MINUTES OF THE
TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS
RETREAT
Saturday, July 18, 2026

I. Call to Order

The Texas Southern University Board of Regents held a Retreat on Saturday, July 18, 2026. Mr. James Benham, Chairman of the Board, called the meeting to order at 8:20 A.M. The meeting convened at One Emancipation Center, 3131 Emancipation Avenue, Houston, Texas 77004.

II. Roll Call

The following Board Members were in attendance and constituted a quorum:
Mr. James M. Benham, Chairman
Mr. Lauren A. Gore, Vice Chair
Ms. Paloma Z. Ahmadi
Ms. Caroline Baker Hurley
Mr. Benjamin H. Proler, *virtual*
Ms. Alithea Z. Sullivan

The following Board Members were absent:

Dr. Richard A. Johnson, Second Vice Chair
Ms. Marilyn A. Rose, Secretary
Mr. Joseph V. Carter, Student Regent, *nonvoting*

Other Attendees: President J.W. Crawford III, Juan Alexander, J'Maine Chubb, Charlie Coleman, Raijanel Crockem, Racquel Dorsey, Carl Goodman, Daniel Graves, Melanie Jackson, Paula Jackson, Michelle John, Sean Martin, Lisa McBride, Ronald McKinley (virtual), Clyde McNeil, Faith Ruiz, Benjamin Sley, Rodney Smith, James White

III. Conflict of Interest Statement

Chairman Benham addressed the matter of Conflict of Interest with the Board members, inquiring if any member had a conflict of interest to disclose regarding the items on today's agenda. Observing no such disclosures, he proceeded with the agenda.

Chairman Benham disclosed that he had multiple tangential relationships associated with a particular agenda item and stated that he would recuse himself from consideration and voting on that item. Chairman Benham further stated that Regent Gore would preside over the consideration and vote on the item in his absence. Chairman Benham confirmed that he had completed the applicable conflict of interest form and submitted it to the Board Relations Office.

Regent Gore thanked Chairman Benham for his transparency and stated that the disclosed conflicts of interest had been noted and that the necessary steps would be taken to ensure the matter is handled appropriately.

IV. Executive Session

The Board entered Executive Session at 8:22 A.M. for a discussion on specific matters as outlined in the Executive Session portion of the agenda for this meeting and in accordance with the following Sections of the Texas Government Code:

Texas Government Code - Section 551.071 - Consultation with University Attorneys on any matter in which the duty of the attorneys to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Act, including any matter listed on this notice/agenda, pending or contemplated litigation, and proposed settlement agreements.

- Consider the Proposed Settlement Agreement in the Lawsuit styled as *Mary Young vs. Texas Southern University*; Cause No.: CV-04:23-03888; in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District, Houston Division

Texas Government Code - Section 551.072 - Deliberations concerning Purchase, Lease or Value of Real Property.

- Consider Request for Approval to Pursue Strategic Real Estate Acquisitions for the Expansion of Thurgood Marshall School of Law

Texas Government Code - Section 551.073 - Deliberations about Negotiated Contracts for Prospective Gifts or Donations.

Texas Government Code - Section 551.074 - Personnel Matters: Deliberations Concerning the Appointments, Employment, Compensation, Duties, Responsibilities, Evaluations and/or Dismissal of Personnel (including but not limited to the Regents, President, General Officers, and Executive Management Employees)

- Consider Board Self-Evaluation
- Consider Presidential Evaluation
- Consider Request for Approval for the Appointment of Dr. Juan M. Alexander as Vice President for Strategic Enrollment Services

V. Reconvene in Open Session and Roll Call

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 10:01 A.M. with another roll call.

The following Board Members were in attendance and constituted a quorum:

Mr. James M. Benham, Chairman
Mr. Lauren A. Gore, Vice Chair
Ms. Caroline Baker Hurley
Ms. Paloma Z. Ahmadi
Mr. Benjamin H. Proler, v*irtual*
Ms. Alithea Z. Sullivan

The following Board Members were absent:

Dr. Richard A. Johnson, Second Vice Chair
Ms. Marilyn A. Rose, Secretary
Mr. Joseph V. Carter, Student Regent, *nonvoting*

Chairman Benham continued with the agenda having Ms. Lisa McBride report on presenting the Texas Southern University and the Texas Southern University Foundation.

