

# HOUSE BUDGET REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

## Minutes of the 1st Meeting of the 2026 Regular Session

January 22, 2026

### Call to Order and Roll Call

The 1st meeting of the House Budget Review Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education was held on January 22, 2026, at 10:00 AM in Room 129 of the Capitol Annex.

Representative Steve Riley, Chair, called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

### Present were:

Members: Representative Steve Riley, Chair; Representatives Bobby McCool, James Tipton, and Timmy Truett.

Guests: Dr. David McFaddin, President, Eastern Kentucky University; Dr. Koffi Akakpo, President, Kentucky State University (KSU); Dr. Heather Bigard, Vice President of Finance and Administration/Chief Financial Officer, KSU; and Jack McNear, Associate Vice President, Capital Planning and Facilities, KSU.

LRC Staff: Justin Smith, Ethan Williams, and Benjamin Thompson.

### Eastern Kentucky University

Dr. David McFaddin, President, Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) presented information regarding the budgetary needs of EKU.

In response to Representative Tipton, Dr. McFaddin stated that EKU's Air Traffic Control school has cohorts of thirty students. In order to receive medical school accreditation, EKU would need to maintain \$42.5 million in an escrow account. The funds in the account would be returned to the state upon full accreditation.

In response to Chair Riley, Dr. McFaddin noted that the \$10 million additional funding request for aircraft would solely be for the purchase of new aircraft, rather than maintenance funding.

### Kentucky State University

Dr. Koffi Akakpo, President, Kentucky State University (KSU) provided information regarding the budgetary needs of KSU.

In response to Representative Tipton, Dr. Akakpo said that there will be 1,334 residences for students once renovation has completed on all dormitories.

In response to Chair Riley, Dr. Akakpo noted that KSU is requesting \$50 million in general funds for a new health science center with an additional \$4 million coming from federal funds.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business before the subcommittee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 AM.