

Council of Business Officers (COBO)

Meeting Agenda

Date: Thursday, October 9, 2025

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (2 Hours)

Location: Regents Conference Room

Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, OK 73104

10:00 a.m. – 10:10 a.m. (10 min)

I. Welcome, Introductions, and Leadership Call

- Welcome and brief introductions of attendees.
- Call for nominations/interest in COBO leadership role(s).

10:10 a.m. – 10:20 a.m. (10 min)

II. Higher Education Deferred Maintenance Funding Distribution

- Discussion of ongoing efforts to secure the release and distribution of these important and much-needed funds.
- Discussion: Q&A

10:20 a.m. – 10:40 a.m. (20 min)

III. OSRHE Innovations with AI Program

- Program overview, funding priorities, and relevance to operational excellence and data collection across institutions.
- Discussion: Uses of AI in higher education .
- Discussion: Q&A
- *Presenter: Vice Chancellor Nick Hathaway*

10:40 a.m. – 10:55 a.m. (15 min)

IV. Higher Education Funding Formula: History and Future

- Review of the history of the funding formula (Cost-based to Performance-based).
- Discussion of key design questions for a new formula (Base allocation, component distribution, implementation timeline).
- *Presenter: Vice Chancellor Nick Hathaway*

10:55 a.m. – 11:05 a.m. (10 min)

V. Legislative Initiatives Update

- Update on state legislative initiatives relevant to higher education funding and operations.
- *Presenter: Mr. Joel Dean, OSRHE Government Relations and Workforce Development Coordinator*

11:05 a.m. – 11:20 a.m. (15 min)

VI. Innovation in Institutional Health Care Spend

- Presentation on strategies and innovations for managing institutional healthcare insurance costs.
- *Not advocacy of this or any vendor but, rather, inspiration for innovation/efficiency*
- *Presenter: Mr. Scott Sturges, FlexMedOK*

11:20 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (40 min)

VII. COBO Open Discussion, Shared Services, and Challenges Forum

- Discussion: System-wide interest in new Shared Services opportunities (e.g., procurement, technology, centralized administrative functions, health benefits, construction management).
- Open discussion of current challenges and immediate priorities faced by Business Officers across the state system.
- *Discussion Lead: Vice Chancellor Nick Hathaway*

12:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Background Documents:

- *Chancellor Burrage Letter on Deferred Maintenance Funding for Higher Education* (Document dated October 7, 2025)
- *The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education: Innovations with AI Program*
- *Oklahoma Higher Education Funding Formula Review*