[Motion to approve by Chairman Benham, Seconded by Regent Baker Hurley; Motion passes unanimously.]

IX. Consent Docket

- Item A: Request Approval of the Updated Internal Audit Charter
  Action Requested: Approval
- Item B: Request Approval to Extend the Contract with Columbia Advisory Group for Information Technology Staff Augmentation Services
  Action Requested: Approval
- Item C: Request Approval to Negotiate and Execute a Contract with Software House International for Software Licenses and Information Technology Services
  Action Requested: Approval
- Item D: Request Approval to Negotiate and Execute a Contract with RingCentral for the Voice Over Internet Protocol Telephone System
  Action Requested: Approval
- Item E: Request Approval to Negotiate and Execute a Contract with LyncVerse Technologies for Computer Hardware (Office of Information Technology Refresh)
  Action Requested: Approval
- Item F: Request Approval to Negotiate and Execute Interlocal Participation Agreements with Lonestar Education and Research Network (LEARN)
  Action Requested: Approval
- Item G: Request Approval Negotiate and Execute a Contract with Campus Safety Products, LLC for Lockdown Systems
  Action Requested: Approval
- Item H: Request Approval to Negotiate and Execute Contracts with Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. and McGriff Insurance Services, LLC for Property and Casualty and Intercollegiate Athletes Accident Insurance Policies for Fiscal Year 2027
  Action Requested: Approval
- Item I: Request Approval to Modify Banking Resolution and Signature Cards
  Action Requested: Approval
- Item J: Request Approval to Renew Contracts with EBSCO, Elsevier, and ProQuest for Library Learning Center Subscription and Database Services
  Action Requested: Approval
- Item K: Request Approval to Update Rhinehart Music Auditorium 10-Year Designation to the Smith-Rhinehart Music Auditorium
  Action Requested: Approval

- Item L: Request Approval of the Support Organization Agreement Between Texas Southern University (TSU) and the TSU Foundation (Renewal)
  Action Requested: Approval

  [The Board reviewed the consent docket, which included Items 6A through 6L, with the exception of Item 6H, which was pulled for separate consideration. A motion to approve the consent docket with the exception of Item 6H was made by Chairman Benham, Seconded by Sullivan , Motion passes unanimously.]

- Item H: Request Approval to Negotiate and Execute Contracts with Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. and McGriff Insurance Services, LLC for Property and Casualty and Intercollegiate Athletes Accident Insurance Policies for Fiscal Year 2027
  Action Requested: Approval

  [The Board considered Item 6H, which was presented for separate consideration. A motion to approve Item 6H was made by Regent Gore, Seconded by Regent Ahmadi, Motion passes with one abstention by Chairman Benham.]

VII. Personnel and Litigation Committee

Dr. Ronald McKinley, Interim Vice President for Human Resources, presented the following item for approval:

Item A. Request Approval for the Appointment of Dr. Juan Alexander as Vice President for Strategic Enrollment Services.

Dr. Ronald McKinley recommended approval of the appointment of Dr. Juan Alexander as Vice President for Strategic Enrollment Services pursuant to Board Policy 61.10. Dr. Alexander was invited to introduce himself to the Board and shared his more than 25 years of experience in higher education, specifically in enrollment management. He previously served as Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management at Florida A&M University and as Senior Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management at Norfolk State University. The Board welcomed Dr. Alexander and expressed its support and expectations for his leadership in the role.

[Motion to approve by Regent Ahmadi, Seconded by Regent Baker Hurley; Motion passes unanimously.]

This concluded the Personnel Litigation Committee report.

VIII. Audit and Compliance Committee

Mr. Daniel Graves, Chief Audit Executive, presented the following informational item:

Item A. Fiscal Year 2026 Internal Audit Plan Status Update

Mr. Daniel Graves, Internal Auditor with Weaver, presented an informational item, the Fiscal Year 2026 Internal Audit Plan Status Update. Mr. Graves was joined by Mr. Clyde McNeil, Chief Auditor Advisor. Mr. Graves provided an update on the progress of the University's internal audit plan, noting that all internal audits were in progress and that several audit activities had been completed. Mr. Graves reported that the invoice audit had been completed, with the exit meeting concluded and the final report in the process of being drafted. He also reported that follow-up work related to the State Auditor's Office findings concerning two information technology related items had been completed, with the findings verified as remediated. The physical equipment audit remained in progress.

