

**SHAWNEE STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Special Meeting Minutes  
Homer Selby Board Room**

**February 24, 2015  
6:00 p.m.**

**Call to Order**

Chairperson Higgs-Horwell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. noting the meeting was in compliance with RC §121.22(F).

**Roll Call**

Members Present: Ms. Melissa Higgs-Horwell, Ms. Francesca Hartop, Mr. Robert Howarth, Mr. Jack McCoy, Mr. Gary Paine, Ms. Kay Reynolds, Mr. Scott Williams

Members Absent: None

**Executive Session**

Mr. Williams moved and Mr. Paine seconded a motion to move into executive session to consider the employment of a public official.

Ayes: Ms. Higgs-Horwell, Ms. Hartop, Mr. Howarth, Mr. McCoy, Mr. Paine, Ms. Reynolds, Mr. Williams

Nays: None

The Board entered into executive session at 6:03 p.m.

The Board returned to regular session at 6:55 p.m.

**New Business**

Mr. McCoy provided a report from the Presidential Search Committee. In January, the Search Committee extended invitations to three presidential candidates to visit campus. During these separate visits, each candidate met with the Presidential Search Committee and was interviewed by the Presidential Search Advisory Committee, and assessed based on the candidate's experience in the areas of leadership, strategic planning, enrollment enhancement, creating an environment for excellence, and building partnerships. The candidates also met with university groups, as well as members of the community. Following these meetings, individuals in attendance were asked to provide their impressions of the candidates.

The Search Committee, with the assistance of its search partners, BeecherHill, reviewed the strengths and weaknesses identified by the Advisory Committee and the feedback provided by university and community members who met the candidates. Mr. McCoy said he was

tremendously pleased to report that the Search Committee identified Dr. Rick Kurtz as the Search Committee's recommendation for the next President of Shawnee State University.

Mr. McCoy said that the Search Committee believes that Dr. Kurtz possesses the qualities that will best serve Shawnee State University, the community, region, and state as the University moves forward. This recommendation came after many months of coordination and work by many individuals and groups.

Mr. McCoy said the Search Committee wished to thank the Board, and especially Board Chairperson Melissa Higgs-Horwell, for entrusting the Search Committee with this significant charge and for providing guidance throughout the process. Mr. McCoy recognized the other Search Committee members, Mr. Williams and Ms. Reynolds, and expressed the Search Committee's pleasure to have served in this capacity and to have had the opportunity to work more closely with people on campus and outside of the university community who care about the continued success of Shawnee State.

Mr. McCoy, on behalf of the Search Committee, extended a special thanks to the Advisory Committee, which is comprised of community leaders, faculty members, students, university employees, alumni, donors, and University supporters. Mr. McCoy said this group was instrumental in helping the Search Committee identify the characteristics needed in the next president and in objectively evaluating the candidates.

Mr. McCoy said the search was greatly enhanced with the assistance of BeecherHill, the Search Committee's executive search firm partner, which assisted in identifying a highly qualified pool of candidates.

Mr. McCoy also thanked the university community and the public who took the time to meet with the candidates and share their thoughts. He said this has been a sincere, thoughtful, collaborative and comprehensive process, and that the Search Committee is very proud of the work that has gone into this selection process and of the result of everyone's combined efforts.

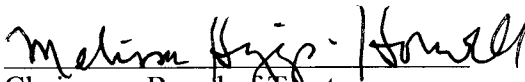
Chairperson Higgs-Horwell also thanked all who participated in the search process.

### **Other Business**

None.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 7:13 p.m.

  
Chairman, Board of Trustees

  
Secretary, Board of Trustees