Mark Rountree, Chair of the Board of Regents for Baylor University, called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. on Friday, May 14, 2021. Mr. Holmes certified that a quorum was present. Ms. Hayoung Park, Baylor senior, gave a devotional and opened the meeting with prayer.

Chair Rountree asked for a motion to approve the February 19, 2021 Board minutes. Regent Manny Ruiz made the motion the approve the minutes, the motion was seconded, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Chair Rountree asked for a motion to approve the adoption of the signature authorization resolution. Regent Mearse made the motion, the motion was seconded, and the resolution was unanimously approved.

**ITEM FOR FORMAL ACTION**

Chair Rountree lead a discussion regarding the Administration’s recommendation regarding the University’s guiding principles and support of LGBTQ students on campus. Regent Gray made a motion to approve the following resolution, the motion was seconded, and the resolution passed.

“The mission of Baylor University is to educate men and women for worldwide leadership and service by integrating academic excellence and Christian commitment within a caring community. Baylor is committed to providing a loving and caring community for all
students because it is part and parcel of the University’s mission. The Baylor University Board of Regents reaffirms the following core commitments of our Christian mission for our campus community:

• The dignity and worth of all, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, as we strive to fulfill our Christian commitment of a caring community.

• The biblical understanding that sexual relations of any kind outside of marriage between a man and a woman are not in keeping with the teaching of Scripture, as summarized in the University’s Statement on Human Sexuality.

• Our commitment to providing a welcoming, supportive educational environment based on civility and respect for all.

As a Board of Regents, we recognize that Baylor’s LGBTQ students continue to seek care, connections, and community on our campus and a sense of belonging within the Baylor Family. As an important and faithful expression of our Christian mission, we desire to establish trust with our LGBTQ students so that, among other things, they might seek out the resources provided by Baylor.

THEREFORE, the Baylor University Board of Regents acknowledges the University’s responsibility to serve the needs of all students entrusted to us across all areas of their development – academics, personal, and spiritual.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Baylor University Board of Regents approaches this challenging situation with a spirit of grace and truth, as described in the first chapter of John. “For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ” (v17). The University remains committed to extending Christ-like love and grace in caring for all our students and meeting them where they are, just as Jesus did, and adhering to traditional biblical teaching of Scripture regarding human sexuality.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Baylor University Board of Regents charges President Linda A. Livingstone, Ph.D., and the University Administration to determine the appropriate pathways to provide additional care, connections, and community for Baylor’s LGBTQ students, including the possibility of establishing a new, chartered student group that is consistent with Baylor’s core commitments summarized above and the University’s policies and statements.

AND BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this resolution be shared with all constituencies of Baylor University in a spirit of openness and transparency and with an expression of the Board’s commitment to fulfilling the University’s mission of providing a caring community for all members of the Baylor Family.

The Baylor University Board of Regents, this fourteenth day of May two thousand twenty-one.”

ITEM FOR DISCUSSION

Jason Cook, Vice President for Marketing and Communications and Chief Marketing Officer, lead a conversation regarding Sasaki, an architecture, planning, landscape and design firm that will assist in historical master planning. Regent Elrod provided a report regarding several historical items under discussion.

CHAIR’S REPORT

Chair Rountree recognized each member of President’s Council individually for their work over the previous year. The Board also recognized outgoing regents Elrod, Gray, Hord, Parshall, Umstead, and Wilkerson.
PRESIDENT’S REPORT

President Livingstone gave her presidential report that included highlights and challenges over the academic year,

ITEMS FOR BOARD APPROVAL

Regent Reppert provided the report of the Finance and Facilities Committee, which included the following items for Board approval. Regent Reppert presented for approval each item as described below. He called for a motion after each presentation to approve. The motions each carried unanimously. No second was needed since it was a motion brought before the Board by a committee. The motions were approved and adopted unanimously.

Motion to adopt:

“RESOLVED, that on the recommendation of the Finance and Facilities Committee, the Board of Regents for Baylor University approves the 2021-2022 Budget as presented.”

Approval is sought in the amount of $70,000,000 for Phase II Construction of the Mark and Paula Hurd Welcome Center. The total budget for the project, including Phase I – Design, is $75,000,000.

Motion to adopt:

“RESOLVED, that on the recommendation of the Finance and Facilities Committee, the Board of Regents for Baylor University approves the Hurd Welcome Center as presented.”

Approval is sought in an amount not to exceed $38,500,000 for renovations to Collins Residence Halls.

Motion to adopt:

“RESOLVED, that on the recommendation of the Finance and Facilities Committee, the Board of Regents for Baylor University approves the Collins Residence Hall Renovations as presented.”

Approval is sought in an amount not to exceed $35,000,000 for renovations to Memorial and Alexander Residence Halls.

Motion to adopt:

“RESOLVED, that on the recommendation of the Finance and Facilities Committee, the Board of Regents for Baylor University approves the Memorial/Alexander Residence Hall Renovations as presented.”
Approval is sought for resolution authorizing financing of certain projects including the Mark and Paula Hurd Welcome Center, and renovation of Collins, Memorial, and Alexander Residence Halls.