Mr. Graves further reported that the internal audit risk assessment and development of a three-year internal audit plan had been completed. The plan incorporated feedback received from the Board during the previous retreat, including the addition of construction audits and a strategy to introduce continuous monitoring. Additional audit related activities included participation in the State Auditor's Office annual single audit of higher education institutions and completion of a statewide Senate Interim Charge Information Request.
Mr. Graves also provided an update regarding the reconciliation of prior audit findings. The predecessor report identified 151 audit recommendations, which were consolidated into 135 findings based on the underlying root causes. Currently there are 105 open findings, which are currently undergoing follow-up to determine whether they have been remediated, partially remediated, or remain open.

The Board expressed appreciation to Mr. Graves and Mr. McNeil for their professionalism, teamwork, and continued partnership in supporting the University's internal audit function.

This concluded the Audit and Compliance Committee report.

IX. Administration and Finance Committee

Mr. J'Maine Chubb, Chief Financial Officer, presented the following item:

Item C. Fiscal Year 2027 Operating Budget

Mr. J'Maine Chubb, Chief Financial Officer, presented the proposed Fiscal Year 2027 Budget. Mr. Chubb outlined the budget's focus on maintaining financial stability, strengthening financial controls, growing recurring revenues, increasing transparency, and improving long-range financial planning.

Mr. Chubb reported that the budget supports more than 9,000 students and prioritizes student success, academic excellence, campus renewal, technology modernization, and financial stewardship. The proposed expense budget totals $300.1 million, an increase of approximately $58.2 million, or 24 percent, compared to the prior year. The proposed budget reflects strategic investments in enrollment growth, scholarships, technology, facilities, and institutional operations.

The proposed operating budget includes $156.2 million in operating revenue, $300.1 million in operating expenses, $95.1 million in non-operating revenue, and $13.5 million in other revenues, resulting in an initial budget deficit of $35.2 million. Management proposed the strategic use of available reserves to balance the budget.

Mr. Chubb also provided an overview of the Fiscal Year 2027 cash forecast and state appropriations, including an anticipated $114 million in state appropriations and $83.9 million in general revenue.

[Motion to approve by Regent Gore, Seconded by Regent Sullivan; Motion passes unanimously.]

Dr. Paula Jackson, Athletics Director, presented the following item

Item A. Request Approval to Negotiate and Execute a Contract with Game One Athletic Supply, Inc. for Spring Sports Equipment and Apparel.

Dr. Paula Jackson, Athletics Director, presented the request to purchase athletic equipment, apparel, footwear, and related accessories through Game One Athletic Supply, Inc. to support the University's Fiscal Year 2027 spring competitive season. The purchase will support nine spring sports, including uniforms, practice gear, and necessary equipment, as well as warm-up uniforms for the band. The Board discussed the recurring nature of athletic equipment purchases and the importance of developing inventory stockpiles to reduce emergency purchases.

[Motion to approve by Regent Gore, Seconded by Regent Baker Hurley; Motion passes unanimously.]

Ms. Melanie Jackson, Senior Associate Vice President of Operations and Procurement, presented the following item for approval:

Item B. Request Approval of Actions Concerning Campus Dining Services, Including Authorization to Transition the Contract Award to SodexoMagic, Continue Interim Operations in Excess of President's Delegated Contracting Authority, and Execution of a Master Services Agreement

Ms. Jackson presented the item and outlined the University's options concerning campus dining services. The Board was advised that the Administration's recommendation was to transition the contract award to SodexoMagic, the next highest ranking qualified proposer under RFP 717-25-703; authorize interim operations for up to three months and an aggregate amount not to exceed $2.5 million while final negotiations are completed; and authorize the President or designee to negotiate and execute a definitive Master Services Agreement with SodexoMagic. The Board was also advised that it retained the option to authorize a new solicitation. Following discussion, the Board proceeded with the Administration's recommendation.

[Motion to approve by Regent Gore, Seconded by Regent Sullivan; Motion passes unanimously.]

This concluded the Administration and Finance Committee report.

