

**RE: Board meeting on July 12, 2021**

Lang, Lisa &lt;Lisa.Lang@kysu.edu&gt;

Fri 7/23/2021 4:44 PM

To: Felder, Chandee &lt;chandee.felder@kysu.edu&gt;

Cc: Thompson, Aaron (CPE) &lt;Aaron.Thompson@ky.gov&gt;; Farris, Regent &lt;Regent.Farris@kysu.edu&gt;

 2 attachments (971 KB)

July 20 2021 Special Called Meeting Agenda.pdf; July 13 2021 email.pdf;

Good afternoon, Regent Felder.

I am in receipt of your e-mail below in which you raised concerns about the July 20, 2021 Special Called Board Meeting of the Kentucky State University Board of Regents (Board). In response to those concerns, please note as follows:

As President Thompson stated in his e-mail, we were waiting for the Governor to announce that he had accepted the resignations of the Candace McGraw and Paul Harnice before sharing it with the Board.

Furthermore, in relation to your concern related to Regent Reynolds' attempt to raise issues relating to Board Agenda Item #6 (Approval to Engage an External Auditor/Services to Review the Current Financial Status of Kentucky State University), pursuant to the Kentucky KRS 61.815(10)(d), "[n]o matters may be discussed at a closed session other than those publicly announced prior to convening the closed session." Per the Board Agenda, the only items listed for discussion during closed session were 1) legal actions and settlements; and 2) personnel actions. Because Agenda Item #6 related to engaging an external auditor, it was appropriate for Chair Farris to remind Regent Reynolds that he could not discuss it close session and that he would have to raise any issues he regarding Agenda Item #6 in open session.

As a reminder of board member's duties, especially in addressing closed session occurrences with board members, I am attaching my July 13, 2021 email to you as a continued reminder of the governing principles of Kentucky State University's Board of Regents.

I hope this e-mail alleviates any concerns you may have.

Lisa K. Lang  
(502) 597-6414  
Lisa.Lang@kysu.edu

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**From:** Thompson, Aaron (CPE) <Aaron.Thompson@ky.gov>

**Sent:** Friday, July 23, 2021 10:22 AM

**To:** Felder, Chandee <chandee.felder@kysu.edu>; Farris, Regent <Regent.Farris@kysu.edu>

**Cc:** Jantzen, Regent <Regent.Jantzen@kysu.edu>; Moffett, Regent <Regent.Moffett@kysu.edu>; Banks, Regent <Regent.Banks@kysu.edu>; Burns, Regent <regent.burns@kysu.edu>; Harnice, Regent <Regent.Harnice@kysu.edu>; Reynolds, Regent <Regent.Reynolds@kysu.edu>; Candace McGraw <cmcgraw@cvgairport.com>; Robinson, Jason <Jason.Robinson@kysu.edu>; rahul7777@hotmail.com; Lang, Lisa <Lisa.Lang@kysu.edu>; Han, Shuo <Shuo.Han@kysu.edu>

**Subject:** Re: Board meeting on July 12, 2021

**CAUTION:** This is an external email. Do not click on links, open attachments or reply, unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello everyone. I (or Board Chair) will inform the Board when I (we) hear that that the Governor has accepted the resignation letter(s). As each of you know, we have a heavy lift here (financially, strategically, external, and internal). I want to thank each of you for caring and loving this great institution. She deserves all of our focus on her at this time. Best, Aaron

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**From:** Felder, Chandee <chandee.felder@kysu.edu>

**Sent:** Friday, July 23, 2021 9:54:45 AM

**To:** Farris, Regent <Regent.Farris@kysu.edu>; Thompson, Aaron (CPE) <Aaron.Thompson@ky.gov>

**Cc:** Jantzen, Regent <Regent.Jantzen@kysu.edu>; Moffett, Regent <Regent.Moffett@kysu.edu>; Banks, Regent <Regent.Banks@kysu.edu>; Burns, Regent <regent.burns@kysu.edu>; Harnice, Regent <Regent.Harnice@kysu.edu>; Reynolds, Regent <Regent.Reynolds@kysu.edu>; Candace McGraw <cmcgraw@cvgairport.com>; Robinson, Jason <Jason.Robinson@kysu.edu>; rahul7777@hotmail.com <rahul7777@hotmail.com>; Lang, Lisa <Lisa.Lang@kysu.edu>; Han, Shuo <Shuo.Han@kysu.edu>

**Subject:** Re: Board meeting on July 12, 2021

Thank you.

