

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES

The Middle Tennessee State University Board of Trustees met on May 27, 2025 both electronically and in person at the Miller Education Center Meeting Room at Middle Tennessee State University for a special meeting.

Call to Order

Board Vice Chair Christine Vanek called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Roll Call

Board Vice Chair Vanek asked Senior Associate Legal Counsel Jeff Farrar to call the roll. The following trustees were in attendance: Christine Vanek, Bill Jones, Mary Martin, and Shaylaine Roker.

In addition, the following Trustees participated in the meeting electronically: J.B. Baker, Pete DeLay, Michael Wade, Pam Wright, and Tom Boyd. Consistent with Tennessee Code Annotated § 8-44-108(c)(3), these trustees were asked and responded in the affirmative that they could hear clearly and confirmed that no one else was in their location. A quorum was declared.

Chairman Stephen B. Smith recused himself from deliberations and was absent from the meeting.

President Sidney A. McPhee and Chris Massaro, Director of Athletics also participated electronically in the meeting. Alan Thomas, Vice President of Business and Finance; Keith Huber, Lt. Gen. (Ret.); Leah Ladley, Chief Audit Executive; Khalilah Doss, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students; Andrew Oppmann, Vice President for Marketing and

Communications; and Yvette Clark, Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer were also in attendance.

Consideration regarding naming of university facilities – Action

Mr. Alan Thomas, Vice President for Business and Finance, presented a request from Congressman Bart Gordon and Governor Bill Haslam to name the new Student-Athlete Performance Center the Steve and Denise Smith Student-Athlete Performance Center. Mr. Thomas reminded the Board that University Policy 160, initially approved by the Board in 2017, required that requests to name University buildings are first considered by The Building Naming Advisory Committee, which will make a recommendation to the President. Upon receipt of the Committee's recommendation and supporting documentation, the President will also prepare a recommendation for submission to the Board. Following receipt of the President's recommendation, the Board has the final authority to act on the naming request as it deems appropriate.

Mr. Thomas clarified that the Committee cannot consider a naming request if the criteria set forth in Policy 160 are not met, including the requirement that the individual cannot already have a building named in their honor. Mr. Thomas reminded the Board that the MTSU Baseball Club House bears the name The Stephen B. Smith Clubhouse. As a result, before the Committee could consider the naming request for the Student-Athlete Performance Center, Mr. Thomas explained, the Board would have to revoke the naming of MTSU Baseball Club house in Chairman Smith's honor. Mr. Thomas confirmed that the administration has spoken with Chairman Smith and he does not object to the removal of his name from the baseball Clubhouse.

Motion

Trustee Martin made a motion to revoke the name Stephen B. Smith from MTSU Baseball Clubhouse, and Trustee DeLay seconded the motion.

Trustee Wade inquired as to the expected timeframe before submittal of the Committee's recommendation to the President. Mr. Thomas advised that the meeting will be held via email resulting in a quick turnaround time, stating he expects to have a recommendation by the end of the week.

A roll call vote was taken, and the motion to approve the revocation carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Board Chair Vanek adjourned the meeting at 9:09 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jeff Farrar', written in a cursive style.

Jeff Farrar, Senior Associate University Counsel