# Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees University of Kentucky Friday, June 13, 2025

The Board of Trustees of the University of Kentucky (UK) met on Friday, June 13, 2025, in the Gatton Student Center, Harris Ballroom.

# I. <u>Call to Order</u>

Todd Case, acting chair of the Board of Trustees, called the meeting to order at 12:46 p.m. and asked Secretary Black to call the roll.

#### II. Roll Call

The following members of the Board of Trustees were in attendance: Hubie Ballard, Cathy A. Black, Alex Boone, Todd Case, Ray Daniels, Maddie Duff, Ron Geoghegan, Brenda Gosney, Janie Greer, Elizabeth McCoy, David Melanson, Hannah Myers, Paula Leach Pope, Frank Shoop, Hollie Swanson and Robert Vance. Claude A. "Skip" Berry, E. Britt Brockman, David Figg and Lance Lucas attended via Zoom.

Secretary Black announced a quorum was present.

# III. Approval of Minutes

Acting Chair Case stated that the minutes of the April 25, 2025, meeting had been distributed and asked for a motion to approve. Trustee McCoy moved approval and Trustee Duff seconded the motion; the motion carried without dissent.

## IV. Chair's Report

Acting Chair Case reported there had been two petitions to address the Board, but the subject matter was not related to the Board's agenda, so the petitions were denied and sent to the appropriate departments for follow up.

He reported that the Executive Committee met and approved ECR 1, the recommendation that the Board of Trustees approve the process, timeline and preliminary list of survey questions as part of the 2024-25 Presidential Evaluation.

As background, pursuant to Governing Regulation II, an annual performance evaluation of the President is performed, and ECR 1 initiates the six-month long process of the presidential evaluation.

Acting Chair Case asked for a motion to approve ECR 1. Trustee Vance motioned to approve; Trustee McCoy seconded the motion, and ECR 1 passed without dissent.

Acting Chair Case reported in addition to ECR 1, the Executive Committee approved ECR 2, the recommendation to approve the process, timeline and preliminary list of survey questions as part of the annual 2024-25 Board of Trustees Self-Evaluation.

Acting Chair Case asked for a motion to approve ECR 2. Trustee Gosney motioned to approve; Trustee Boone seconded the motion, and ECR 2 passed without dissent.

He then reported there were 31 consent agenda items, including:

PR 2 ASACR 1 ASACR 2 ASACR 3 ASACR 4 ACC 1 ACC 2 FCR 1 FCR 2 FCR 3	Personnel Actions Candidates for Degrees: August 2025 Candidates for In Memoriam Degree: May 2025 Deletion of Certificate: College of Education Deletion of Degree Program: College of Education UKIA Work Prioritization Plan FY 2025-26 Audit, Accounting, Tax and Consulting Services Acceptance of Charitable Gift Commitment Acceptance of Charitable Grant Commitment Request to Amend the Center for Financial Services Research Endowment Agreement
FCR 4	Acceptance of Interim Financial Report
FCR 5	AY 2025-26 Tuition and Mandatory Fees
FCR 6	FY 2025-26 Operating and Capital Budget
FCR 7	Resolution Providing for the Authorization, Issuance and Sale of
	General Receipts Refunding Obligations
FCR 8	Internal Loan for Athletics
FCR 9	Disposition of Personal Property
FCR 10	Approval of Disposal of Real Property
FCR 11	Approval to Declare as Surplus University Property
FCR 12	Approval to Declare as Surplus University Property
FCR 13	Improvements to Leased Property
FCR 14	Improve Building Shell Systems Capital Project
FCR 15	Improve Mechanical Infrastructure Capital Project
FCR 16	Improve Parking and Transportation Capital Project
FCR 17	Improve Athletics Facility 1 Capital Project
FCR 18	Improve Kroger Field 1 Capital Project
FCR 19	Improve Soccer/Softball Facility Capital Project
FCR 20	Construct West End Zone Club Space Capital Project Design Phase
FCR 21	Fan Experience District
FCR 22	Patent Assignment Report
UHCCR 1	UK HealthCare FY2025 Quality Safety and Patient Experience Plan
UK HealthCare Medical Staff Privileges and Appointments	

Acting Chair Case asked if anyone wished to pull an item from the consent agenda. Trustee Duff asked to pull FCR 5, and Trustee Swanson asked to pull FCR 8 from the consent agenda. Acting Chair Case asked if there were any additional requests to remove items from the consent agenda. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to approve. Trustee

Melanson moved approval; Trustee Shoop seconded the motion, and the consent agenda passed without dissent.