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**From:** Farris, Regent <Regent.Farris@kysu.edu>

**Sent:** Friday, July 23, 2021 9:50 AM

**To:** Felder, Chandee <chandee.felder@kysu.edu>; Aaron Thompson <Aaron.Thompson@ky.gov>

**Cc:** Jantzen, Regent <Regent.Jantzen@kysu.edu>; Moffett, Regent <Regent.Moffett@kysu.edu>; Banks, Regent <Regent.Banks@kysu.edu>; Burns, Regent <regent.burns@kysu.edu>; Harnice, Regent <Regent.Harnice@kysu.edu>; Reynolds, Regent <Regent.Reynolds@kysu.edu>; Candace McGraw <cmcgraw@cvgairport.com>; Robinson, Jason <Jason.Robinson@kysu.edu>; rahul7777@hotmail.com <rahul7777@hotmail.com>; Lang, Lisa <Lisa.Lang@kysu.edu>; Han, Shuo <Shuo.Han@kysu.edu>

**Subject:** Re: Board meeting on July 12, 2021

Good morning!

I am referring your email to University counsel for review and response.

I have included President Thompson for transparency.

*Elaine Farris, Ed.D*

*KSU Regent*

*"Ensuring quality higher education is one of the most important things we can do for future generations."*

On Jul 23, 2021, at 8:39 AM, Felder, Chandee <[chandee.felder@kysu.edu](mailto:chandee.felder@kysu.edu)> wrote:

Good morning!

I hope this e-mail finds you all well. Since I am unable to just send an e-mail to Regent Farris or communicate by phone I will send this to you all. I will face whatever consequences I must, but I will not be a party to any activities which are illegal or even wrong according to my conscience. It has come to my attention Regent Harnice resigned from the board on July 14 and Regent McGraw may have as well. I thought it very strange neither were present for our July 20<sup>th</sup> board meeting. The board meeting in which everyone was completely aware of the events to take place except for me and possibly the student regent. The board and the public should have known if there were resignations, but there was no mention of it. Regent Reynolds even had written out the argument he was to make on item 6 of the agenda. He started to bring it up in closed session but Regent Farris told him to wait for open session before he even got his written statement spoken out of his mouth. I get scolded for even talking to board members and yet the board can be completely aware of what is taking place as it is going on. I thought it odd that all of Ms. Stamps staff were present (although they never are) for the board meeting, but it all became clear once she was announced as our Acting President. I want Kentucky State University to stand tall and be proud of its achievements. What I do not want and will not be a party to is behind the scene cover-ups and mistreatment of anyone. NOONE! Everyone on the board should have been aware of Regents stepping down and board meetings should always be transparent. The board was aware of financial problems at Kentucky State University since January 2020 and I know this because of the one-on-one conversations I had with individual board members but especially with the board chair. I have e-mails and texts showing a fear of making payroll and Presidential spending. We talk about bullying and harassment in board meetings and yet allow it to happen to board members? I was voted by my fellow staff members due to my honesty and belief in doing what is right, ALWAYS! The board and the University's attorneys need to be transparent and honest in all dealings and as long as I am on the board, that is what I expect. What goes on in the dark soon comes to light.

Sincerely, Regent Chandee Felder

**Chandee Rae Felder**

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502-597-6887  
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"Nothing will work, unless you do!" Maya Angelou

**From:** Felder, Chandee <[chandee.felder@kysu.edu](mailto:chandee.felder@kysu.edu)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 13, 2021 6:09 AM

