

MINUTES
TENNESSEE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION
Called Meeting (Conference Call)
December 20, 2011, 2:00 p.m. CDT

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert White at 2:00 p.m.
 Commission Members present:

Mr. Charles W. Bone	Dr. Gary Nixon
Mr. Greg Frye	Mr. Zack Walden
Mr. Tre Hargett	Mr. Robert White
Ms. Sharon Hayes	Mr. Justin Wilson
Mr. Greg Isaacs	

Chairman White thanked Commission members and guests for participating in this called meeting. He stated that the sole purpose of the meeting is to consider the 2012-13 Capital Projects Recommendation and the Five-Year Capital Projects Plan and noted that capital outlay and capital maintenance recommendations are usually considered at the regular November meeting of the Commission. This year, however, action was deferred in order to allow time for the development of a ‘fresh approach’ to capital planning and priorities.

He stated that discussions initiated by Governor Haslam and his staff, with the University of Tennessee, the Tennessee Board of Regents, and THEC staff resulted in a new approach that involves a long-term view of campus development in the context of the Complete College Tennessee Act and a dimension of institutional matching funds for capital outlay projects. However, it is necessary to have this meeting at this time even though a quorum is not physically present at the commission office so that the recommendation can be submitted to the Governor for consideration in his 2012-2013 budget recommendation.

He then asked for a motion stating that the Commission recognizes the urgency to act on this matter now, notwithstanding the fact that a physical quorum could not be convened. Mr. Zack Walden made a motion to state the Commission recognizes the urgency to act. Mr. Charles Bone seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:

	Aye	No	Abstain
Mr. Charles W. Bone	x		
Mr. Tre Hargett	x		
Ms. Sharon Hayes	x		
Mr. Greg Isaacs	x		
Mr. Zack Walden	x		
Mr. Robert White	x		
Mr. Justin Wilson	x		

Chairman White expressed his appreciation to Governor Haslam for his encouragement for this new approach, noting that it provides a realistic framework for campus development across the state. He then recognized Dr. Rhoda for remarks.

Dr. Rhoda made reference to the meeting material (Attachment A to the official copy of the minutes) which set forth the 2012-13 capital funding recommendations and five-year plan. He commented on the process through which the recommendations were developed. He emphasized the new matching provision for capital outlay projects.

Dr. Rhoda then recognized Dr. Russ Deaton to provide further information on the 2012-13 Capital Projects recommendation and Five-year Capital Projects Plan. Dr. Deaton stated that staff recommends state funding for 41 capital maintenance projects in the amount of \$84 million, three capital outlay projects in the amount of \$245 million - \$40 million of that recommendation being generated by institutions in matching funds, 27 capital projects funded by non-state revenue sources for TBR totaling \$126 million, and 33 capital projects for UT totaling \$128 million. He noted that the 5 year plan totaled \$2.1 billion and of that, \$1.8 billion is state funded and \$272 million is matching funds. Dr. Deaton also reviewed the features of the recommendation that includes linkages to the Complete College Tennessee Act which are increasing educational attainment and workforce development.

After discussion, Mr. White called for a motion to adopt staff recommendations. Mr. Greg Isaacs made a motion to approve staff recommendations. Ms. Sharon Hayes seconded the motion; the motion was duly adopted with a majority vote by the following roll call:

	Aye	No	Abstain
Mr. Charles W. Bone	x		
Mr. Tre Hargett			x
Ms. Sharon Hayes	x		
Mr. Greg Isaacs	x		
Mr. Zack Walden	x		
Mr. Robert White	x		
Mr. Justin Wilson			x

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Approved:

Robert White, Chair