

The official minutes of the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees are maintained by the Secretary of the Board. Certified copies of minutes may be requested by contacting the Board of Trustees' Office at trustees@sc.edu. Electronic or other copies of original minutes are not official Board of Trustees' documents.

University of South Carolina

Board of Trustees

Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on Finance – Called Meeting

March 31, 2020

The Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on Finance of the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees met at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 31, 2020, via conference call anchored from Room 206B of the Osborne Administration Building.

Committee members attending via conference call were Mr. Mack I. Whittle Jr., Chair; Mr. Robert F. Dozier Jr.; Ms. Rose Buyck Newton; Dr. C. Dorn Smith III; Mr. Hubert F. Mobley, Board Vice Chair; and Mr. John C. von Lehe Jr., Board Chair.

Other Trustees participating by phone were Mr. Chuck Allen; Mr. William C. Hubbard; Mr. Richard A. Jones Jr.; Mr. Toney J. Lister; Ms. Leah B. Moody; Mr. Thad Westbrook; and Charles H. Williams.

Also participating by telephone were USC Faculty Senate Chair Dr. Mark G. Cooper; and USC Columbia Student Government President Ms. Issy Rushton.

Participating in person were President Robert L. Caslen Jr.; Secretary J. Cantey Heath Jr.; Interim Chief Communications Officer and Director of Public Relations Jeff Stensland; and Office of the Board of Trustees Staff Member Ina Wilson.

Also participating by telephone were President's Chief of Staff Mark D. Bieger; Senior Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Academic Support Stacey Bradley; Chief Audit Executive Pamela A. Dunleavy; Interim Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Tayloe Harding; General Counsel and Executive Director of Compliance

Programs Terry H. Parham; Vice President for Student Affairs and Vice Provost for Academic Support Dennis A. Pruitt; Assistant Vice President and Chief of Staff for Division of Administration and Finance Joe Sobieralski; Director of Athletics Ray Tanner; and Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Ed Walton.

Mr. Stensland introduced members of the press participating by phone: Mr. Andy Shain from the *Post and Courier*; Ms. Christine Bardoff with *The Daily Gamecock*; Ms. Miranda Parnell with WIS; and Mr. Ben Briner with *The State* Newspaper.

OPEN SESSION

I. Call to Order

Chair Whittle called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Secretary Heath confirmed participants by telephone. Chair Whittle stated notice of the meeting had been posted and the press notified as required by the Freedom of Information Act; the agenda and supporting materials had been provided to the committee; and a quorum was present to conduct business.

MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Whittle called for a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss a proposed financial consulting agreement. Dr. Dorn Smith so moved, and Mr. Thad Westbrook seconded the motion.

Chair Whittle invited the following to remain in Executive Session: Trustees, President Caslen, Secretary Heath, members of the President's Cabinet, Ms. Dunleavy, Dr. Cooper, and Ms. Rushton.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

– Executive Session Removed

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Mr. Stensland opened the call back up for members of the media and asked those returning to reintroduce themselves. Ms. Christine Bardoff with *The Daily Gamecock*; Ms. Miranda Parnell with WIS; and Mr. Ben Briner with *The State* Newspaper rejoined the call.

II. Committee Scope and Potential Consulting Agreement

Chair Whittle stated the University continues to formalize preliminary financial data resulting from the Coronavirus. At this time, there will be no action taken on hiring a financial consultant.

III. Coronavirus Impact on the University

Mr. Walton provided a financial overview and stated despite significant changes in recent weeks, the University's financial outlook through the end of the fiscal year remains strong. The estimated cost of the coronavirus to the institution through summer session, net of cost savings, will be between \$20-\$40 million. Through prudent budgeting and temporary delays of capital projects, the University will be able to absorb these costs.

A definitive refund process is being developed to include non-deliverables such as housing, food service, and parking. One-time strategic savings opportunities are being assessed through contract review. Capital/maintenance projects related to the Campus Village, Athletics, and the new health campus are being delayed or deferred. Mr. Walton advised the University continues to produce revenue through various leases.

Across the state, the Commission on Higher Education has informed the Governor it is forecasting state losses close to \$100 million. The University believes this is something it can manage; however, if the crisis severely impacts the summer and into the fall, difficult decisions and measures will be required. In the meantime, orientation and recruitment

programs are being retooled.

President Caslen stated he and other university presidents across the state have been meeting with members of the Commission on Higher Education to understand the impact of the CARES Act at both the state and federal levels.

There was no further discussion, and Chair Whittle stated this report was received as information.

IV. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Chair Whittle adjourned the meeting at 3:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Cantey Heath Jr.", written in a cursive style.

J. Cantey Heath Jr.
Secretary