

**Minutes
Alabama Space Authority
Meeting**

April 11, 2023
Alabama State House – Montgomery, AL

Call to Order:

10:38 A.M.

Welcome and Remarks

Lt. Governor Will Ainsworth gave welcoming remarks.
Chairman Livingston called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Present: 9

Senator Steve Livingston, Chair

Dr. William T. Hutto

Dr. Daniel K. Wims

Mr. Greg Canfield

Mr. Frank Farmer for Mr. John Cooper

Major General (Ret.) Tim Crosby (joined virtually)

Mr. Taylor Nichols for Mr. Bill Poole

Ms. Jennifer Lee for Mr. Kenneth W. Boswell

Dr. Dale Thomas for Dr. Charles Karr

Visitors: 24

Senator Sam Givhan

Elaine Fincannon

Shonda Gray

Chrystal Morgan

Rae Meyer

Joseph Pelfrey

Chris Crumbly

Kathy Byars

Hannah Maginot

Madeline Davis

Tray Doughty

Lucia Cape

Lynn Troy

Paul Finley

Ronnie Chronister

Mike Ward

Dr. Kimberly Robinson

Tom Koshut

Joey Shelton
LaFreedda Jordan
Mitch Icard
Shannon Reeves
Robert Wright (joined virtually)
Kathryn Williams (joined virtually)

Minutes

Motion to approve
Seconded
Vote called – Unanimous.

Reports and Presentations:

Presentation by Dr. Dale Thomas, Director of the Alabama Space Grant Consortium.

Dr. Thomas provided an overview of the history and current work of the Alabama Space Grant Consortium. The consortium was established by the Alabama state government and codified in public law. They work to grow awareness and enable growth in space and space engineering throughout the state. Currently, they are looking at ways of expanding the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) workforce in Alabama to serve the large national mission of space exploration. The largest part of funding is directed at graduate fellowships and undergraduate scholarships. The organization has established relationships with smaller industry partners to fund summer internship programs along with their funding of university clubs and organizations. They have developed an industry advisory board to assist in workforce development input, and they are partnering with existing university programs to provide pathways into STEM careers for Alabama's kindergarten through twelfth grade students.

Question: Senator Livingston asked if there is information available about the specific university programs contributing to this effort.

Response: Dr. Thomas responded that he does have that information and will be happy to provide it.

The presentation is attached.

Presentation by Ms. Chrystal Morgan, Boeing.

Ms. Morgan presented an overview of the activities planned for Space Day at the Alabama State Capitol.

Presentation by Mr. Joseph Pelfrey, Deputy Director of Marshall Space Flight Center. Mr. Pelfrey provided an overview of the Artemis program, discussing the past success and future of the program. In November 2022, Artemis launched an uncrewed test run around the moon. Data from that mission will contribute to the goal of putting humans back on the moon. Artemis II will fly the crew around the moon, and a later Artemis III launch will place the crew on the moon. The Center has ongoing projects exploring astrophysics, blackholes and Mars for a new chapter

of space exploration. The current workforce partnerships are an important part of continued research and success of these programs.

New Business:

Selection of Officers

Senator Livingston asked if there were any nominations for Chairman.

Mr. Greg Canfield nominated Senator Sam Givhan for Chairman.

Seconded by Dr. Daniel K. Wims.

Vote called – Unanimous.

Senator Livingston asked if there were any nominations for Vice-Chairman.

Dr. Dale Thomas nominated Dr. Kimberly Robinson for Vice-Chairperson.

Seconded by Dr. Daniel K. Wims.

Vote called – Unanimous.

Adjourn:

11:24 A.M.