X. Athletics Committee

Dr. Paula Jackson, Athletics Director, and Mr. Charlie Coleman, Senior Associate Vice President of Development and Alumni Engagement, presented the following item for approval:

Item A. Request Approval of Athletics Game Agreement between RCM Entertainment, L.P. dba Lone Star Sports & Entertainment "LSSE" and Texas Southern University.

Dr. Jackson and Mr. Coleman presented the request to negotiate and execute a venue agreement with Lone Star Sports and Entertainment for the October 24, 2026 Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) game between Texas Southern University and Southern University at Reliant Stadium. The agreement establishes a maximum financial commitment of $500,000 substantially reducing the University's potential exposure under the traditional stadium model. The agreement also provides for the retention of net ticket and sponsorship revenue by the University, complimentary suites and parking passes for donor and community engagement, and promotional support to maximize attendance and revenue. The Administration projects approximately $699,000 in total revenue and a net revenue of approximately $199,000. The Board was advised that the event is intended to serve as an annual signature platform to engage the University's constituencies and support the long-term vision for an on-campus football stadium.

[Motion to approve by Regent Baker Hurley, Seconded by Regent Ahmadi; Motion passes unanimously.]

This concluded the Athletics Committee report.

XI. Physical Facilities & Real Estate Committee

Ms. Melanie Jackson, Senior Associate Vice President of Operations and Procurement, presented the following item for approval:

Item A. Request Approval to Pursue Strategic Real Estate Acquisitions for the Expansion of Thurgood Marshall School of Law

Ms. Jackson requested approval to pursue strategic real estate acquisitions consistent with the University's Ascend 2025 strategic plan and Campus Master Plan to support the expansion of the University's campus footprint and the Thurgood Marshall School of Law.

[Motion to approve by Regent Baker Hurley, Seconded by Regent Gore; Motion passes unanimously.]

This concluded the Physical Facilities & Real Estate Committee report.

XII. Academic Affairs, Research and Student Life Committee
Dr. Carl B. Goodman, Provost/Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs, presented the following item for approval:

Item A. Update on the University's Compliance with Senate Bill 37 Concerning General Education Curriculum Review Advisory Committee and Request to Appoint Two Additional Members to the General Education Curriculum Review Advisory Committee
Dr. Goodman provided an update on the University's compliance with Senate Bill 37 and the General Education Curriculum Review Advisory Committee. The Board was advised that the committee is responsible for reviewing the University's general education curriculum, including the core curriculum, and ensuring alignment with required competencies and workforce demands. The request included the appointment of two additional members to the committee, including a replacement for Regent Ahmadi, as Board members may not serve on the advisory committee under the statute.

[Motion to approve by Regent Ahmadi, seconded by Regent Baker Hurley; Motion passes unanimously.]

Dr. Michelle John, Vice President for Research and Innovation, presented the following Informational item:

Item B. Update on the University's Compliance with House Bill 127 Concerning Research Security Programs

Dr. John provided an informational update regarding House Bill 127 and the University's research security requirements. The presentation addressed the legislation's requirements, governance responsibilities, implementation timeline, and the role of the Higher Education Research Security Council in statewide implementation.

Dr. John continued reporting that House Bill 127 establishes ongoing research security responsibilities for institutions of higher education, including requirements related to foreign influence, gifts and agreements, academic partnerships, student organizations, travel, cybersecurity, and prohibited software. The University must establish research security procedures, screen foreign researchers with access to sensitive information, monitor applicable travel, comply with prohibited software requirements, and ensure student organization funding is not sourced from foreign adversaries.

The Board was also advised of its governance responsibilities, including appointing a research security officer, reviewing compliance, receiving quarterly updates, and certifying compliance prior to the September 1, 2026, certification deadline. The University is preparing for the first certification cycle, with a special Board meeting anticipated in August 2026 to review and approve the required certification.

Dr. Carl B. Goodman, Provost/Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs, presented the following informational item:

Item C. Update on the University's Compliance with Senate Bill 37 Concerning the Faculty Senate

Dr. Goodman presented an informational update regarding the University's compliance with Senate Bill 37 concerning faculty governance. The presentation outlined the legislation's requirements and the University's actions following the September 1, 2025 effective date, including discontinuation of the former Faculty Senate structure and notification to faculty.

