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Board of Regents, Murray State University

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS
Murray State University
March 2, 1991

The Board of Regents of Murray State University met March 2, 1991, in special session in the Board of Regents Room, Wells Hall, on the campus of Murray State University. The meeting was called to order at 10:50 a.m. by Chairman Kerry B. Harvey. Mr. Willie R. Kendrick, member of the Board of Regents, gave the invocation.

Upon call of the roll, the following members answered present: Mr. C. Dean Akridge; Mr. J. Eddie Allen; Dr. James W. Hammack, Jr.; Mr. Kerry B. Harvey; Dr. Billy G. Hurt; Mr. Willie R. Kendrick; Mr. Thomas R. Sanders; and Mrs. Virginia N. Strohecker. Absent: Mr. Robert C. Carter and Mr. M. Randy Hutchinson.

Present for the meeting were: President Ronald J. Kurth; Dr. James Booth, Provost; Mrs. Sandra M. Rogers, Secretary of the Board; Mr. Tom Denton, Treasurer of the Board; Dr. Anita Lawson, Assistant to the President for Institutional Planning and Research; Mr. Paul Bylaska, Director of the Budget; Mr. James Overby, General Counsel; Mr. Ed West, Interim Coordinator of University Relations and Administrative Services; Mr. Dwain McIntosh, Director of University Information Services; members of the faculty and staff; and members of the news media and visitors.

Chairman Harvey stated that for the benefit of the press, this is a working session to continue discussions of the budget.

At this point, Chairman Harvey turned the meeting over to President Kurth.

Honorary Degree Conferred

President Kurth stated that he had invited Senator Claiborne Pell for the Inauguration of the President. In consultation with the Council of Deans, it was suggested that during Senator Pell's presence Murray State offer him an honorary degree.

Mr. Kendrick moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President, approve an honorary degree for Senator Claiborne Pell by adopting the following resolution:

In recognition and appreciation of his distinguished service in the United States Congress as Senator from Rhode Island since 1961, and, in particular, of his leadership in the elimination of financial barriers to higher education through sponsorship of 1965 legislation to establish the Basic Educational Opportunity Grants, which were named Pell Grants in his honor in 1980 and which have provided over \$30 million to Murray State students, the Murray State University Board of Regents recommends that the degree of Doctor of Letters be conferred upon the Honorable Claiborne deBorda Pell. Mr. Akridge seconded the motion.

Discussion followed regarding guidelines used in awarding honorary degrees. Provost Booth stated that there are no formal guidelines used and the general operating procedure has been that a recommendation is made through the faculty and the President makes a recommendation to the Board of Regents. Generally, it is a significant contribution to the University or to education or the state.

Regents Allen and Akridge expressed interest in awarding degrees to Regents who may not have received a degree or who may not have received a degree from Murray State.

President Kurth recommended to the Board that an honorary degree be awarded only in cases of extraordinary contributions either directly to the University or to education in general. He further stated that it is up to the Board to determine if that contribution has been made.

Senator Pell and his legislation are probably responsible for the money which goes to 50 percent of Murray State's student body. Senator Pell is also chairman of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee.

Upon call for question, the motion carried.

Discussion of the Budget

President Kurth stated that the analysis presented to the Board includes planning expenditures in terms of recurring obligations and single year obligations. The first set of obligations are the most serious as they remain with us through the indefinite future.

President Kurth reviewed in detail the attached budget documents.

(See Attachments #1, #2, #3, and #4)

Recess for Lunch

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:25 p.m. and reconvened in public session at 1:30 p.m.

Executive Session

Mr. Allen moved that the Board convene into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters and potential litigation. Mr. Sanders seconded and the motion carried. The Executive Session began at 1:30 p.m. and ended at 4:10 p.m.

Public Session

The Board reconvened in Public Session at 4:15 p.m.

Chairman Harvey stated that personnel matters and potential litigation were discussed in Executive Session and the Board is ready to take action.

Budget Recommendation

Dr. Hammack moved that the Board of Regents approve funding for items included in Document #2, approve funding of items on page 1 of Document #3, and page 1 of Document #4 to the extent revenue sources cited on those pages permit, and authorize funding of those remaining items in Documents #3 and #4 insofar as funds may become available; and the Board requests the President to seek from carryover funds, on an interim basis, additional funding for graduate assistant stipends. Mr. Kendrick seconded the motion.

Upon call for question, the following voted: Mr. Akridge, yes; Mr. Allen, no; Dr. Hammack, yes; Dr. Hurt, yes; Mr. Kendrick, yes; Mr. Sanders, yes, Mrs. Strohecker, yes; and Mr. Harvey, yes. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Akridge moved and Dr. Hammack seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Adjournment was at 4:20 p.m.

Kevin B. Harvey
Chairman

Sandra M. Rogers
Secretary