

Special Committee on Athletics Minutes

Chair Kelvin Lawson

Thursday, March 4, 2021

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Kelvin Lawson, Chair

Chair Lawson called the Special Committee on Athletics meeting to order. Ms. Karai Lockley – Senior Associate Athletic Director of Business and Finance/Senior Woman Administrator called the roll. The following committee members were present, and a quorum was established: Trustee Ann Marie Cavazos, Trustee Thomas Dortch, Trustee David Lawrence, Trustee Xavier McClinton, Trustee Otis Cliatt and Chair/Trustee Kelvin Lawson.

Chair Lawson opened with a motion to approve the minutes from the December 4, 2020 meeting. Trustee Lawrence moved approval of the minutes. The motion was seconded by Trustee Cavazos and the motion carried.

The multi-media rights contract was also brought to the board for approval. There was a motion for approval by Trustee Cavazos and seconded by Trustee McClinton and motion was carried.

VP/AD Gosha requested actions to be taken for the Athletics apparel agreement. The incumbent apparel provider counteroffered and VP/AD Gosha requested to rescind the prior apparel offer and move forward with Nike. The motion that was brought forth by Trustee Dortch was to rescind the previous action of accepting adidas and approving the proposed agreement with Nike – the motion was second by Trustee Cavazos and motion was carried.

VP/AD Kortne Gosha briefly spoke about the current budget and our projections with ending the fiscal year with a balanced budget.

There were several discussion items that were presented that included: CLC Licensing agreement that needs to be renewed after Summer 2021, digital sign display that would be a revenue generating opportunity, approval of football contract extension for head coach and an overview of all spring sports.

Trustee Dubose and VP/AD Gosha had a conversation around departmental scholarships and the breakdown on whether or not there were sufficient.

Trustee Otis Cliatt voiced his concern of ensuring that coaching contracts have an added clause to protect the university in the future financially.

Trustee Kristin Harper asked about multi-year contracts to maintain continuity across the department and country. Trustee/Chair Kelvin Lawson reassured the board that the contracts for football and men and women's basketball for multi-year agreements are on his radar. As the department is addressing the budget through covid-19 and moving to a new conference – these contracts will be a priority after the transition. Along with the multi-year contracts the female salaries will be reviewed and comparable to the male salaries.

The presentation ended with a video of the new Athletics video spotlighting the LeBron James and Nike partnership. Florida A&M has become the first and only LeBron James Institution.