



Executive Committee

April 8, 2026

Via TEAMS

MINUTES

Meeting streamed live via link found on this web page:

<https://www.tntech.edu/board/board-and-board-committee-meetings.php>

AGENDA ITEM I – CALL TO ORDER

The Tennessee Tech Board of Trustees Executive Committee met on Wednesday, April 8, 2026. Chair Rhedona Rose called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

Chair Rose asked Mr. Lee Wray, Secretary, to call the roll. The following members were present:

- Rhedona Rose
- Trudy Harper
- Fred Lowery

A quorum was in attendance but not physically present.

All participating Trustees confirmed that they could simultaneously hear and speak to the Board members, that they were by themselves, and that they received the Board materials in advance of the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM II – DETERMINATION OF NECESITY

Chair Rose stated that a determination of necessity was required pursuant to TCA § 8-44-108(b)(3), as a quorum was not physically present, and due to Tennessee Tech Policy No. 005, which states that 1) the Executive Committee is responsible for approving appointments of positions reporting directly to the president, and 2) to fill the vacancies in a timely manner for the Vice President of Student Affairs and the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs and 3) these facts and circumstances necessitated a meeting without a quorum physically present.

Trustee Lowery moved that a determination of necessity existed to allow the Executive committee members to participate electronically based on the facts presented. Trustee Harper

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seconded the motion. Mr. Wray called a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM III – APPROVAL OF VICE PRESIDENT OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

President Oldham stated that through extensive searches, Dr. Katie Aikens had been identified as the candidate for the Vice President of Student Affairs position. Dr. Aikens had twenty years of experience in the Student Affairs division and was well recommended by everyone on campus. President Oldham nominated Dr. Aikens for appointment as the next Vice President of Student Affairs.

Dr. Aikens thanked President Oldham for his confidence in her ability to lead student affairs and stated that she looked forward to the opportunity to serve Tennessee Tech's students and Student Affairs team.

Trustee Westbrook stated that he was thankful for Dr. Aikens's nomination and that in his experience working with her through SGA, she was a great advocate for students.

Trustee Lowery moved to approve the request to appoint Dr. Katie Aikens to the position of Vice President of Student Affairs. Trustee Harper seconded the motion. Mr. Wray called a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM IV – APPROVAL OF PROVOST AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

President Oldham stated that through an extensive national search, Dr. Mickey Latour had been identified as the lead candidate for Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs. He came with a significant amount of experience in the field of agriculture. Dr. Latour had spent most of his career at Purdue University in Indiana, as Dean of Agriculture in Southern Illinois at Carbondale and most recently at Arkansas State in Jonesboro, AR. He brought a great deal of expertise and leadership and would be joining Tennessee Tech on July 1, 2026, if approved.

Dr. Latour stated that he was humbled by the opportunity and saw the great foundation and momentum of Tennessee Tech. He believed there was an opportunity to build on the excellence that was already present and take it to a new level.

Trustee McNabb asked President Oldham how Dr. Latour stood out amongst other candidates in the search. President Oldham replied that he believed in timing and goodness of fit, and Dr. Latour brought the best options for the future. His experience as a faculty member and with tenure and promotion at a competitive university and leadership experience at significant peer institutions were valuable.

Trustee Lowery moved to approve the request to appoint Dr. Mickey Latour to the position of Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. Trustee Harper seconded. Mr. Wray called a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM V – OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business. President Oldham congratulated Trustee Wilmore on his recent work as a contributor on Fox News.

AGENDA ITEM VI – ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Tennessee Tech Board of Trustees Executive Committee meeting adjourned at 3:19 p.m.

Approved,

LEE Wray 07/15/20

Lee Wray, Secretary