Acting Chair Case recognized President Capilouto for his report.

# V. <u>President's Report</u>

President Capilouto reported that the recent Investment Committee Retreat highlighted both the promise and anxiety of the unknown future, particularly regarding market volatility and risk. He emphasized that risk is inherent, but it is our responsibility to determine which risks matter most and how to act on them.

The President stated that the University of Kentucky continues to navigate uncertainty with a strong commitment to its mission. This commitment is reflected in a proposed \$8.6 billion budget, previously presented by Angie Martin, which includes a modest tuition increase to maintain affordability and access. More than 90 percent of resident undergraduates receive non-repayable financial aid, and over 50 percent of Kentucky students graduate debt-free. The University anticipates more than 6,800 first-time/first-year students this fall, continuing a trend of strong enrollment growth.

Dr. Capilouto noted that the State is nearing its 2030 goal of 60 percent of Kentuckians holding a post-secondary credential or degree, with the University playing a major role in driving that progress. These educational gains are milestones, not just statistics.

President Capilouto shared that more than \$500 million in research funding is expected this year, much of it addressing Kentucky's most pressing health challenges. Although a 10 percent funding decline is projected, investment in research remains essential. The proposed budget includes more than \$80 million in compensation and benefits, underscoring the University's continued efforts to support its people amid federal budget uncertainty.

The President emphasized the strategic importance of athletics, not just for identity but also for revenue generation. He drew parallels to past bold investments in residence halls and healthcare facilities that yielded unexpectedly strong returns.

President Capilouto reflected on presentations about artificial intelligence (AI) during the Investment retreat, which raised important questions about talent, originality, education and trust in AI-generated information. The President praised Dr. DiPaola's demonstration using evidence-based AI tools in clinical decision-making and underscored the need for critical thinking and proper prompting when using AI. Capilouto stressed that although AI models are powerful, they are not always accurate and require thoughtful human oversight.

Dr. Capilouto asserted that the University must prepare all students to be Al literate, given the technology's potential to transform education, work and decision-making. Al tools are already being used in classrooms, healthcare and research proposal reviews to improve efficiency and outcomes.

President Capilouto explained that Provost DiPaola and a multidisciplinary team are leading UK Advance, an initiative to explore responsible use of Al across academic and clinical settings. The University is also aligning its efforts with state legislation on Al regulation and economic development.

He concluded that while there is significant risk in all the University's endeavors—from research to compensation, AI, athletics and beyond—the greater risk is failing to act. He affirmed that the University will continue to grow, build and invest for Kentucky, confident that the rewards will outweigh the risks.

## PR 3 Appointment of the Dean of the College of Education

President Capilouto introduced PR 3, a recommendation that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of Nick Pace as dean of the College of Education, effective July 1, 2025.

Dr. Pace served as the interim dean and a professor in the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's College of Education and Human Sciences, a role he held since first being named acting dean in October 2023.

As interim dean of the College at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Dr. Pace helped grow the college's undergraduate and graduate enrollment for the first time in eight years and restructured the college's communication efforts, centering them on telling its community's stories that connected with students and the wider university.

Acting Chair Case asked for a motion to approve PR 3. Trustee Swanson moved approval, and Trustee Boone seconded the motion. With no further discussion, PR 3 passed without dissent.

# PR 4 Appointment to the UK Mining Engineering Foundation Board

President Capilouto introduced PR 4, a recommendation that the Board of Trustees approve appointments of Jon Brown, Jared Curry, Paul Horn, Russ Lamont and Karen Rose to the University of Kentucky Mining Engineering Foundation Board of Directors for a two-year term ending June 30, 2027.

