

**MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM
July 26, 2016**

A. **Call to Order**

Mr. Jimmie “Beau” Martin, Jr. Chair, called to order the Special Meeting of the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System in Room 100, the “Louisiana Purchase Room,” Claiborne Conference Center, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana at 10:05 a.m.

B. **Roll Call**

The roll was called.

PRESENT

Mr. James Carter	Mr. Shawn Murphy
Mr. Edward Crawford III	Mr. Alejandro “Al” Perkins
Dr. Kelly Faircloth	Mr. Mark Romero
Mr. E. Gerald Hebert	Mr. Carl Shetler
Mr. Jimmy Long	Mr. Winfred Sibille
Mr. Jimmie “Beau” Martin, Jr.	Mr. Antonio Torres

ABSENT

Dr. John Condos
Ms. Pamela Egan
Mr. Robert Shreve

Also present for the meeting were the following: Interim System President Daniel Reneau, System staff, Linda Clark, Brandon DeCuir, interested citizens, and representatives of the news media.

Mr. Jimmy Long provided the invocation prior to the business portion of the meeting.

C. **Swearing in of New Member**

Chair Martin informed the Board that Governor John Bel Edwards had recently appointed Mr. Alejandro “Al” Perkins to serve on the Board representing the 6th Congressional District. Mr. Martin said that Mr. Perkins’ term expires on 12/31/16 as he is completing Mr. LeTard’s term of office.

Mr. Martin indicated that Mr. Perkins is an attorney with Hammonds, Sills, Adkins and Guice as well as an adjunct professor at Southern University Law Center.

Mr. Perkins thanked the Governor for being appointed to the Board, and he thanked Judge Wilson Fields for graciously accepting his request to administer his oath of office. Mr. Perkins also acknowledged the partners in the law firm who were present, as well as his family who supported him.

The Honorable Judge Wilson Fields administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Perkins.

D. **Grambling State University Presidential Vacancy**

Mr. Martin reported that the System Office posted the vacancy of Grambling State University President and solicited applications for the position. He stated that 11 nominations and 18 applications had been received to date. Mr. Martin said that all application materials had been reviewed by the Board.

Mr. Martin invited Mr. Antonio Torres, Student Board Member, to speak concerning the search, to be followed by the Interim System President and Board members.

Mr. Torres spoke on behalf of the students of Grambling State University, represented by the Student Government Association, who indicated their desire to be part of the selection process.

Dr. Daniel Reneau, Interim System President, began his remarks by stating that Grambling State University enjoys national and international recognition as an institution. He reminded the audience of the necessity of the role the University plays in the state and throughout the nation.

Dr. Reneau identified the need for strong leadership and that a number of challenges must be addressed by a new head of the University. He said that 21 positions at Grambling State University remain as acting rather than permanent positions. He reminded the Board that there continues to be a financial deficit. He mentioned upcoming program reviews in December of 2016 and the need for attention to those reviews. Dr. Reneau said that a unified direction for the future must be established. He also said that the leader must possess understanding of the Louisiana political system. Dr. Reneau lastly stated the necessity for a complete review of the institution.

Public Comment

Mr. Martin opened the floor for public testimony. The following individuals took the opportunity to comment on the vacancy and/or the search process:

Marva Nichols Griffin
Thomas Griffin
Janet Duncan Barnes
Joseph Carter
Eddie Jean Braggs Cheatham
Tyronne Davis
Mack Himaye
Thomas Jones
Shari Nichols Sweat

Cheryle Wheeler-Johnson
James Bradford
Angelia Young Jones
Michael Meadows
Erica West Green
Willie Washington
Benjamin Williams
Leola Robertson
Mary Devereaux-Odom
Hugh Wilson

Mr. E. Gerald Hebert, member of the Board, responded by stating that every Board member has supported and continues to support Grambling State University.

Chair Martin asked for a motion to suspend Board Rule, *Chapter III, Section II. A. Chief Executive Vacancies*.

Upon motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Mr. Shetler, the Board unanimously voted to suspend Board Rule, Chapter III, Section II. A. Chief Executive Vacancies.

The following roll call vote was recorded:

Yeas:	Mr. Carter, Mr. Crawford, Dr. Faircloth, Mr. Hebert, Mr. Long, Mr. Martin, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Romero, Mr. Shetler, Mr. Sibille, Mr. Torres
Nays:	None
Absent:	Dr. Condos, Ms. Egan, Mr. Shreve

Mr. Martin requested motions for consideration of specific candidates:

Upon motion of Mr. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Shetler, the Board unanimously voted to consider Mr. Rick Gallot for the presidency of Grambling State University.

The following roll call vote was recorded:

Yeas: Mr. Carter, Mr. Crawford, Dr. Faircloth, Mr. Hebert, Mr. Long, Mr. Martin, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Romero, Mr. Shetler, Mr. Sibille, Mr. Torres

Nays: None

Absent: Dr. Condos, Ms. Egan, Mr. Shreve

Upon motion of Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Perkins, the Board unanimously voted to consider Dr. Gilbert Rochon for the presidency of Grambling State University.

