

05.25.10 : Governor Parkinson names three to the Board of Regents

Governor Mark Parkinson has appointed Mildred Edwards, Tim Emert and Ed McKechnie to the Kansas Board of Regents.

“This past legislative session we made a renewed commitment to our Regents institutions, acknowledging that the Kansas economy is only as strong as the higher education opportunities that prepare our workforce for the future,” said Parkinson. “These newest members of the Board of Regents share that belief and remain committed to seeing our universities and community colleges succeed.”

Edwards, Wichita, is the executive director of the Kansas African Americans Affairs Commission. Prior to her appointment, she was the project director for STAND TOGETHER Coalition at their Regional Prevention Center of Wichita/Sedgwick County. Edwards is an experienced researcher, specifically in the area of prevention and reduction of disparity among at-risk or underserved populations. She also specializes in leadership development and employee capacity building. She holds a master's in public health and a doctorate in psychology from Wichita State University.

Emert, Independence, is a former state senator and majority leader of the Kansas Senate. He was chairman of the Judiciary Committee and served on the Education and Transportation committees. Currently, Emert is an attorney and partner at Scovel, Emert, Heasty, Chubb and Gettler. He is also a former member of the Kansas State Board of Education, serving as chairman for two years. Emert is active in the community, serving on numerous boards for organizations such as the Kansas Children's Campaign. He holds a bachelor's in journalism and his *juris doctorate* from the University of Kansas.

McKechnie was appointed to the Board of Regents by Governor Parkinson in February 2010, to serve the remainder of former member William (Bill) Thornton's term. He is a former state representative and served on a variety of committees, including Appropriations and the joint committee on Legislative Post Audit. For the past 10 years, McKechnie has been the chief commercial officer for Watco Companies, Inc. based in Pittsburg, leading the transportation company's business development, communications and government affairs divisions. Additionally, he is the secretary/treasurer on the Kansas Bioscience Authority Board, an entity committed to advancing Kansas' leadership in bioscience. McKechnie attained a bachelor of arts from Pittsburg State University.

In the interim between legislative sessions, Regent members' appointments are subject to authorization by the Senate Confirmation Oversight Committee until the full Senate can consider their nominations.

The Kansas Board of Regents is a nine-member body which governs the state's six universities, and supervises and coordinates 19 community colleges, six technical colleges, and one municipal university. Members are appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Kansas Senate. Along with serving on the board, each member works on various councils and committees, primarily in the education field, throughout the year. These councils and committees draw on studies to determine allocation of funds, distribution of support materials and in making administrative decisions.

Governor Parkinson also made a number of other appointments and reappointments that are subject to authorization by the Senate Confirmation Oversight Committee, including the Office of the Kansas Securities Commissioner and the Kansas National Guard.

Kansas Securities Commission

Governor Parkinson has named Marc Wilson the Kansas Securities Commissioner. Wilson, Overland Park, is currently an attorney at Stinson Morrison Hecker, LLP in Kansas City, Missouri, advising corporate, banking and non-profit clients on matters involving governance, capital structures, mergers and acquisitions and regulatory compliance. Previously, Wilson served as the Great Plains Regional Director for the Concord Coalition. He is on the board of directors for numerous philanthropic organizations in the Kansas City area and serves on committees for KansasBio, the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce and the Kansas Bar Association. He holds a *juris doctorate*, a master's in business administration and a master's of law from Boston University. Wilson attained his bachelor's in political science and in African-American studies from the University of Kansas.

The Office of the Kansas Securities Commissioner regulates and monitors the offering of securities and financial services within Kansas by registering securities, broker-dealers and their agents, investment advisers, loan brokers and certain land subdivisions.

Kansas National Guard

Governor Parkinson has appointed Colonel Bradley Link as a brigadier general in the Kansas National Guard. Colonel Link is the Assistant Adjutant General-Air and also serves as the Commander of the Kansas Air National Guard in Topeka. He is a Command Pilot with over 5,400 hours of flying time. Colonel Link was commissioned in 1980 through the United States Air Force Officer Training School. After completion of Undergraduate Navigator Training as a Distinguished Graduate, he was assigned to B-52Gs at Griffiss Air Force Base, New York. In 1984, he attended Undergraduate Pilot Training at Reese Air Force Base, Texas graduating as a Distinguished Graduate and was assigned to B-52G/Hs at Fairchild Air Force Base, Washington.

After his extensive training where he was awarded with numerous accolades, Colonel Link was selected for the initial cadre B-1B, 28th Bomb Squadron, McConnell Air Force Base, Kansas. He then joined the 184th Bomb Wing, Kansas Air National Guard, McConnell Air Force Base, in November 1995 serving in several capacities. Among his many other leadership roles, Colonel Link deployed to Baghdad, Iraq, serving as the Deputy Director Air Component Coordination Element, Strategic Operations Center, Headquarters Multi-National Force Iraq. In March 2008, Colonel Link transferred to 190th Air Refueling Wing, Kansas Air National Guard where he took command of the Operations Group and later took command of the Maintenance Group.

The Kansas Air National Guard is a component of the U.S. Force (which consists of the Active Air, the Air National Guard and the U.S. Air Force Reserves.) The Kansas Air National Guard is composed primarily of traditional Guardsmen -- civilians who serve their country, state and community on a part-time basis (usually one weekend each month and two weeks during the summer.) Each state, territory and the District of Columbia has its own National Guard, as provided for by the Constitution of the United States.

Pooled Money Investment Board

Governor Parkinson appointed Betty Corbin to the Pooled Money Investment Board. Corbin, Towanda, has been the president and active manager of Corbin Investments, Inc. for almost 30 years. In that position, she has trained and managed commodity brokers, managed all training and compliance and served as a market analyst for area press syndicates. Corbin is also a former member of the Governor's Agricultural Advisory Board and the Governor's Partnership Historic Site Committee, as well as a past president of the Butler

County Economic Development and the Butler Community College Foundation Board. She graduated from Wichita High East and obtained several securities licenses over the years.

The Pooled Money Investment Board invests the money available from the State General Fund and the hundreds of other state funds deposited with the State Treasurer. The board also provides investment management services for other state agencies with investment portfolios, such as the Kansas Department of Transportation and Health Care Stabilization funds. In addition, the Pooled Money Investment Board's responsibilities include the management and administration of the Kansas Municipal Investment Pool, which provides an investment alternative for local government entities in Kansas.

Kansas, Inc.

Governor Parkinson has reappointed Lawrence McCants, Goodland, and Donald Schnacke, Topeka, to the board of Kansas, Inc. Co-Chaired by the Governor, Kansas, Inc. is governed by a 17-member Board of Directors that primarily identifies, builds, and promotes a Strategic Plan for economic development efforts in the State of Kansas. To complement the Strategic Plan, Kansas, Inc. develops and implements a proactive and aggressive research agenda, which is used to identify and promote sound economic development strategies and policies. Through collaboration and outreach with economic development entities and other potential partners, Kansas, Inc. conducts evaluation reviews and provides oversight of economic development programs to benchmark economic development efforts in the State of Kansas.

Kansas Human Rights Commission

Governor Parkinson reappointed Antonio Villegas, Kansas City, and Clyde Howard, Manhattan, to the Kansas Human Rights Commission. The mission of the Kansas Human Rights Commission is to prevent and eliminate discrimination and assure equal opportunities in all employment relations, to eliminate profiling in conjunction with traffic stops, to eliminate and prevent discrimination, segregation or separation, and assure equal opportunities in all places of public accommodations and in housing.