The Nominating Committee of the University of Kentucky Mining Engineering Foundation, which includes the dean of the college of engineering, recommended these appointments to the Provost. These recommended appointments require approval by the Board of Trustees in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws for the University of Kentucky Mining Engineering Foundation approved by the Board of Trustees at its meeting on December 14, 1982. This nomination is supported by the President and Provost.

Acting Chair Case asked for a motion to approve PR 4. Trustee Duff moved approval, and Trustee Ballard seconded the motion. With no further discussion, PR 4 passed without

dissent.

### PR 5 Approval of the Board of Governors for Champions Blue LLC

President Capilouto introduced PR 5, a recommendation that the Board of Trustees, in response to the directive in PR 6 from the April 25, 2025, Board meeting, approve the nominations for the Board of Governors for Champions Blue LLC, including the following individuals, the President, who will serve as Chair of the Champions Blue LLC Board of Governors; the Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration Dr. Eric Monday; the Senior Advisor to the President Dr. George Wright; the Vice President and Chief Strategy and Growth Officer Dr. Robert L. Edwards; Ms. Shannon Arvin, for a full, three-year term which will expire on June 30, 2028; Mr. Jacob Tamme, for two years of a three-year term which will expire on June 30, 2027; and Mr. Chris Prindiville, for one year of a three-year term which will expire on June 30, 2026.

PR 5 also recommends the appointment of Mitch Barnhart, University of Kentucky Director of Athletics by administrative position to serve as non-voting ex-officio member of the Board of Governors for Champions Blue LLC. And finally, PR 5 recommends the appointment of the President of JMIS Properties, Paul Archey, based on his position as President of the University's media rights holder as a non-voting advisory member.

Acting Chair Case asked for a motion to approve PR 5. Trustee Shoop moved approval, and Trustee Melanson seconded the motion. With no further discussion, PR 5 passed.

President Capilouto concluded his report by recognizing two long-time University leaders who will soon be leaving their positions at UK and wished them the best as they embark on their next chapters. Vice President for Facilities Management and Chief Facilities Officer Mary Vosevich and Vice President for University Relations Tom Harris were both honored with a standing ovation.

Mr. Case continued with Committee reports and reminded the Board that FCR 5 AY 2025-26 Tuition and Mandatory Fees and FCR 8 Internal Loan for Athletics had been pulled from the consent agenda and called on Trustee Duff for comments regarding FCR 5.

Trustee Duff shared though she had seen firsthand how President Capilouto and his team support students, that she could not in good conscience vote for a tuition increase given the current concerns expressed by the student body. Out of respect for their voice, she will be voting no.

Acting Chair Case thanked Trustee Duff and reminded the Board that the Finance Committee had approved the recommendation and moved for the adoption of the recommendation. With no further discussion, FCR 5 passed with 19 approvals and one decent.

Mr. Case introduced Trustee Swanson for comments regarding FCR 8, the Internal Loan for Athletics.

Trustee Swanson stated that the Board was being asked to commit significant financial support to UK's athletics enterprise, which includes an internal loan as well as an investment in five athletic related capital projects. These requests are in response to significant changes in the financial structure of college athletes occurring at the national level.

Dr. Swanson remarked she was impressed by the tremendous effort put into these proposals and applauded the can-do attitude and significant resources that will be put into place to ensure the success of the athletes at the University of Kentucky. She added she was willing to put her trust in the leadership of Director Barnhart and his team, but wanted to remind the Board of another group, UK's graduate and undergraduate students as well as early career scientists who are also struggling with financial uncertainties.

She added, these individuals are the lifeblood of the University's research and play significant roles in the institution's educational activities. She wished there was an enthusiasm for a commitment to these scientists that would mirror the support that the Board has shown the University's athletes.

Acting Chair Case thanked Trustee Swanson and moved for the adoption of the recommendation. With no further discussion, FCR 8 passed without dissent.

#### VI. Other Business

Mr. Case recognized General Counsel Bill Thro to report on the Faculty and Staff Trustee elections.