The Board was advised that it may establish either a Faculty Advisory Council or reconstitute a Faculty Senate, provided the body complies with the requirements of Senate Bill 37. The proposed advisory structure would provide faculty representation from each college or school, with leadership appointed by the President.

VI. Welcome Remarks

Chairman Benham reconvened the Retreat portion of the agenda at 12:17 P.M. Chairman Benham stated that the meeting was the Board's semi-annual strategic retreat and reminded the Regents that the discussions should remain focused on the "50,000-foot view." He then outlined the sequence for the afternoon discussions. First, the Board would begin with a University Overview and State of the University presentation from President Crawford, followed by the strategic discussions, including the Campus Master Plan, and capital strategy and the fiscal year ahead.

VII. University Overview & State of the University

President Crawford provided a State of the University update, highlighting institutional progress and priorities. He announced the release of the 2026 Tiger football schedule and discussed scheduling changes, including a more competitive homecoming matchup. He also provided updates on executive leadership searches, noting that appointments for the Jesse H. Jones School of Business, College of Education, College of Liberal Arts, and Graduate School were expected to be presented to the Board at its November meeting. Additionally, he announced the launch of the Chief Information Officer search, with the goal of filling the position before the end of the calendar year. Chairman Benham emphasized the need to improve the admissions process and ensure students are admitted in a timely manner.

VIII. Strategic Discussions

- Campus Master Plan & Capital Strategy

  President Crawford discussed ongoing campus infrastructure improvements, including electrical and utility upgrades, demolition of aging facilities, preparations for the groundbreaking of three new campus buildings, and future campus development initiatives. Ms. Melanie Jackson will develop a timeline for the demolition of Lanier West and East dormitories. She will also work with JLL to develop a solicitation package for P3 projects related to H&PE Arena and new student housing and conduct a facility condition assessment on H&PE Arena as part of the P3 process. Dr. Raijanel Crockem discusses TSU's strategic plan, including ensuring that everyone is looking at creating new academic programs, working partnerships, establishing business advisory teams, and making sure we are supplementing innovation as well as internship placements of students.

- The Fiscal Year Ahead (FY27 Budget, Compensation Study, Legislative Session Preparation, and Financial and Audit Review)

  Mr. Chubb provided an assessment of the University's financial operations following his first several weeks as the Chief Financial Officer. He identified areas requiring improvement, including financial reporting delays, internal controls, cash forecasting, recovery of state and federal funds, financial planning and analysis, capital planning, procurement, and enterprise-wide financial governance. Mr. Chubb outlined efforts to strengthen finance policies and controls, establish a State Appropriations Governance Council and Capital Committee, improve cash forecasting, and transition the Finance organization from a primarily transactional function to a strategic business partner. Chairman Benham also discussed improvements needed in the University's accounts payable and procurement processes, including centralized invoice submission, timely invoice processing, vendor compliance, and stronger monitoring of payment practices.

- Athletics Transition
  President Crawford provided an update on the Athletics Department and the search for a permanent Athletic Director. He discussed the recently completed financial and operational assessments of Athletics and emphasized the importance of strengthening athletic operations and overall program management. He also addressed legislative and regulatory issues affecting athletics and Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL). The Board discussed the need for a stronger NIL strategy to support student-athlete retention and remain competitive. President Crawford discussed the men's basketball program and the decision to halt the search for a permanent head coach for the upcoming season. He expressed concerns regarding the timing of the transition and the potential impact on player retention and the transfer portal. The Board discussed the potential risks of waiting, including the optics and concern that delaying the decision could create additional challenges for the University. The Board advised President Crawford to move forward with the search rather than postponing until after the upcoming season.

IX. Adjourn

With no further business pending before the Board, a motion to adjourn the Retreat was made by Chairman Benham at 4:30 P.M.; Seconded by Regent Gore; the motion passed unanimously.

All supporting materials for informational and action items presented during this meeting are available on the public posting here.

SIGNATURE OF APPROVAL

I certify that the foregoing minutes constitute a true, correct, and complete record of the Texas Southern University Board of Regents Retreat, held in Houston, Texas on July 18, 2026.

Faith Ruiz
Executive Director
Office of Board Relations

Date Approved by the Board

Marilyn A. Rose
Secretary
Board of Regents