

MINUTES

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF REGENTS**

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

HELD IN

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

July 28, 2021

(Approved August 26, 2021)

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**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF REGENTS, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

July 28, 2021

CONVENE

Chairman Tim Leach convened a special meeting of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System at 4:01 p.m., Wednesday, July 28, 2021, in the Memorial Student Center, Bethancourt Ballroom, on the campus of Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas. The following members of the Board were present:

Mr. Tim Leach, Chairman
Mr. Bill Mahomes, Vice Chairman
Mr. Robert L. Albritton
Mr. Randy Brooks
Mr. Jay Graham
Mr. Michael A. Hernandez
Ms. Elaine Mendoza
Mr. Michael J. Plank
Mr. Clifton L. Thomas, Jr.

The following member of the Board was not present:

Ms. Matilin “Mati” Rigsby, Student Regent

Chairman Leach said the purpose of the meeting was for discussion and possible action regarding contractual and governance issues relating to Texas A&M and the Southeastern Conference (SEC).

RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Leach said the Board would recess to executive session to consider matters as permitted by Chapter 551, Sections 71, and 74 of the Texas Government Code. He said in accordance with the law, no final action, decision, or vote with regard to any matter considered in the executive session would be made or taken.

(Note: The Board met in executive session from 4:08 p.m. until 6:22 p.m.)

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Chairman Leach reconvened the meeting in open session at 6:25 p.m. and announced that the Board had met in executive session from 4:08 p.m. until 6:22 p.m., and considered executive session agenda items, conferred with Chancellor Sharp, administration and attorneys on personnel and legal matters.

Chairman Leach said that the posted agenda for the meeting allowed for possible action on contractual and governance issues relating to Texas A&M and the SEC. He said the Board had a good discussion of these issues in executive session. Chairman Leach recognized Regent Mendoza.

Regent Mendoza made a motion to approve the statement that gave direction to President Kathy Banks regarding this important matter.

On motion of Regent Mendoza, seconded by Regent Albritton, with Regent Hernandez voting that he was opposed, by a majority vote the following statement was approved (123).

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**MINUTE ORDER 123-2021**

**APPROVAL OF REGENTS' STATEMENT ON  
CONTRACTUAL AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES RELATING TO  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY AND THE SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE,  
BOARD OF REGENTS, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

The Regents' Statement on contractual and governance issues relating to Texas A&M University and the Southeastern Conference (SEC), a copy of which is attached to the official minutes, is hereby approved.

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ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chairman Leach adjourned the meeting at 6.26 p.m.

Vickie Burt Spillers
Executive Director, Board of Regents

(Minutes transcribed by Jackie Bell, Office of the Board of Regents.)

Statement from Board of Regents

The decision in 2011 to join the Southeastern Conference has strengthened the position of Texas A&M University as a national leader in college athletics.

As college athletics go through the historic changes we are experiencing today, Texas A&M competes at the highest level with many of the top universities in the country — on the field, on the court, and in the classroom.

As members of The Texas A&M University System Board of Regents, we are proud of the Texas A&M athletic department and its tremendous success over the past decade. We are proud to be the largest university in Texas and in the SEC. We are proud to have rock-solid financials, the best fan base in America and 550,000 former students who compete and succeed across the globe.

We have the utmost confidence in Texas A&M President M. Katherine Banks and Athletic Director Ross Bjork to navigate discussions with our SEC conference partners.

Although the Board has concerns about the communication process relating to this matter, today the Board received the information it needed to properly consider the long-term ramifications of a possible expansion. President Banks and Athletic Director Bjork briefed board members after they participated in meetings yesterday and today with the SEC Commissioner's Office.

The board concluded that this expansion would enhance the long-term value of the SEC to student athletes and all of the institutions they represent — including Texas A&M.

Therefore The Texas A&M University System Board of Regents Board directs Texas A&M President M. Katherine Banks to vote in favor of extending formal invitations to the University of Oklahoma and the University of Texas to join the conference in 2025 when the SEC presidents consider the matter.

As developments unfold, the leadership at Texas A&M will continue to analyze our opportunities and make decisions based on what's best for our flagship university.