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Minutes and Correspondence re. Athletics, April 21, 1955

Secretary Board of Trustees

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~~adoption by the Board at that time.~~

Athletics - Head Football Coach. The Secretary referred to the action of the Executive Committee at its meeting of December 6, 1954 approving the recommendation of the Athletics Committee of the Board that Dean N. W. Dougherty and General R. R. Neyland, Athletics Director of the University, be designated as a committee to seek a suitable man for the position of Head Football Coach and to make recommendations in regard thereto. He said that on the recommendation of Dean Dougherty and General Neyland, the Athletics Board on January 8, 1955 approved and recommended the employment of Mr. Bowden Wyatt as Head Football Coach and Assistant Athletics Director for a period of five years, with authority to select his own assistants and at a salary of $15,000.00. Also, he said, on instructions from President Brehm, he had contacted (Exhibit 2) the several members of the Athletics Committee and on their approval, the several members of the Executive Committee, all of whom had indicated their approval and that following this approval the Athletics Board had entered into a contract with Mr. Wyatt. He then suggested that this matter be confirmed.

Thereupon, Judge Sam J. McAllester moved that the action of the Athletics Board of the University in entering into a contract with Mr. Bowden Wyatt as Head Football Coach and Assistant Athletics Director of the University as described by the Secretary be ratified, approved and confirmed, and that the appreciation and commendation of the Executive Committee be extended to Dean N. W. Dougherty and General R. R. Neyland for their success in seeking out and recommending a man of Mr. Wyatt's outstanding ability for this position. The motion was seconded by Mr. Clyde B. Austin and unanimously carried.

Judge Robert M. Jones. Mr. Harley G. Fowler referred to the action of the Executive Committee at its meeting of June 26, 1954 with reference to Judge Robert M. Jones and said that Judge Jones had recently contacted him with reference to his desperate financial situation and had asked that something be done for his relief. Mr. Jerome Taylor stated that Judge Jones had also contacted him and that apparently he was in something of a destitute situation due to the fact that his own illness and that of his wife had taken practically all of his income and that Mrs. Jones had had to dispose of certain securities which she had owned to meet their expenses. He said that he had contacted both Judge McAllester and Mr. Harry Laughlin, members of the Board and who knew Judge Jones' situation and that they had suggested that something be done to make it possible for the University to increase his income by as much as $100.00 per month.

There was some discussion with reference to whether or not $50.00 would be enough, after which Judge Sam J. McAllester moved that Judge Robert M. Jones be paid additional compensation in amount of $75.00 per month effective April 1, 1955 subject to future action of the Board of Trustees or its Executive Committee, with some title to be worked out by the proper officers of the University such as Assistant Instructor in the Moot Court of the College of Law. The motion was seconded by Mr. Harley G. Fowler and unanimously carried by roll call vote.

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The Committee then adjourned for lunch. It reconvened at 1:30 o'clock p.m. in the University Faculty Club immediately following lunch.

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