



Board Governance Committee

Kansas Board of Regents

Curtis State Office Building at 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 520, Topeka, Kansas,
66612

2026-03-11 09:00 - 10:00 CDT

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February 11, 2026 Governance Committee Minutes

The Kansas Board of Regents Governance Committee met on Wednesday, February 11, 2026. Chair Blake Benson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Proper notice was given according to the law.

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| MEMBERS PRESENT: | Blake Benson, Chair | Neelima Parasker |
| | Diana Mendoza, Vice Chair | Alysia Johnston |

Approval of Minutes

Regent Johnston moved to approve the minutes of the Committee's January 14, 2026, meeting. Regent Parasker seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Receive State University Campus Security and IT report - KU and KUMC

KUMC Chief of Police Brad Deichler introduced Major Mike Oude Alink and Captain Eddie Carrillo. Chief Deichler provided an overview of KUMC Police operations. The department now employs approximately 60 personnel following the transfer of hospital security staff, requiring increased coordination and overtime support, particularly with anticipated World Cup related activity. The department continues to strengthen campus safety through interagency partnerships, major technology investments (including body cameras, CAD, and Flock license plate readers), progress toward CALEA reaccreditation, and expanded civilian leadership. Operational improvements include significant reductions in use-of-force incidents, vehicle thefts, and long-term violent crime trends. Future priorities include enhanced training, a technology-enabled field training model, World Cup preparedness, leadership development, and expanded community engagement.

KU Deputy Chief James Druen and Captain Jack Campbell reported on the Lawrence campus police department's staffing, service demands, and event support. The department employs 30 of 35 authorized officers and responded to more than 3,400 calls for service in 2025, primarily medical, while supporting extensive campus events and increased patrol demands. Upcoming pressures include stadium security changes and potential World Cup activity, requiring overtime and regional coordination. Investments in cameras, access control, dispatch modernization, digital ticketing, and student outreach have improved efficiency and safety, while continued focus areas include training, recruitment and retention, officer wellness, and progress toward state accreditation.

Associate Vice Chancellor Lauren Jones McKellen highlighted the expansion of the Office of Civil Rights and Title IX, which now includes 21 staff and oversees investigations, Clery compliance across 12 campuses, and broad training and outreach. Increased reporting reflects improved awareness and compliance, while strengthened partnerships and modernized communications have enhanced accessibility, accuracy, and trust. Vice Chancellor Ed Hudson summarized KU's enterprise technology and cybersecurity posture, noting a maturing, risk-based security program supported by shared infrastructure investments, cost savings, identity modernization, and systemwide governance. Independent assessments confirm a solid cybersecurity foundation, with continued investment recommended to mitigate evolving cyber risks.

Adjournment

Chair Benson adjourned the meeting at 10:01 a.m.

Discuss Board Member Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement and Act on Actual or Apparent Conflicts**Background**

Board of Regents policy governing Board member conflicts of interest calls for disclosure of certain transactional interests, memberships and affiliations at the time of taking office and subsequently as the need arises, and provides that the Board will review the disclosures and make participation determinations in accordance with prescribed guidelines.

Regent Peter Johnston's disclosure form was reviewed by Board's general counsel and will be reviewed by the Governance Committee at the Committee's March 11, 2026 meeting. A summary of the disclosures is provided below.

In accordance with Board policy, the Board is to now:

- Include the reported interests in the minutes of a Board meeting;
- with regard to each reported membership or affiliation on a governing board or affiliated corporation, make a determination regarding the permissibility of serving in such capacity; and
- with regard to each contract or transaction, direct the involved Regent to excuse himself from participating on behalf of the Board in actions involving that contract or transaction.

Memberships and Affiliations

Board policy requires that Board members disclose any appointment or invitation to serve on "the governing board of any institution governed, coordinated or regulated by the Board, or of any affiliated corporation of any institution governed, coordinated or regulated by the Board" The Board, together with the involved Regent, must then "make a determination regarding the permissibility of accepting or retaining such an appointment in accordance with the following guidelines:

"(i) If an independent observer, having knowledge of all the relevant circumstances, would reasonably conclude that the Board member has an actual or apparent conflict of interest in holding such a position, the Board member should not accept or retain the position;

"(ii) If, however, involvement by the Board member would bring compelling benefit to the institution, the Board may approve such involvement subject to any conditions the Board deems appropriate to assure both propriety and the appearance of propriety."

The reported and known memberships and affiliations to be reviewed by the Board pursuant to the above-quoted provision, along with a description of the entity or activity and rationale to approve continued service of Regent Johnston in this capacity, are as follows:

Regent Peter Johnston reported service on the *governing* board of a non-controlled affiliated corporation of an institution that is governed by the Board:

- Regent Johnston serves as a Trustee of the KU Endowment Association, a non-controlled affiliated corporation of the University of Kansas.

Staff recommends approving Regent Peter Johnston's continued service as a Trustee of the KU Endowment Association. Service on the board of an affiliated corporation that exists to raise and manage funds for its respective educational institution is generally in line with the Board's mission and goals, would be unlikely to constitute an actual conflict of interest, and is more likely to be beneficial to an institution than potentially harmful to the Board or the System. Regent Peter Johnston's continued service on this body should be

conditioned on Regent Peter Johnston recognizing that his duty is first and foremost to the Kansas Board of Regents and that if any actual conflict does arise, he will take appropriate action to manage or remedy the conflict.

Contracts or Transactions

Board policy requires that Board members disclose any direct or indirect interest in any contract or transaction with the Board or any educational institution governed, coordinated or regulated by the Board. No member of the Board having such interest shall participate on behalf of the Board in the authorization of any such contract or transaction. (K.S.A. 46-233).

Regent Peter Johnston is a shareholder in his law firm, which has client relationships with Salina Regional Health Center, Salina Regional Health Foundation, Salina Airport Authority and the City of Salina. Those clients have various contractual relationships with Regents institutions. Additionally, Regent Peter Johnston’s spouse is a part-time paid faculty member at the KU School of Medicine’s Salina campus.

Staff recommend directing Regent Peter Johnston to excuse himself from participating on behalf of the Board in matters involving or related to any contract or transaction between his law firm’s clients and any educational institution governed, coordinated or regulated by the Board, and any matters impacting or relating to his spouse’s employment at KU School of Medicine’s Salina campus.