Mr. Thro stated that 14,759 staff employees were eligible to vote in the Staff Trustee election and 3,004 or approximately 20 percent participated. There were a total of 11 candidates and Mr. Zach Stacy won with 24 percent of the vote.

Mr. Thro continued with the Faculty Trustee election and reported 2,597 faculty employees were eligible to vote and 1,246 or approximately 48 percent participated. There were two candidates and Dr. Karen Petron won with 59 percent of the vote.

Both elected members will begin their terms July 1, 2025.

Acting Chair Case thanked Mr. Thro and moved on to the presentation of resolutions for the outgoing Board of Trustees. Each year, a framed resolution is presented to those Trustees whose terms are ending, providing an opportunity to honor those colleagues who have helped build a brighter future for the community and Commonwealth through their service as Trustees.

He introduced Trustee Paula Pope to present Trustee David Melanson's resolution.

"A resolution honoring and commending David Melanson for his service to the University of Kentucky, its Board of Trustees and the Commonwealth.

WHEREAS, Dave Melanson has served with distinction on the University of Kentucky Board of Trustees, including roles as chair of the University Athletics Committee and as a member of the Finance Committee, Human Resources and University Relations Committee, Nominating Committee, University Health Care Committee and the UK Mining and Engineering Foundation Board; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Melanson is the assistant director of external affairs and development at the UK Center for Applied Energy Research, where he helps lead communications, development and strategic partnerships in support of innovative, high-impact research serving Kentucky and beyond; and

WHEREAS, a native of New Hampshire, Mr. Melanson earned his degree in Englishjournalism from the University of New Hampshire before beginning a career rooted in public service, first as a journalist in Danville, Kentucky, and later as a communications leader for an international nonprofit organization in St. Louis; and

WHEREAS, he returned to Kentucky in 2004 and has since dedicated more than two decades to advancing the mission of the University of Kentucky — first as UK's inaugural presidential speechwriter, where he shaped the voice of the institution at its highest level, and later as director of alumni and external relations for the UK College of Pharmacy; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Melanson was elected by his peers to represent UK staff on the Board of Trustees, serving three terms with unwavering dedication, thoughtful leadership and a steadfast commitment to elevating the voices and experiences of staff members across the university; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the University of Kentucky Board of Trustees does hereby adopt this resolution on June 13, 2025, and expresses heartfelt appreciation to Dave Melanson for his exemplary service, institutional loyalty and enduring contributions to the University of Kentucky and the Commonwealth. This resolution shall be recorded in the minutes of this meeting as a testament to his significant contributions."

Trustee Melanson thanked the Board and was honored with a round of applause.

Acting Chair Case invited Trustee Alex Boone to present Trustee Maddie Duff's resolution.

"A resolution honoring and commending Maddie Duff for her service to the University of Kentucky Board of Trustees, the University and the Commonwealth.

WHEREAS, Maddie Duff has served with distinction as a member of the University of Kentucky Board of Trustees, contributing her voice and leadership as a member of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Finance Committee and Human Resources and University Relations Committee; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Duff, Prestonsburg, Kentucky native and a graduate from the Lewis Honors College, pursued degrees in neuroscience and Appalachian studies, reflecting her

academic commitment to improving health outcomes and regional identity; and

WHEREAS, during her term as Student Body President, Ms. Duff led the community with vision and care, prioritizing student engagement, mental health and wellness and addressing food insecurity; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Duff has helped advance research in chronic health conditions through the UK College of Medicine and has served in leadership roles in the Appalachian Career Training in Oncology program and the Appalachian Health Initiative; and

WHEREAS, her co-founding and co-chairing of the Southeastern Conference Board of Student Body Presidents reflects her commitment to cross-campus collaboration and student empowerment throughout higher education; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Duff's record of service and excellence has been recognized through honors, including the 2025 Lewis Honors College Leadership Award and her selection as a 2025 Kentucky Derby Princess, exemplifying both scholarly achievement and civic leadership; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the University of Kentucky Board of Trustees does hereby adopt this resolution on June 13, 2025, and expresses its sincere appreciation to Maddie Duff for her exceptional leadership, her dedication to advancing the student experience and her enduring contributions to the University of Kentucky and the Commonwealth. This resolution shall be recorded in the minutes of this meeting as a testament to her significant contributions."

