Lane
 Diana Mendoza

MEMBERS ABSENT: Shelly Kiblinger
 Wint Winter

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Regent Ice moved, with the second of Regent Lane, that the Consent Agenda be approved. The motion carried.

RECEIVE UPDATE ON PROJECT TO RAZE THE GYMNASIUM AND NATATORIUM – KSU

Demolition of the KSU Gymnasium and Natatorium was approved by the Board in May 2022. Architectural investigations revealed the west wall of Ahearn Field House is slightly offset from the adjoining Gymnasium. The university decided the best long-term solution is to restore the west elevation of Ahearn Field House by realigning the structural plane to match the remaining Ahearn Field House wall. Demolition is slated to begin in the Fall of 2023 with restoration expected to be completed by Summer of 2024. Revised plans will be submitted to the Board in September 2023

DISCUSSION AGENDA

ACT ON LIST OF INDUSTRY-SOUGHT CREDENTIALS AS REQUIRED BY SB 123

Scott Smathers, Vice President of Workforce Development, presented the SB 123 career and technical education (CTE) credential list. He stated as part of the bill, the Board of Regents and the State Board of Education (KSDE) are required to approve a new CTE credential list by the 31st of July each year. The list identifies which credentials high schools are required to pay for upon student request. Regent Lane asked how the Board will assist in informing students and families of this important opportunity. Vice President Smathers stated the credential list will be posted to the Board’s website. Following that, it will be up to the high schools and colleges to disseminate the list. Regent Lane stated this might be a good opportunity to work with KSDE to ensure all students

and families are informed across the state. Regent Benson moved to approve the list as presented, and Regent Lane seconded the motion. The motion carried.

(List filed with Official Minutes)

ACT ON DISTRIBUTION OF FY 2024 STATE APPROPRIATIONS TO STATE UNIVERSITIES FOR OPERATING EXPENSES (IT INFRASTRUCTURE AND CYBERSECURITY)

Elaine Frisbie, Vice President of Finance and Administration, requested approval of allocations of federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to state universities. She noted the allocation for Washburn University was designated in this year’s state appropriations bills, and the state universities’ allocations were determined using the same percentages and methodology that was used in FY 2023. The allocations are as follows:

	FY 2024
University of Kansas	\$1,027,324
KU Medical Center	649,283
Kansas State University	1,030,307
Wichita State University	758,497
Emporia State University	435,827
Pittsburg State University	451,762
Fort Hays State University	637,000
Subtotal-State Universities	\$5,000,000
Washburn University	\$450,000

Feedback from the Regents Information Technology Council (RITC) included recommendations for allocations to be utilized to address each campus’ highest priority infrastructure needs as revealed by the third-party cybersecurity penetration testing performed in FY 2023. Regent Dicus moved to approve, seconded by Regent Harrison-Lee. The motion carried.

ACT ON PROPOSED PILOT INITIATIVE FOR KANSAS FREE APPLICATION DAYS NOVEMBER 7-9, 2023

Daniel Archer, Vice President of Academic Affairs, presented data on public college-going rates. In 2014, the Kansas public college-going rate was 55.2% of students attending within one year after high school graduation. By 2021 the rate dropped by 11.5 percentage points. In 2014, the Kansas public college-going rate by race/ethnicity included 6 out of 7 ethnic populations being at 50% or higher. In 2021, only one was above 50%. Vice President Archer noted concerns with the data trends and the need as a system to reverse those trends by removing barriers and creating a more robust high school to college pipeline. He proposed creating Kansas Free Application Days on November 7-9, 2023. There will be no cost for Kansas residents to submit a general undergraduate admission application during this period. Regent Lane stated data will be collected in January and October for the one-year pilot program period. Regent Harrison-Lee moved to approve, seconded by Regent Lane. The motion carried.

(PowerPoint filed with Official Minutes)

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Rolph adjourned the meeting at 9:14 a.m.

Blake Flanders, President and CEO

Jon Rolph, Chair