

**COORDINATING BOARD SPECIAL MEETING  
January 6, 2004  
Conference Call**

The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board met by conference call in a special meeting on Friday, January 6, 2004. The meeting convened at 11:40 a.m. and Chairman Ford announced that all votes would be by role call. He requested that Christina Miller call the role of the Coordinating Board:

Board members present:

Phil Ford, Chair  
Dr. Dan Grant, Vice Chair  
Kaneaster Hodges  
Dr. Lynda Johnson  
David Leech  
Dr. Anne Trussell

Board members absent:

Betsy Thompson, Secretary  
David Damron  
Bob Cheyne  
Bill Johnson  
Jodie Carter

Chairman Ford: Dr. Beene, please tell us who is in the room with you.

Dr. Beene: Christina Miller and Myself, as you know, Rita Fleming, Karen Wheeler and Cynthia Moten, who are members of our staff. I believe you have the other names of those present as guests.

Chairman Ford: Alice Lightle (answers here) of the Attorney General's Office. Is Ms. Treeca Dyer there?

Ms. Lightle: No sir, she's not here. She does have notice of the call and has told me she might be in court, but that she would try to call in. That's the best I can do.

Kaneaster Hodges: We can put in the record that that was made available to her and she's got our conference call number and access number. I would like the record to reflect that the opportunity was made available to her.

Jennus Burton: Mr. Chairman, this is Jennus Burton of ASU. We have a couple of people in our room here.

Dr. Beene: Yes, Mr. Ford is going to introduce you.

Chairman Ford: I understand that Jennus Burton is there. Is Ed Kremers there? (Ed answers yes.) And I know that Dr. Wyatt is there. Anybody else from ASU there?

Jennus Burton: We have Russ Hannah, Craig Johnson, Ronnie Williams, and Rick Stricklin all in the room at ASU for the conference call. Dr. Wyatt is in the room at ADHE.

Kaneaster Hodges: There's no one left at ASU. Can we take that item up first and then be done?

Chairman Ford: Yes, we can. Is Hillary Hilliard there from the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*?

Hillary Hilliard: Yes.

Chairman Ford: The agenda item for the economic feasibility at ASU is in your packet. Do all of you have that? Have you had an opportunity to read that? Rita Fleming is prepared to answer any questions that you may have. Does anybody have any questions? Rita, do you have anything you would like to say?

Rita Fleming: No sir, would you like for me to briefly review it or I would be happy to go ahead and if anybody has got questions....

Dr. Dan Grant: I move approval of the resolution on page 1-2.

David Leech: I second.

Chairman Ford: We have a motion and a second to approve the economic feasibility of the bond issue for Arkansas State University. Is there any discussion?

Kaneaster Hodges: Mr. Chairman, I have a quick question because I am the newest one almost. It sounds totally in order. Is this a conventional approach as a proposal or is there anything unusual about it? It looks conventional to me, but if that could just be answered yes or no. Are there any issues in this or is there anything that's being done that's unusual?

Rita Fleming: No sir, there's not, and actually, we took a very conservative approach to this.

Kaneaster Hodges: That's all I need. Thank you.

Chairman Ford: We will now have a roll call vote of all members present.

Christina Miller: Dan Grant (votes yes), Mr. Hodges (votes yes), Dr. Johnson (votes yes), Mr. Johnson (votes yes), David Leech (votes yes), Dr. Trussell (votes yes), and Chairman Ford (votes yes).

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Chairman Ford: Mr. President, we thank you and ASU for participating and good luck on your project.

Dr. Les Wyatt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to commend ADHE staff who have worked with us hand in glove on this project and express our appreciation on behalf of the students who will use these facilities. Thank you very much.

Chairman Ford: Thank you for saying that. I know they appreciate it.

Dr. Beene: We really do. We invite you to stay if you would like. The Board might be interested in a report on yesterday's meeting or otherwise visit with you.

Chairman Ford: We have Agenda Item No. 2, the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order. In order to finalize the hearing in the matter of the Southern College of Naturopathy Medicine, the Board must approve the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order from the hearing that was held on October 24 and December 5.

Dr. Beene: Mr. Chairman, we just had someone join the call. Let's see if we have someone who will identify himself or herself.

Chairman Ford: Who just joined the call, please?

Dr. Beene: Perhaps ASU staff disconnected then.

