

**ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD  
Special Meeting via Conference Call  
September 18, 2019**

**Minutes of Meeting**

The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board held a special meeting via conference call on Wednesday, September 18, 2019. The meeting convened at 10:00 a.m., with a quorum present.

Coordinating Board present:

Dr. Jim Carr, Chair  
Al Brodell, Vice Chair  
Chris Gilliam, Secretary  
Dr. Charles Allen  
Keven Anderson  
Lori Griffin  
Greg Revels

Coordinating Board absent:

Dr. Olin Cook  
Dr. Michael Stanton

Department staff present:

Dr. Maria Markham, Director  
Nick Fuller, Deputy Director  
Dr. Jessie Walker, Senior Associate Director for Academic Affairs  
Ann Clemmer, Senior Associate Director for Government Relations  
Lillian Williams, Program Coordinator for Academic Affairs  
Jeanne Jones, Program Coordinator for Academic Affairs  
Chandra Robinson, Program Coordinator for Institutional Finance  
Nichole Abernathy, Executive Assistant

Presidents, chancellors, other institutional representatives, and guests also participated.

Chair Jim Carr thanked the Coordinating Board members and guests for participating on the call.

Nichole Abernathy conducted a roll call to confirm there was a quorum.

Agenda Item No. 1  
Economic Feasibility of Bond Issue  
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds not to exceed \$156.0 million with a maximum term of thirty (30) years at an annual interest rate not to exceed 5.50 percent. Proceeds from the bond issue will be used for auxiliary purposes. The

University of Arkansas Board of Trustees approved this financing at its meeting on August 21, 2019.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas acting for and on behalf of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences to issue bonds up to \$156.0 million with a term of thirty (30) years at a maximum annual interest rate of 5.50 percent for comprehensive infrastructure and energy conservation projects.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is authorized to notify the President and the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas and the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences of the Coordinating Board's resolution.

There were no questions.

Dr. Charles Allen moved to approve Agenda Item No. 1. Al Brodell seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

## Agenda Item No. 2 Letters of Intent

This agenda item includes submitted Letters of Intent (LOI) from one (1) Arkansas institution and includes a new program.

### University of Arkansas, Fayetteville Bachelor of Science in Data Science

The University of Arkansas 120 credit hour program B.S. Data Science Program is designed to leverage the state of Arkansas' strengths in data science and analytics including integrating real-world industry-based open-ended challenges for workforce development and education by creating a rigorous Data Science curriculum as a partnership of the University of Arkansas Fayetteville College of Engineering (COE), the Walton College of Business (WCOB), and the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences (ARSC). The objective of the program is to develop graduates who are prepared students for a successful career in data science with an amalgamation of capabilities as described in the Learning Outcomes.

Chair Carr asked if there were similar programs in the state.

Dr. Walker said, no. This is the first program of its kind in the state. Walker noted that there is a similar program in Missouri.

Al Brodell asked if ADHE received any comments or concerns from other institutions.

Dr. Walker said no complaints were received.

Chair Carr thanked everyone for participating in the special meeting and announced that the next regular meeting would be October 25, 2019 at the University of Arkansas – Fort Smith.

With no further comments, the meeting adjourned at 10:08 p.m.

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Nichole Abernathy

APPROVED:

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Chris Gilliam, Secretary