



# **REPORT TO THE BOARD OF REGENTS**

December 17, 2020

Meeting 340

**STEPHEN F. AUSTIN  
STATE UNIVERSITY**

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**BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING 340**

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**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

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## OPEN MEETING NOTICE

**Stephen F. Austin State University  
Board of Regents Special Called Board Meeting  
Nacogdoches, Texas  
Videoconference  
December 17, 2020  
Meeting 340**

The Board of Regents of Stephen F. Austin State University will convene a videoconferencing Board Meeting on Thursday, December 17, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. according to the following agenda. To view the videoconference live go to: <http://www.sfasu.edu/about-sfa/board-of-regents/meeting-information>.

### **THURSDAY, December 17**

**9:00 a.m.**

#### **CALL TO ORDER IN OPEN SESSION**

Welcome and Roll Call

Presentations and Board Actions on Agenda Items 1-4:

1. SFA and TAMU Rellis Campus Partnership
2. Aviation Program Partnership
3. Reallocation of Computer Replacement HEF Funds
4. Changes to the SFA Charter School Board Authority

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The board will move to executive session for consideration of the following item:

Deliberations Regarding the Purchase, Exchange, Lease, Sale or Value of Real Property (Texas Government Code, Section 551.072)

Consideration of Individual Personnel Matters Relating to Appointment, Employment, Evaluation, Assignment, Duties, Discipline, or Dismissal of an Officer or Employee, including but not limited to the vice presidents, athletic director and president. (Texas Government Code, Section 551.074)

Consultation with Attorney Regarding Legal Advice or Pending and/or Contemplated Litigation or Settlement Offers, including but not limited to reported complaints, *Marcella Cook v. SFASU et al*; *Ann Wilder, Ph.D. v. SFASU*; and *S.M., J.C., C.O., T.R., M.W., and K.W. vs. SFASU et al.* (Texas Government Code, Section 551.071)

#### **RECONVENE BOARD MEETING IN OPEN SESSION**

Presentation and Board Action on Agenda Item 5:

5. Presidential Authority (Pending Executive Session Item)

Committee Assignments

#### **ESTIMATED ADJOURNMENT OF BOARD MEETING**

(approximately 11:00 a.m.)

Where appropriate and permitted by law, Executive Sessions may be held for the above listed subjects (Section 551.071). Possible action may be taken in Open Session on matters considered in Executive Session. Further details regarding the posted agenda are available for public review in the Office of the Board of Regents, Austin Building 310, and Telephone (936) 468-4048.



Stephen F. Austin State University  
Board of Regents  
Meeting 340  
December 17, 2020

Open Session

**Stephen F. Austin State University  
Board of Regents  
Videoconference Meeting via Zoom  
December 17, 2020**

**ROLL CALL**

**Regents**

Alton Frailey, Chair  
Karen Gantt, Vice Chair  
Tom Mason, Secretary  
David Alders  
Scott Coleman  
Robert Flores  
Brigettee Henderson  
Judy Olson  
Jenn Winston  
Ireland Bramhall, Student Member

**Administrators**

Scott Gordon  
Damon Derrick  
Gina Oglesbee  
Erma Brecht  
Steve Bullard  
Michara Delaney-Fields  
Anthony Espinoza  
Danny Gallant  
Ryan Ivey  
Jill Still  
Charlotte Sullivan  
Steve Westbrook

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY AND TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY RELLIS  
CAMPUS PARTNERSHIP

Explanation:

SFA and the TAMU RELLIS campus developed a partnership that will allow SFA to teach courses at the TAMU RELLIS campus located near College Station. Beginning with the fall 2021 semester, SFA will participate in class delivery as other higher education partners at the RELLIS campus. Specifically, SFA will offer the Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies, EC-6 concentration, through the RELLIS Academic Alliance (RAA). The Alliance includes 12 education partners, and each institution that participates in the RAA charges the same tuition and fee amount. SFA requests approval to charge the same tuition and fee rate as other institutions participating in the RAA. The fiscal year 2020-21 RELLIS tuition and fee cost is \$4,647.75 for fifteen semester credit hours.

Recommendation:

The administration recommends that the university adopt the same tuition and fee rates that other institutions charge that participate in the RELLIS Academic Alliance.

