

## **Executive Committee of the NKU Board of Regents**

Meeting Minutes - November 10, 2025

Location: 800 Lucas Administrative Center

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### **Call to Order**

Chair Nathan Smith called the meeting to order at 11:33 a.m. He reminded those attending virtually to remain on camera for the duration of the meeting.

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### **Roll Call / Quorum**

Tammy Knochelmann conducted the roll call.

- **Regent Ashley Himes:** Present (attending virtually)
- **Regent Kara Williams:** Present (attending virtually)
- **Chair Nathan Smith:** Present

A quorum was declared.

NKU Senior Staff in Attendance:

- **Cady Short-Thompson,** President
  - **Grant Garber,** Vice President for Legal Affairs and general Counsel
  - **Tammy Knochelmann,** Executive Assistant to the President and Secretary to the Board of Regents
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### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the September 16, 2025, Executive Committee meeting were presented for approval.

- **Motion:** Regent Williams moved approval of the minutes as distributed.
  - **Second:** Regent Himes
  - **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.
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### **Reports:**

#### **Agenda Item 1– Recognition of Dr. Jim Claypool**

The Committee discussed options to recognize Dr. Jim Claypool for his many years of service and foundational contributions to the university.

Suggestions included:

- Establishing a “Founders Wall” highlighting early NKU contributors.
- Naming a campus space in his honor.

After discussion, the Committee recommended naming Room 302 in the Student Union as the “Dr. James C. Claypool Room.” The space is adjacent to the Dean of Students Office, a fitting tribute given Dr. Claypool’s historic roles. Chair Smith requested information on the naming recommendation be distributed to the full Board in advance of the meeting.

The Committee also supported holding a recognition event during basketball season and recognizing Dr. Claypool publicly at a game.

It was agreed that the naming recommendation be forwarded to the full Board for action at its November 19, 2025, meeting.

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## **Agenda Item 2 – Board Bylaws Review**

General Counsel Grant Garber presented the redline version of proposed bylaws revisions.

The Committee agreed:

- To remind the full Board via email that the revised bylaws are included in the upcoming meeting materials.
  - To invite questions or concerns from Regents in advance.
  - To keep the item under “Board Action” rather than the consent agenda, as the bylaws are a governing document of the Board.
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## **Agenda Item 3 – Presidential Evaluation and Compensation**

Chair Smith led discussion of the President’s self-evaluation and performance review.

Key points:

- The Committee reviewed and discussed the President’s self-evaluation and performance review. Members expressed support for her leadership and progress.

### **Compensation Recommendation:**

- **Performance Bonus:** 99% of eligible amount.
- **Base Salary Increase:** 3%, retroactive to July 1, 2025.

The Executive Committee directed that a formal memo summarizing the evaluation and recommendations be distributed to all Regents, with the President’s self-evaluation attached, requesting feedback prior to the next Board meeting.

It was agreed that the presidential compensation recommendation be forwarded to the full Board for action at its November 19, 2025, meeting.

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## **New Business 1 – Property and Real Estate Update**

Mr. Garber provided an update on university property matters:

- **US-27 and East Village Properties:** NKU plans to issue an RFP to engage a strategic real estate consultant/owner's representative.
  - The selected firm will assist with potential development opportunities and value optimization.
  - Ken Perry Realty was engaged as broker for university residential properties.

Committee members expressed optimism about possible repurposing of East Village and other underutilized assets.

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## **New Business 2 – Legislative and Budget Updates**

President Short-Thompson briefed the Committee on current legislative and budget developments:

- **Department of Revenue Collections:** Ongoing advocacy to restore the state's use of tax liens to collect unpaid student accounts.
  - **Base Funding Equity:** NKU and CPE President Aaron Thompson plan to meet with legislative leaders to advocate for a \$5 million base adjustment to achieve parity with other regional universities.
  - **Program Initiatives:** Exploration of new state funding for cybersecurity, AI, and radiation therapy programs, as well as potential donor-matching opportunities for YSA.
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## **New Business 3 – Additional Discussion**

- The Committee reviewed the draft agenda for the upcoming Board of Regents meeting, noting that no executive session items were anticipated.
  - Updates were shared regarding campus employment matters, the ongoing implementation of the new flex work policy, and enrollment trends for the spring semester.
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## **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:27 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,*

  
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Tammy Knochelmann  
Secretary to the Board