

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

East Carolina University

March 14, 2012

Chair Bob Lucas called a telephone conference meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 5:00 p.m. and read the conflict of interest statement. No conflicts were reported.

All members of the Board of Trustees with the exception of Steve Jones participated in the call. University administrators present for the call included Chancellor Steve Ballard, Athletics Director Terry Holland, Senior Associate Athletics Director Nick Floyd, University Attorney Donna Gooden Payne, Vice Chancellor Rick Niswander, Chief of Staff Philip Rogers, and Assistant Secretary to the Board John Durham.

Mr. Lucas asked Chancellor Ballard to update the board on ECU's possible participation in the proposed Conference USA-Mountain West Conference merger.

Chancellor Ballard said the university is at the point that it needs to sign the proposed conference formation agreement. Details cannot be established without a formation agreement, he said. "If at any time this looks like it's not for us, if something bad unfolds, we can extricate ourselves at minimal cost," he said.

Mr. Holland said the university has to determine "if we continue down this road. The question is, what would we do if this doesn't happen. Only four independents are left in the country at this time."

At 5:25 p.m., Chairman Lucas said, "We have done good work and made a lot of progress. We have looked very hard at this agreement." He then asked for a motion to go into closed session. Vice Chair Carol Mabe offered the motion to go into closed session

"to consult with our attorney and to preserve the attorney-client privilege and to consider and/or give instructions concerning claims and judicial actions, including pending, potential and/or threatened litigation."

The motion was approved and the Board went into closed session. Several spectators left the room.

At 6 p.m. the Board returned to open session. Mr. Lucas asked if there was further discussion. Mr. Scott said that the university needs to make sure this is the best thing for ECU. Chancellor Ballard noted that the next day was the deadline for signing the agreement.

With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Lucas adjourned the meeting.

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