

**MINUTES**

**SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF REGENTS**

**THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

**HELD IN**

**COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS**

**August 1, 2024**

*(Approved November 7, 2024)*

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

**August 1, 2024**

**CONVENE**

Vice Chairman Bob Albritton convened a special workshop meeting of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System at 2:41 p.m., Thursday, August 1, 2024, in the Memorial Student Center, Bethancourt Ballroom E, College Station, Texas.

The following members of the Board were present:

Mr. Robert L. Albritton, Vice Chairman  
Mr. David Baggett (*joined at 3:50 p.m.*)  
Mr. John Bellinger  
Mr. Randy Brooks  
Mr. Jay Graham  
Mr. Michael A. Hernandez  
Mr. Michael J. Plank  
Mr. Sam Torn  
Mr. Cage Sawyers, Student Regent

The following member of the Board was absent

Mr. Bill Mahomes, Chairman

Vice Chairman Albritton announced that a quorum was present and that the Board would receive briefings from System executives and invited guests.

Trev Alberts, Athletic Director, Texas A&M University, provided a presentation on extracurricular activities at Texas A&M. He spoke about culture, business operations, student athlete experience, challenges and opportunities.

R. Ethan Braden, Vice President and Chief Marketing and Communications Officer, Texas A&M, provided a presentation and update on the Division of Marketing and Communications. (*Presentation on file in the Office of the Board of Regents.*)

Jenny Jones provided a presentation on the upcoming 2025 session of the Texas Legislature. Her discussion included committees, budget, initiatives, affordability, Higher Education Fund (HEF) and research funding.

Dr. Pete O'Neill, Chief Innovations Officer & Associate Vice Chancellor, Texas A&M Innovation, provided a presentation and update on System's commercialization activities. This included commercialization metrics, inventor engagement, USA patents, success stories, Plug & Play, and the Innovation Forward Conference scheduled for November 12-14, 2024, at Kyle Field. (*Presentation on file in the Office of the Board of Regents.*)

Dr. Cliff Lamb, Director, Texas A&M AgriLife Research, and Dr. Elsa Murano, Director, Norman Borlaug Institute, provided a presentation and update on the Norman Borlaug Institute for International Agriculture and Development of Texas AgriLife Research. Dr. Murano’s discussion included signs of distress around the world, such as hunger, disease, crime and illiteracy. (*Presentation on file in the Office of the Board of Regents.*)

Regent Torn provided an update of the consulting study related to the A&M System’s structure and operations.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Vice Chairman Albritton adjourned the meeting at 4:08 p.m., Thursday, August 1, 2024.

Vickie Burt Spillers  
Executive Director, Board of Regents

*(Minutes prepared by Dee Rodriguez, Office of the Board of Regents.)*