### AVIATION PROGRAM PARTNERSHIP

#### Explanation:

The university has developed an aviation degree program that provides an academic pathway for students to earn a bachelor of applied arts and sciences degree in association with flight training that leads to aircraft pilot certification. An aviation training school will partner with the university in the joint training and degree awarding process. An RFP was released to solicit bids for the aircraft pilot training component. The university received two bids to provide the aircraft training. Those firms were HCH Aviation, LLC and U.S. Aviation Group, LLC.

#### Recommendation:

Based on a best value evaluation, the administration recommends XXXXXXXX to partner with the university and conduct the aircraft training. A flight training program fee will be developed and submitted at a later board meeting.

### REALLOCATION OF COMPUTER REPLACEMENT HEF FUNDS

#### Explanation:

Policy 17.4, Computer Purchase and Replacement, governs the university's computer acquisition and replacement process. The policy stipulates that computer and workstation replacement evaluations will occur on a five-year cycle. Portable computer replacement evaluations will occur on a four-year cycle. Either evaluation may be deferred as a result of budget constraints or administrative discretion. The administration has determined that certain computer configurations need to be replaced.

In the July, 21, 2020 board meeting, the board of regents approved a \$750,000 HEF allocation to be used for computer replacement. Based on a reevaluation of institutional technology (ITS) needs, the administration wishes to reallocate \$200,000 from fiscal year 2021 computer replacement HEF funding to institutional ITS initiatives that include an antivirus/endpoint protection solution, a multifactor authentication solution and self-service password reset portal. A portion of CARES funding will be used for critical computer replacements.

#### Recommendation:

The administration recommends \$200,000 be reallocated from the fiscal year 2021 computer replacement HEF allocation to an antivirus/endpoint protection solution, multifactor authentication solution and a self-service password reset portal.



## CHANGES TO SFA CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD AUTHORITY

### Explanation:

In January 2008 with Board Order 08-11, the Board of Regents authorized the creation of the SFA Charter School Board. The order provided the SFA Charter School Board authority for the day-to-day operations of the school, subject to final approval by the SFA Board of Regents for the annual budget; expenditures beyond the approved annual budget; purchases, contracts and other expenditures over \$100,000; and the employment of all professional (exempt) personnel. The SFA Charter School is generally subject to all university policies. The SFA Charter School Board provides management for the SFA Charter School, and the SFA Board of Regents provides general oversight to ensure fiscal accountability.

Board Order 08-11 also provides that the SFA Charter School Board shall consist of seven voting members, plus the academic leader of the charter campus serving as an ex-officio non-voting member. The SFA Charter School Board includes representation from the areas of education, parents, teachers and the community. The SFA Charter School Board is made up of three constant positions consisting of the Dean of the James I. Perkins College of Education, serving as Chair; the Department Chair of Elementary Education; and the SFA Charter School academic leader, serving as the ex-officio non-voting member; and five 3-year renewable term positions appointed by consensus of the existing SFA Charter School Board members.

The expenditure approval levels for the university have changed since 2008, and the titles have changed for two of the BOR approved constant positions. The Chair of Elementary Education has changed to the Chair of Elementary Studies, and the academic leader has changed to Chief Executive Officer/Principal.

Texas Education Code Section 44.008 requires each school district and charter school to have their annual financial and compliance report audited by an independent auditor and approved by the board. The annual financial and compliance report must be submitted to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) not later than the 150<sup>th</sup> day after fiscal year end. Currently the SFA Board of Regents approves the Charter School's Audited Annual Financial and Compliance Report prior to submission to the TEA. Approval of the Audited Annual Financial and Compliance Report can be delegated to the Charter School Board.

### Recommendation:

It is recommended by the administration that the SFA Charter School Board be given additional authority to approve the Audited Annual Financial and Compliance Report prior to submission to the TEA. In addition, it is recommended that the authority for SFA Charter School purchases, contracts and other expenditures follow university policies and procedures for approval levels. For the Charter School Board three constant positions designated by the SFA Board of Regents, it is recommended that the titles be updated from Chair of Elementary Education to Chair of Education Studies and from academic leader to Chief Executive Officer/Principal.



## Executive Session

Deliberations Regarding the Purchase, Exchange, Lease, Sale or Value of Real Property  
(Texas Government Code, Section 551.072)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Consideration of Individual Personnel Matters Relating to Appointment, Employment, Evaluation, Assignment, Duties, Discipline, or Dismissal of an Officer or Employee, including but not limited to the vice presidents, athletic director and president. (Texas Government Code, Section 551.074)

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Open Session

Presidential Authority: Pending Executive Session Item