

FLORIDA **A&M** UNIVERSITY

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes January 16, 2024

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Kristin Harper, Chair

Chair Harper called the meeting to order. The following trustees were present, establishing a quorum: Brown, Cliatt, Crossman, Figgers, Gibbons, Harper, Lawson, Mondelus, Perry, Reed, Stone, Washington, and White.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

LaKitsia Gaines, Junior Muratovic, Jeremiah Pruitte, Wally Williams, Jalen Goss, Thomas Jones, Curtis Johnson, and Curtis Taylor provided public comments on their support of the athletics department or concerns on the selection process for the next head football coach.

HEAD FOOTBALL COACH UPDATE

Vice President and Athletics Director Tiffani-Dawn Sykes provided an update on the head coach position by giving an overview of the search to date. She provided a timeline for selecting the new head coach and the ideal characteristics she thinks the next head football coach should possess. Additionally, she assured all stakeholders, alumni, DSOs and friends of the University that their concerns of the lack of inclusion, communication and transparency were received and acknowledged and announced that, moving forward in the process, a search firm will be utilized to allow constituents the opportunity to be a part of the process. She plans to name the next head football coach before National Signing Day, February 7.

Chair Harper presented her priorities for the next head football coach prior to opening the floor up for questions.

Trustee Lawson expressed his concerns of the current athletics budget deficit and entering into discussions on a multi-year contract for a new head football coach. Therefore, he moved that the leadership team provide a comprehensive, one-page overview of the financials for athletics to address the current budget shortfall by Monday, January 22, 2024, published to all board members for full visibility. Trustee Gibbons seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

After discussions, Trustee Lawson moved that the President establish a search committee to work with the athletics director and search firm to include the presidents of the following organizations: national alumni association, the booster club, 220, Rattler F Club, the foundation, a delegate of the student government association and the athletics faculty representative as the major constituency groups. The motion was seconded. The board voted as followed:

Brown - Yes
Cliatt – Yes

Crossman – Yes
Figgers – Yes
Gibbons – Yes
Harper – No
Lawson – Yes
Mondelus – Yes
Perry – Yes
Reed – Yes
Stone – No
Washington Yes
White – No

The motion carried.

PRESIDENT ROBINSON'S COMMENTS

President Robinson reaffirmed his support of AD Sykes. He highlighted great things happening at the University and asked that everyone continue working together as a team to continue moving up the ladder.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no other business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.