

Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of the University of Kentucky, Monday, July 15, 2002.

The Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of the University of Kentucky met at 2:30 p.m. (Lexington Time) on Monday, July 15, 2002 in the Board Room on the 18<sup>th</sup> floor of the Patterson Office Tower on the Lexington Campus.

A. Meeting Opened and Roll Call

Mr. Steven S. Reed, Vice Chairman, called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. Ms. Marianne Smith Edge gave the invocation.

B. Roll Call

The following members of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees answered the call of the roll by JoEtta Wickliffe, Secretary of the Executive Committee: Marianne Smith Edge, Robert P. Meriwether, Steven S. Reed, and JoEtta Y. Wickliffe. Absent from the meeting was Mr. Paul Chellgren. The University administration was represented by President Lee T. Todd, Jr.

C. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Reed said that the Minutes of the December 11, 2001 Executive Committee meeting had been distributed and asked for a motion of approval. Ms. Edge moved approval. Her motion, seconded by Dr. Meriwether, carried.

D. Appointment of Director of Athletics (ECR 1)

Mr. Reed said that the Athletic Association Board of Directors recommends the appointment of Mitchell Scott Barnhart as the new Director of Athletics at the University of Kentucky. The Executive Committee is meeting to consider the recommendation presented by the Athletic Association Board.

President Todd said that he is eternally indebted to Dr. Meriwether for disrupting his surgery schedule to attend the Executive Committee meeting.

President Todd provided background information about Mr. Barnhart. He said that he was impressed with Mr. Barnhart's work ethics, vision, plan, fiscal responsibilities, energy level and the fact that he has served on many National Collegiate Athletic Association committees.

He provided a summary of Mr. Barnhart's contract and compensation package that was presented at the Athletic Association Board meeting. He reported that the Athletic Association Board approved the recommendation with one negative vote from Professor Robert Lawson. He said he would be pleased to answer any questions of the Executive Committee or have Mr. Barnhart make any comments.

Ms. Edge said that she understood the concerns that Professor Lawson mentioned; but it is obvious that you have to offer a competitive compensation package to get the type of person that the University needs to head up the Athletics Department. She said she appreciated the incentives that were included in the contract which hopefully will help move the Athletics Department back on a higher playing field.

Ms. Wickliffe said she was encouraged by some of Mr. Barnhart's comments and the manner in which he intends to go about achieving some of these goals. She is looking forward to seeing how they turn out.

Mr. Reed commented about Mr. Barnhart. He said that he could sense the competitiveness but yet a passion for the well-being of our student athletes. He said he also sensed a heart of integrity. He said, "We love our sports, we love our basketball but we love our kids, too."

Mr. Reed expressed thanks and appreciation to Ms. Wickliffe and Ms. Edge for taking time out of their busy schedules to attend the meeting on a very short notice. He also thanked Dr. Meriwether for coming on short notice and said that Dr. Meriwether has been a longtime, steadfast supporter of the University. Mr. Reed said he had never seen an instance when Dr. Meriwether has been called upon to help and has not come through. He reiterated his appreciation to Ms. Edge, Ms. Wickliffe and Dr. Meriwether for showing their commitment to the University of Kentucky.

Mr. Reed asked for a motion of approval. Dr. Meriwether moved approval of ECR 1. Ms. Edge seconded the motion, and it carried. Mr. Reed congratulated Mr. Barnhart, and he received a round of applause.

Mr. Reed recognized Trustees Dr. Claire Pomeroy, Dr. Elissa Plattner, Professor Michael Kennedy and Ms. Marian Sims in the audience.

Mr. Reed said the University of Kentucky cannot alone change the relationship with higher education and athletics. The University of Kentucky is a major sports program, and it aspires to have champions. This needs to be done as honorably as possible.

With no further business to come before the Executive Committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JoEtta Y. Wickliffe  
Secretary  
Executive Committee

(ECR 1 that follows is an official part of the Minutes of the meeting.)

# ECR 1

Office of the President  
July 15, 2002

Members, Executive Committee:

## APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

Recommendation: that the Executive Committee approve the appointment of Mitchell Scott Barnhart as Director of Athletics and authorize the President to execute a contract with Mr. Barnhart.

Background: Following the retirement of Larry Ivy in March 2002, a national search was conducted to recruit a new Director of Athletics. The President recommends that Mr. Barnhart, currently Athletic Director at Oregon State University, be appointed as the new Director of Athletics at the University of Kentucky. The University of Kentucky Athletic Association Board of Directors concurs in the President's recommendation.

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Action taken:     Approved     Disapproved     Other \_\_\_\_\_