

January 22, 2025 | General Meeting Minutes

Time: 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Location: 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln NE 68509, Otoe Conference Room

Present: Dorothy Johnson | Interim Chair

Trevon Brooks Quentin Brown Tim Clark Terri Crawford

Gwen Easter Connie Edmond Clarice Jackson

Joanna LeFlore-Ejike

Johnny Nesbit Laban Njuguna

Absent: Glenn Freeman

Agenda Items:

- 1. Roll Call
- 2. Public Comment
- 3. Interim Chair Report
- 4. Executive Session
- 5. Executive Committee Vacancies
- 6. Legislative Committee Report

Key Discussion Points:

1. Roll Call

2. Public Comment

Speaker 1: Kim Goins voiced concerns about the recent media attention surrounding the Executive Director's placement on administrative leave. She stressed the importance of the commission having a clear, proactive plan to prevent similar situations moving forward. Additionally, Goins underscored that the commission's success hinges on strong leadership and its efforts related to economic growth.

Speaker 2: Justin Wayne expressed his support for the Commission and urged the Commission to consult with the Attorney General's office regarding the confirmation process for new commissioners.

3. Interim Chair Report

Interim Chair Dorothy Johnson provided an update on the executive committee's recent work, including the creation of a historical timeline that functions as an internal audit, detailing the Commission's activities since its inception. She also announced the successful launch of the newly redesigned website and confirmed that the performance review of the Executive Director has been completed. Additionally, she informed the Commission that the Executive Committee has received three proposals for the development of NCAAA's strategic plan, which are currently under review, with further details to follow.

Chairwoman Johnson requested a motioned to approve the meeting minutes. Commissioner Easter requested to table the approval of the minutes from April 24 and previous meetings due to inaccuracies. As a result, the approval of the prior meeting minutes was deferred.

Commissioner Terri Crawford suggested adding language in the bylaws to require audio recordings of Commission meetings.

4. Executive Session

Chairwoman Johnson called for a motion to enter Executive Session. Commissioner Crawford made the motion for purposes of handling a personnel matter, and Commissioner Clark seconded it. The motion carried.

Proceeding the Executive session, Commissioner Trevon Brooks motioned to exit executive session. Commissioner Dorothy Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried and the public meeting resumed.

5. Executive Committee Vacancies

Commissioner Tim Clark was nominated to serve as Chair of the Commission. Commissioner Clark accepted the nomination.

Roll Call Vote: YEAS: Commissioners Dorothy Johnson, Trevon Brooks, Quentin Brown, Terri Crawford, Gwen Easter, Connie Edmond, Clarice Jackson, Joanna LeFlore-Ejike, Johnny Nesbit, Laban Njuguna.

Commissioners Quentin Brown and Glenn Freeman did not vote.

6. Legislative Committee Report

Commissioner Connie Edmond delivered the legislative update, highlighting key bills currently being monitored by the Legislative Committee. She also informed the Commissioners that Senator Spivey introduced LB69 this session, which proposes changes to the duties and meeting requirements for the Commission on African American Affairs. Commissioner Edmond requested feedback from the Commission members before her upcoming meeting with Senator Spivey.

Adjournment - 4 PM CST on January 22, 2025 **Minutes Prepared by:** Candace Reid, NCAAA staff