The following roll call vote was recorded:

Yeas: Mr. Carter, Mr. Crawford, Dr. Faircloth, Mr. Hebert, Mr. Long, Mr. Martin, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Romero, Mr. Shetler, Mr. Sibille, Mr. Torres

Nays: None

Absent: Dr. Condos, Ms. Egan, Mr. Shreve

Upon motion of Mr. Romero, seconded by Mr. Shetler, the Board unanimously voted to close the nominations.

The following roll call vote was recorded:

Yeas: Mr. Carter, Mr. Crawford, Dr. Faircloth, Mr. Hebert, Mr. Long, Mr. Martin, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Romero, Mr. Shetler, Mr. Sibille, Mr. Torres

Nays: None

Absent: Dr. Condos, Ms. Egan, Mr. Shreve

Mr. Martin said that each candidate would be asked to give an opening statement and then the Chair would entertain a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues with the candidate.

Mr. Richard "Rick" Gallot, Jr.

Mr. Martin welcomed Mr. Rick Gallot and his wife Christy as they were escorted into the auditorium.

Mr. Gallot thanked the Board for giving him the opportunity to be considered for the position, provided an opening statement, and outlined his vision for Grambling's future.

Mr. Martin stated that the Board would meet in Executive Session pursuant to R.S. 42:17 with Mr. Gallot to discuss personnel matters.

Upon motion of Mr. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Crawford, at 11:50 a.m., the Board unanimously voted to convene in Executive Session. The following roll call vote was recorded:

Yeas: Mr. Carter, Mr. Crawford, Dr. Faircloth, Mr. Hebert, Mr. Long, Mr. Martin, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Romero, Mr. Shetler, Mr. Sibille, Mr. Torres

Nays: None

Absent: Dr. Condos, Ms. Egan, Mr. Shreve

Upon motion of Mr. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Crawford, at 12:47 p.m. the Board reconvened in Open Session. While in Executive Session, no motions were made nor votes taken.

Dr. Gilbert Rochon

Mr. Martin welcomed Dr. Gilbert Rochon and his wife Patricia as they were escorted into the auditorium.

Dr. Rochon indicated that he was a native of New Orleans, Louisiana, and presented his opening statement. He thanked the Board for being considered for the presidency at Grambling State University.

Mr. Martin stated that the Board would meet in Executive Session pursuant to R.S. 42:17 with Dr. Rochon to discuss personnel matters.

Upon motion of Mr. Crawford, seconded by Mr. Murphy, at 1:07 p.m., the Board unanimously voted to convene in Executive Session. The following roll call vote was recorded:

Yeas: Mr. Carter, Mr. Crawford, Dr. Faircloth, Mr. Hebert, Mr. Long, Mr. Martin, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Romero, Mr. Shetler, Mr. Sibille, Mr. Torres

Nays: None

Absent: Dr. Condos, Ms. Egan, Mr. Shreve

Upon motion of Mr. Crawford, seconded by Mr. Romero, at 2:45 p.m., the Board reconvened in Open Session. While in Executive Session, no motions were made nor votes taken.

Chair Martin thanked the Grambling constituencies for their devotion to the University and commended the students for their zeal.

Mr. Martin asked for nominations from Board members. Mr. Carter made the following motion, with a unanimous second:

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hereby appoint Mr. Richard “Rick” Gallot, Jr. as the next President of the mighty Grambling State University;*

***AND FURTHER,** that the Board authorize Mr. Jimmie “Beau” Martin, Jr., Board Chair, along with Dr. Daniel Reneau, Interim System President, to negotiate the terms of Mr. Gallot’s appointment.*

The following roll call vote was recorded:

Yeas:	Mr. Carter, Mr. Crawford, Dr. Faircloth, Mr. Hebert, Mr. Long, Mr. Martin, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Romero, Mr. Shetler, Mr. Sibille, Mr. Torres
Nays:	None
Absent:	Dr. Condos, Ms. Egan, Mr. Shreve

Mr. Gallot and his wife were met with a standing ovation as they were escorted back into the auditorium. On behalf of the Board, Mr. Martin congratulated him.

Mr. Gallot said that it was a privilege to be chosen to serve Grambling State University as President. The first act of his presidency was to present a check to the University’s Foundation.

E. **Evaluation of Campus Presidents (McNeese State University, Northwestern State University, University of Louisiana at Lafayette)**

Mr. Martin reminded Board members that three Presidents had been presented their evaluations at the June 23 meeting and the process would continue for three additional Presidents. He also stated that the remaining two Presidents would be evaluated at a future meeting of the Board.

Upon motion of Mr. Crawford, seconded by Mr. Sibille, the Board adjourned to Executive Session at 2:55 p.m. to individually confer with the Presidents of McNeese State University, Northwestern State University, and University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

At 4:14 p.m., upon motion of Mr. Sibille, seconded by Mr. Crawford, the Board returned to Open Session. Mr. Martin said that during Executive Session no motions were made nor votes taken.

F. **Other Business**

There was no other business to come before the Board.

G. **Adjournment**

Upon motion of Mr. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Sibille, the Board adjourned at 4:15 p.m.