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University of South Carolina
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Called Meeting

June 30, 2017

The University of South Carolina Board of Trustees convened in a called meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, June 30, 2017, by telephone conference hosted from Room 206-B of the Osborne Administration Building.

Members participating were: Mr. John C. von Lehe Jr., Chairman; Mr. Hubert F. Mobley, Vice Chairman; Mr. J. Egerton Burroughs; Mr. Mark W. Buyck Jr.; Mr. Thomas C. Cofield, who participated in person; Mr. A.C. "Bubba" Fennell III; Dr. C. Edward Floyd; Mr. William C. Hubbard; Mr. William W. Jones Jr.; Mr. Toney J. Lister; Mr. Miles Loadholt; Ms. Leah B. Moody; Mr. Tommy D. Preston Jr.; Dr. C. Dorn Smith; Mr. Eugene P. Warr Jr.; Mr. Thad H. Westbrook; Mr. Mack I. Whittle Jr.; and Mr. Charles H. Williams. Absent from the meeting were Mr. Chuck Allen and Ms. Molly M. Spearman.

Columbia Student Government President Ross Lordo also participated by telephone.

Others participating were: President Harris Pastides; Secretary J. Cantey Heath Jr.; General Counsel Walter "Terry" H. Parham; Chief Operating Officer Ed Walton; Athletics Director Ray Tanner; Chief Communications Officer Wes Hickman; and Board of Trustees staff member Terri Saxon.

I. Call to Order

Chairman von Lehe called the meeting to order and stated that notice of the meeting had been posted and the press notified as required by the Freedom of Information Act; the agenda and supporting materials had been circulated; and a quorum was present to conduct business.

Mr. Hickman indicated members of the news media would join the meeting when the Open Session started.

Motion for Executive Session

Chairman von Lehe called for a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss proposed Athletics Department contracts. Mr. Mobley so moved and Dr. Smith seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

Chairman von Lehe invited President Pastides, Secretary Heath, Mr. Parham, Mr. Tanner, Mr. Walton, and Mr. Hickman to remain.

Executive Session

Return to Open Session

Members of the news media joining the Open Session portion of the meeting were: Matt Connolly and David Cloninger with *The State* newspaper in Columbia; John Del Bianco and John Whittle with *The Big Spur*; Rick Henry and Joe Gorchow with WIS-TV; Collyn Taylor with *Gamecock Central*; David Caraviello with *The Post & Courier* newspaper in Charleston; Kyle Heck with *Spurs & Feathers*; Mike Wilson with *SEC Country*; Deon Guillory with WLTX-TV; and Mike Woodel with *The Daily Gamecock*.

II. Athletics Employment Agreement

Chairman von Lehe called on Mr. Tanner who requested Board approval to hire Mark Kingston as Head Baseball Coach, stating “I’m extremely impressed with his background as a baseball coach, his time as an assistant coach, and the path he has taken to get where he is today.”

In describing Mr. Kingston, Mr. Tanner said,

He was part of a national championship at the University of Miami, he was part of a College World Series team at Tulane. This past season he was in a regional at South Florida, playing at the Gainesville Regional, ending up with an RPI of 21. He also had regular season victories in Gainesville against the Gators and also in Tallahassee against the Seminoles. He is extremely poised in the ability to communicate, relate and motivate student-athletes of today. He is an outstanding coach. His recruiting prowess has been demonstrated throughout his career, certainly in the past couple of years with a top five recruiting class at his previous institution.

I continue to be impressed with his ability; that he is so well-rounded to be able to handle the challenges and meet the expectations that we have here at the University of South Carolina. I am very confident that our players and our fan base will be excited to have him as our next head coach.

Chairman von Lehe called on Mr. Parham for details of the employment contract. Mr. Parham said the proposed six-year contract would begin upon approval by the Board and would provide a base salary of \$475,000 plus \$125,000 in annual compensation from the University’s broadcast rights holders and other rights holders of the Athletics Department. He will have the same incentive opportunities that were available to Coach Holbrook, Mr. Parham said, adding that if all incentive categories are reached Mr. Kingston can earn a maximum of \$250,000.

In addition, Mr. Parham said, the University's Athletics Department will pay his \$150,000 contractual buyout obligation to the University of South Florida. The contract contains the standard termination language with a mitigation clause, provides the use of an automobile, and allows the coach to operate a baseball camp for up to 25 days each year using the University's athletics facilities.

Chairman von Lehe called for a motion to approve the contract as described by Mr. Parham. Mr. Fennel so moved and Mr. Loadholt seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion was approved unanimously.

III. Athletics Employment Agreement Extension

Chairman von Lehe called on Mr. Parham who said the Athletics Department sought approval of a one-year extension of Coach Curtis Frye's employment agreement. Coach Frye is entering his 21st year as Head Men's and Women's Track & Field and Cross Country Coach. Mr. Parham said all terms and conditions of the current contract will remain in place. Coach Frye receives a base salary of \$201,572 and \$50,000 in media/personal services compensation.

Chairman von Lehe called for a motion to approve the contract as described by Mr. Parham. Mr. Lister so moved and Ms. Moody seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion was approved unanimously.

IV. Football Charter Flight Agreement

Chairman von Lehe called on Mr. Parham who said the Athletics Department sought approval of a football charter flight agreement with Air Planning, LLC for three away games to Missouri, Texas and Tennessee. Total cost of the flights will be \$271,575.

Chairman von Lehe called for a motion to approve the football charter flight agreement as described by Mr. Parham. Ms. Moody so moved and Mr. Westbrook seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion was approved unanimously.

V. Adjournment

Chairman von Lehe called on Mr. Tanner, who thanked Trustees and President Pastides for their support. He announced there would be a press conference at 3 p.m. in the Zone at Williams-Brice Stadium to introduce Coach Kingston.

There being no other matters, Chairman von Lehe adjourned the meeting at 9:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Cantey Heath, Jr.
Secretary