**To:** Farris, Regent <[Regent.Farris@kysu.edu](mailto:Regent.Farris@kysu.edu)>

**Cc:** Jantzen, Regent <[Regent.Jantzen@kysu.edu](mailto:Regent.Jantzen@kysu.edu)>; Moffett, Regent <[Regent.Moffett@kysu.edu](mailto:Regent.Moffett@kysu.edu)>; Banks, Regent <[Regent.Banks@kysu.edu](mailto:Regent.Banks@kysu.edu)>; Burns, Regent <[regent.burns@kysu.edu](mailto:regent.burns@kysu.edu)>; Harnice, Regent <[Regent.Harnice@kysu.edu](mailto:Regent.Harnice@kysu.edu)>; Reynolds, Regent <[Regent.Reynolds@kysu.edu](mailto:Regent.Reynolds@kysu.edu)>; Candace McGraw <[cmcgraw@cvgairport.com](mailto:cmcgraw@cvgairport.com)>; Robinson, Jason <[Jason.Robinson@kysu.edu](mailto:Jason.Robinson@kysu.edu)>; [rahul7777@hotmail.com](mailto:rahul7777@hotmail.com); Lang, Lisa <[Lisa.Lang@kysu.edu](mailto:Lisa.Lang@kysu.edu)>; Han, Shuo <[Shuo.Han@kysu.edu](mailto:Shuo.Han@kysu.edu)>

**Subject:** Re: Board meeting on July 12, 2021

Thank you. Regent Felder

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**From:** Farris, Regent <[Regent.Farris@kysu.edu](mailto:Regent.Farris@kysu.edu)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 13, 2021 5:37 AM

**To:** Felder, Chandee <[chandee.felder@kysu.edu](mailto:chandee.felder@kysu.edu)>

**Cc:** Jantzen, Regent <[Regent.Jantzen@kysu.edu](mailto:Regent.Jantzen@kysu.edu)>; Moffett, Regent <[Regent.Moffett@kysu.edu](mailto:Regent.Moffett@kysu.edu)>; Banks, Regent <[Regent.Banks@kysu.edu](mailto:Regent.Banks@kysu.edu)>; Burns, Regent <[regent.burns@kysu.edu](mailto:regent.burns@kysu.edu)>; Harnice, Regent <[Regent.Harnice@kysu.edu](mailto:Regent.Harnice@kysu.edu)>; Reynolds, Regent <[Regent.Reynolds@kysu.edu](mailto:Regent.Reynolds@kysu.edu)>; Candace McGraw <[cmcgraw@cvgairport.com](mailto:cmcgraw@cvgairport.com)>; Robinson, Jason <[Jason.Robinson@kysu.edu](mailto:Jason.Robinson@kysu.edu)>; [rahul7777@hotmail.com](mailto:rahul7777@hotmail.com) <[rahul7777@hotmail.com](mailto:rahul7777@hotmail.com)>; Lang, Lisa <[Lisa.Lang@kysu.edu](mailto:Lisa.Lang@kysu.edu)>; Han, Shuo <[Shuo.Han@kysu.edu](mailto:Shuo.Han@kysu.edu)>

**Subject:** Re: Board meeting on July 12, 2021

Greetings,

As it is in violation of the open meetings act for us to discuss board business via email.

I have forwarded your email to the entire board and general counsels for advisement.

*Elaine Farris, Ed.D*

*KSU Regent*

*"Ensuring quality higher education is one of the most important things we can do for future generations."*

On Jul 13, 2021, at 5:22 AM, Felder, Chandee <[chandee.felder@kysu.edu](mailto:chandee.felder@kysu.edu)> wrote:

Good morning Regent Farris,

I am coming to you since you are the Chairman of the Board to express my concerns as a board member. I walked away from the board meeting unsure of how much in the red we are as a University.

Packets were given out to each of us to examine briefly to make major decisions about matters we were just informed of. The President who is responsible for overseeing the CFO and all other Kentucky State University matters and who is currently under question is allowed to pick the new CFO who will be responsible to clean up the mess the University now finds itself in? With all due respect, I believe the board was in shock or there would be some repercussions for President Brown. While Doug Allen was our CFO, it is the President's responsibility to oversee the work being done. I feel two weeks is too long to take any action. My recommendation as a board member is to not only investigate the situation with a state audit but to immediately ask that President Brown step aside while the matter is being investigated and work on saving the University if at possible. I humbly and respectfully ask for your guidance as concerns this egregious matter that has openly presented itself to all of our eyes. Sincerely, Regent Felder