Motion to adopt:

“RESOLVED, that on the recommendation of the Finance and Facilities Committee, the Board of Regents for Baylor University approves the Resolution Authorizing Financing of Certain Projects as presented.”

Approval is sought for resolution expressing official intent to reimburse costs of certain projects. This resolution will allow costs of certain projects incurred prior to bond issuance to be funded by bond proceeds when bond financing is approved and bonds are issued.

Motion to adopt:

“RESOLVED, that on the recommendation of the Finance and Facilities Committee, the Board of Regents for Baylor University approves the Reimbursement Resolution for Certain Projects as presented.”

Regent Reppert then left the meeting.

Regent Pullin acknowledged the resignations of Michael Evans, Shelley Giglio, and student regent Arbra Bailey. He then brought before the Board several items for approval based upon motions brought from actions of the NGRL Committee. First, he asked the approval of slate of nominations to the Board of Regents from the Nominating and Regent Governance Committee. He called for motions to approve the following new at-large regents: Jay Brown, Michael Heiskell and Don Willett. Each was voted on and carried unanimously. He then called for a motion to approve the following names for additional 3-year election terms as at-large regents: Michael McFarland, Todd Reppert, Kim Stevens. McFarland and Stevens were recused during this vote. The motion coming from the committee was carried unanimously. Next, he called for a vote on faculty regent Brian Raines and student regents Sher Isada and Ally Perkins (non-voting). Isada was recused during the vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Regent Pullin brought before the Board the approval of Board and Committee Leadership and Committee Membership. He called for a motion to approve the Board and Committee Leadership and Committee Officers: Heard, Wiles, Mines and Rountree. All regents being voted on were recused. The motion passed unanimously.

Regent Pullin then brought before the Board motions for the confirmation of the Baptist General Convention of Texas (BGCT) Nominees. Rene Maciel was brought forward for re-election. Diane Dillard and Tyler Cooper were brought forward as new regents. Maciel was recused during this time. Each motion carried unanimously.

Regent Pullin acknowledged the confirmation of Katie Jo Luningham as the chosen winner for the Alumni Elected Regent position.
Regent Pullin asked for approval of slate of nominations to the Baylor College of Medicine Board of Trustees. The slate includes Bill Mearse, David Dominy, Jack Fields, and Kirk Townsend. Regents Monroe and Heard abstained from the vote. Regent Mearse was recused during this time. The motion passed unanimously.

Regent Pullin brought before the Board a motion to approve the proposed chairs and vice chairs for the board: Mark Rountree as chair; Melissa Mines, Larry Heard and Dennis Wiles as Vice Chairs. All left the room for the discussion and vote. The motion passed unanimously. Regent Pullin then presented the slate of leadership of committees for approval. They were unanimously approved.

Regent Pullin brought before the Board the approval of the committee membership assignments. All assignments were unanimously approved.

Regent Pullin brought before the Board a motion to approve a by-law and Guidelines change regarding the Regent Emeriti program. The motion passed unanimously.

**Motion to adopt:**

“**RESOLVED, that on the recommendation of the Nominating, Governance, and Regent Leadership Committee, the Board of Regents approves the removal of section 1.12 Regent Emeriti from the By-laws and section 1.9 Regent Emeriti from the Guidelines for Board Operations**”

Regent Slover brought before the Board a motion to approve a resolution on the naming of the McLane Family Alumni Center. No second was needed since it was a motion brought before the Board by the Advancement and Development Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

**Motion to adopt:**

“**WHEREAS, the Alumni Center will offer a home for Baylor Alumni staff offices, as well as a Grand Ballroom for special events.**

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that on the recommendation of University Advancement, the Board of Regents and Baylor University gratefully acknowledge the generosity of the McLane Family through the approval of the naming of the McLane Family Alumni Center, as presented.**”

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. Student Life Committee Report

Regent Stevens briefed the group on the Faith and Character Study, as well as the student government reports provided to the Committee.

2. Academic Affairs Committee Report

Regent Elrod briefed the group on the COACHE faculty survey, update on dean searches, and faculty senate report.

3. Advancement and Development Committee Report
Regent Slover briefed the group on the success of Alumni Week and reported on the large number of donors who participated in “Giving Day.

4. Audit Committee Report

Regent Manning briefed the group the Committee’s review of the 2020 federal and state financial assistance programs and reported on Grant Thornton’s presentation regarding the 2020-21 Audit and Scope Process.

5. Compliance and Regulatory Affairs Committee Report

Regent Mearse briefed the group on Zoe Nagle’s report on the Institutional Risk Area Scorecard. He also shared a synopsis of Susan Stearman’s presentation on the research proposal review process.

6. Nominating, Governance and Regent Leadership Committee Report

Regent Pullin briefed the group on the Committee’s discussion regarding the slate of candidates brought to the Board for earlier today for approval. He also shared that the Committee discussed planning details for the July Board Retreat.

The Board went into Executive Session at 3:20 p.m.

There being no further business to discuss, Chair Rountree adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Kristy Orr, Board Professional