

FLORIDA **A&M** UNIVERSITY  
**Board of Trustees**

**Meeting Minutes**  
**October 21, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME**

*Kimberly Moore, Vice Chair*

Vice Chair Moore called the meeting to order. Attorney Barge-Miles called the roll and a quorum was established. The following trustees were present: Cavazos, Cliatt, Dortch, Dubose, Lawrence, Lawson, Moore, Perry, Reed, Stone, and Washington. Trustees Harper and Whigham were not in attendance.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no requests for public comments.

**DONATION-BASED NAMING**

The first agenda item was consideration of a donation-based naming. Vice President Friday-Stroud provided information regarding this item. She shared that she was requesting approval for the naming of the plaza that surrounds the Amphitheatre. The name would be “The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation Plaza. The Knight Foundation gifted the University \$1.5M and \$1M has already been received. Those funds will go toward digital technology, equipment, and beautification of the green spaces around the Amphitheatre.

Trustee Dortch moved approval. The motion was seconded by Trustee Reed and received a unanimous vote.

**MEDICAL MARIJUANA EDUCATION AND RESEARCH INITIATIVE CONTRACT**

Vice Chair Moore recognized Vice President Weatherford and Director Green-Power for an update regarding the contract for media and consulting services. VP Weatherford reminded the Board that the management of the funds for the Medical Marijuana Education and Research Initiative (MMERI) is in the Division of Research and is considered Contracts and Grants funding. He shared that the University was seeking pre-approval of a contract award with iHeart Media, in excess of \$1M.

Dr. Patricia Green-Powell reviewed the legislation that created MMERI. She stated that this statewide initiative focuses on increasing the minority community’s knowledge regarding marijuana through community engagement and communications. Dr. Green indicated that the contract resulted from the successful statewide competitive solicitation through the FAMU Office of Procurement.

Trustee Dortch pointed out that the contract was good, but he wanted to bring attention to the need for diversity and inclusion. Mr. Mendie shared that by State law, iHeart won the RFP. Although it is not required to subcontract with minority companies, iHeart has made a commitment to so, with 30-35% of the contracts going to minority businesses. He also shared that to date, MMERI has more than \$3.5M in contracts with minority businesses. VP Weatherford highlighted that there were three other businesses that won contracts of less than \$1M and two of them were minority businesses.

Trustee Dortch moved approval. The motion was seconded by Trustee Dubose and received a unanimous vote.

**LEASE AGREEMENT RE: COLLEGE OF PHARMACY**

Attorney David Self explained the details regarding the renewal of the lease agreement for the College of Pharmacy's Davie campus. The College desires to renew the Agreement for a period with a term commencing November 1, 2021 and ending no later than October 31, 2024. The agreement was over \$1M and needed the Board's approval.

Trustee Dortch moved approval. The motion was seconded by Trustee Perry and received a unanimous vote.

Vice Chair Moore recognized President Robinson for closing remarks. President Robinson thanked the Board for its work and stated that he looked forward to seeing the Board that the following week during FAMU's Homecoming. He also reminded the Board that the Trustee Summit would be held at Florida Atlantic University, in Boca Raton on Wednesday, November 3, 2021.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business for the Board, the meeting adjourned.