Trustee Duff thanked the Board and was honored with a round of applause.

Next, Mr. Case invited Trustee Bob Vance to present Trustee Cathy Black's resolution.

"A resolution honoring and commending Cathy A. Black for her service to the University of Kentucky Board of Trustees, the University, her community and the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

WHEREAS, Cathy A. Black has provided outstanding service to the University of Kentucky Board of Trustees, serving in key roles including Secretary and At-large Member of the Executive Committee, Chair and member of the Human Resources and University Relations Committee and member of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Audit and Compliance Committee and Finance Committee; and

WHEREAS, a proud alumna of the University of Kentucky, Ms. Black earned her degree in Telecommunications and has remained an engaged leader and supporter of the University through her service on the UK College of Communication and Information Dean's Leadership Council and the college's National Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, she is a nationally recognized trailblazer in broadcast journalism and

talent development, having led coverage of defining moments in American and global history during her 31 years at CBS News, and building industry-wide pathways for emerging talent; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Black has been recognized with numerous honors from her alma mater, including the College of Communication and Information Outstanding Alumni Award, the School of Journalism and Media Distinguished Alumni Award and the Lyman T. Johnson Torch of Excellence Award; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Black's civic and spiritual contributions span from New York City to her hometown of Lexington, Kentucky, where she continues to support community missions and creative expression through church leadership and ministry; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the University of Kentucky Board of Trustees does hereby adopt this resolution on June 13, 2025, and expresses its sincere appreciation to Cathy A. Black for her leadership, service and enduring commitment to the University of Kentucky and its mission to advance Kentucky. This resolution shall be recorded in the minutes of this meeting as a testament to her significant contributions."

Trustee Black thanked the Board and was honored with a round of applause.

Finally, Acting Chair Todd Case presented Trustee Hubie Ballard with his resolution.

"A resolution honoring and commending Dr. Hubert O. Ballard for his service to the University of Kentucky Board of Trustees, the University and the Commonwealth.

WHEREAS, Hubbie Ballard has provided outstanding service to the University of Kentucky Board of Trustees, including roles as an at-large member of the Executive Committee and as a member of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee and the Human Resources and University Relations Committee; and

WHEREAS, a Bardstown, Kentucky native, Dr. Ballard earned a Bachelor of Science in electrical engineering from UK's Pigman College of Engineering in 1992 before continuing to the UK College of Medicine, where he earned his M.D., completed a combined residency in internal medicine and pediatrics, served as chief resident in pediatrics and completed a fellowship in neonatal-perinatal medicine; and

WHEREAS, since 2004, Dr. Ballard has served as a faculty member in the College of Medicine where he is known for his deep dedication to clinical care, academic leadership and student success; and

WHEREAS, a devoted educator and mentor, Dr. Ballard has guided more than 1,000 students through classroom instruction, individualized coaching and student organizations — earning their lasting appreciation and helping shape the next generation of physicians and scholars; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ballard also holds a joint appointment in the Department of

Biomedical Engineering, where he is helping develop and teach an innovative course bridging engineering and modern medicine; and

WHEREAS, his clinical work as a neonatologist and co-leader of the Kentucky Children's Hospital Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) program reflects his commitment to improving outcomes for Kentucky's most vulnerable patients; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the University of Kentucky Board of Trustees does hereby adopt this resolution on June 13, 2025, and expresses its sincere appreciation to Dr. Hubert O. Ballard for his extraordinary service and care, devoted mentorship and enduring commitment to the University's mission in advancing the Commonwealth. This resolution shall be recorded in the minutes of this meeting as a testament to his significant contributions."

Trustee Ballard thanked the Board and was honored with a round of applause.

Trustee Case stated that on behalf of the Board, they extended their deepest gratitude to all the retiring Board members.

#### VII. Adjournment

Acting Chair Case asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. Hearing no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William E. Thro Assistant Secretary