Chairman Ford: It may be they were hanging up. Dr. Wheeler will now explain the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order, which is Agenda Item No. 2 in your packet. Dr. Wheeler, if you would.

Dr. Wheeler: Thank you, Mr. Ford. As you have noted, the Board did hold a hearing on October 24 which was continued on December 5 to determine whether an exemption from certification, pursuant to the provisions of Rule 8 of our ICAC regs, should be granted for the Southern College of Naturopathic Medicine. Upon conclusion of the hearing, the hearing officer charged Ms. Alice Lightle with drafting the Board's decision on the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order. You will find these attached to your agenda item on pages 2-2 to 2-5. It should be noted that we did receive two suggested changes from Board members, and those changes were faxed to you, and those changes should be on pages 2-4 under Conclusions of Law.

Chairman Ford: Does everyone have that.

Board: Yes, we do.

Chairman Ford: OK, go ahead.

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Dr. Wheeler: Thank you. Ms. Lightle is present to address the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order, and we are presenting this item for your consideration.

Kaneaster Hodges: Mr. Chairman, to move things forward and it certainly doesn't keep us from making any changes, I move adoption of the Order as presented with the amendments by the Board members.

Dr. Lynda Johnson: I second.

Chairman Ford: So we have a motion to accept the change in the first sentence. We are going to have to do it by sentence, OK?

Dr. Beene: Well, Mr. Ford, that was our initial advice to you, but let's see if....

Chairman Ford: Alice, we can do it by the first and the second?

Ms. Lightle: You can approve it as proposed by Mr. Hodges, if that's what the Board would like to do.

Kaneaster Hodges: My motion includes those two changes.

Ms. Lightle: But he's proposing to approve it as it's written in front of you right now.

Chairman Ford: We have a motion and a second on the motion. Chrissy, would you call the vote?

Christina Miller: Dr. Grant (votes yes), Mr. Hodges (votes yes), Dr. Johnson (votes yes), Mr. Johnson (votes yes), Mr. Leech (votes yes), Dr. Trussell (votes yes), and Chairman Ford (votes yes).

Chairman Ford: Now do I hear a motion to approve the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order?

David Leech: I so move.

Kaneaster Hodges: I second.

Chairman Ford: Any discussion? Please call the role.

Christina Miller: Dr. Grant (votes yes), Mr. Hodges (votes yes), Dr. Johnson (votes yes), Mr. Johnson (votes yes), Mr. Leech (votes yes), Dr. Trussell (votes yes), and Chairman Ford (votes yes).

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Chairman Ford: Alice, is there anything else we need to consider concerning this matter?

Ms. Lightle: No sir, we will get you a copy of the revised Order to sign, and at that point I will send Ms. Dyer a copy, and once she receives that copy, that's when her 30 days begin to run through an appeal if there's going to be one.

Chairman Ford: Are you going to mail that to me or should I come to Little Rock to sign it?

Ms. Lightle: I think probably we will mail that to you. That will be fine. We just need to have an original signature on the document.

Chairman Ford: Our next meeting is February 6 at UALR. It has been suggested by them that instead of having a meal like we normally do that they would like to have a reception at the Alltel Arena before a basketball game they are having that night. Would you prefer that or would you prefer our usual dinner the night before?

Dr. Lynda Johnson: I would like that.

Chairman Ford: Is it OK with everyone to have the reception at the arena and stay for the game? Anybody opposed to that? Then that's what we'll do.

Dr. Beene: We'll pass that along to UALR. I'm sure they will be pleased to host you.

Chairman Ford: Is Dr. Wyatt still in the room?

Dr. Beene: He had to leave, Mr. Ford, for a luncheon meeting.

Chairman Ford: OK. I know they had a meeting yesterday. Did that go OK?

Dr. Beene: Yes sir, it went very well. Making progress.

Dr. Dan Grant: What kind of meeting was it?

Dr. Beene: The university presidents are continuing to work on their funding formula plans for the next biennium.

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Chairman Ford: The two-year schools have that. The four-year schools have been trying to do that now for some while. I understand they are working on it very hard. Do I hear a motion that we adjourn?

David Leech: So moved.

Chairman Ford: Second? All in favor, say aye. We are adjourned.

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Katherine Corcoran

APPROVED:

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Betsy Thompson, Secretary