

MINUTES
STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES
AUGUST 18, 1988

The State Board for Community and Junior Colleges met at 1:30 p.m., Thursday, August 18, 1988, in Room 1104, Walter Sillers Building, Jackson. Members present were:

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Jeannet Boston | H. J. "Foots" Pearson |
| Robert Breeden | Susan Purdy |
| Thomas E. Childs, Jr. | Barbara Ricks |
| Jean-Marie Hill | William Terrell |
| Lanny Monroe | |

Member Wesley C. Burkhardt, Jr. was absent. Staff present were William H. Bunch, Deborah Gilbert, Robert L. McClellan, and George V. Moody.

Chairman Tom Childs presided. The invocation was given by Robert L. McClellan. Robert Breeden was welcomed as a new member.

Minutes

A motion was made by Susan Purdy to amend the minutes of July 22, 1988, by adding to the second paragraph of Section A on page 3 as, "Wes Burkhardt also asked that the State Board take action in the near future on the issue of tenure." The motion was seconded by Jean-Marie Hill and passed unanimously. Upon motion by William Terrell and second by Susan Purdy, the minutes were approved as amended.

Agenda

Susan Purdy moved to amend the agenda to move old business to Item 5 for immediate consideration and to include under old business to review the action taken on February 18, 1988, to approve the Rankin County campus of Hinds Community College. Barbara Ricks seconded the motion whereon it passed without dissent.

Reconsideration of Prior Action Regarding Rankin Center

Susan Purdy called attention to paragraph 14, page 146 of the Governor's Executive Reorganization Study, and exhibited a map showing locations of community/junior college campuses and attendance centers in the Jackson metropolitan area. She stated that it was her understanding that Wes Burkhardt was not aware as a member of the Program Committee of the branch campus offerings at the R & D Center which is close to the center at Pearl. Also the committee was not made aware of the six and one-half million dollars in bonds that would be needed to build the campus or made aware in detail of what it takes to get accreditation as an attendance center. Susan Purdy offered the motion:

Resolved, that the action taken by this board at its meeting on February 18, 1988, whereby it approved the request from Hinds Community College District to approve the Rankin Branch as an academic center is hereby rescinded and revoked.

Further resolved, that this matter shall be referred to the Program Committee for further study.

Barbara Ricks seconded the motion.

Chairman Childs reviewed the previous action of the State Board with regard to the approval of the Rankin Center of Hinds Community College as an academic center, including reading aloud the part of the minutes of February 18, 1988, pertaining thereto, and the passage that date of a moratorium on new center applications. Excerpt of minutes of February 18, 1988, is attached as Exhibit I.

Susan Purdy said that the Hinds County legislators felt that they should have had an opportunity to input on the proposal. Discussion reflected that the State Board's consideration in February included awareness of a master plan for Rankin Branch which envisioned county financing of phases three and four of future expansion for the branch. It was noted that Hinds Community College had entered into contractual relations with faculty and students for the Fall 1988 term and had expended funds based on the February action of the State Board.

Upon inquiry, Bill Bunch confirmed that President James Hefner of Jackson State University was informed by telephone in February of the Rankin proposal and that President Hefner stated that Jackson State University wanted to make no objection to the proposal.

A substitute motion to table the motion was offered by H. J. Pearson and seconded by Jean-Marie Hill. The substitute motion to table the original motion fail by a vote of 3 for, 5 against, 1 not voting, and 1 absent. For: Pearson, Hill, Terrell; Against: Boston, Breeden, Monroe, Ricks, Purdy; Not voting: Childs; Absent: Burkhardt.

The original motion to rescind the action of February 18, 1988, regarding the academic center at Rankin Branch failed by a vote of 4 for, 5 against, 1 absent. For: Boston, Breeden, Ricks, Purdy; Against: Childs, Hill, Monroe, Pearson, Terrell; Absent: Burkhardt.

Chairman Childs summarized the action by stating that the State Board is wise to review its decisions and reconsider its actions if err is determined, but that he believed the facts were before the State Board in February, that other parties had acted and contracted upon the prior decision of the State Board, and that reversal of that decision at this time would be a disservice to those parties. Chairman Childs directed the Program Committee to review the matter discussed and advise the 1989 Legislature through the State Board of the wisdom of the decision regarding the Rankin Center.

Legal Counsel

Robert Breeden moved and Jeannet Boston seconded that the Attorney General assign a permanent assistant to meet with and advise the State Board and its members at all times. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A motion was made by Robert Breeden to request an Attorney General's opinion as respects the potential personal liability of the State Board members under the laws of Mississippi, and, if any liability is indicated by that opinion, that the Finance Committee study and recommend appropriate means of addressing that liability.

Vo-Tech Programs

In the absence of a quorum for conducting business of the Program Committee and having no report from that committee, the requests for approval of vocational and technical programs were continued to the next meeting.

Study Committees

Based upon the July proposal of Wes Burkhardt to study the composition of local boards of trustees and the issue of tenure, and the provisions of H. B. 1026, Chairman Childs announced the establishment of the following ad hoc committees:

Local Boards of Trustees: Burkhardt, Chairman; Monroe, Purdy, and Terrell

Contracts, including Tenure: Ricks, Chairwoman; Boston, Breeden, and Burkhardt

The committees were directed to function and report to the State Board.

Reports

- A. Executive Director: George Moody introduced Deborah Gilbert as the Director of Finance effective August 8, 1988.

Members were reminded that budget presentations were to be made before the Joint Legislative Budget Committee at 2:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 14.

- B. Presidents' Association: Clyde Muse reported that the Community/Junior College Trustees' Association and the Presidents' Association opposed the recommendations of the reorganization study to abolish the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges to place community and junior colleges under the Board of Trustees, Institutions of Higher Learning, especially as the present BIHL is structured.

Disbursements for September

Upon motion by William Terrell and second by Jean-Marie Hill, the State Board approved the Director's recommendation for disbursement of funds to the fifteen community/junior college districts in accordance with the approved disbursement schedule and based upon certified enrollments in the various classifications as follows:

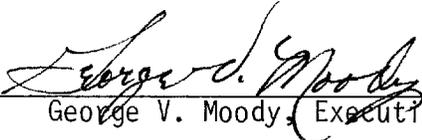
| | | |
|-------|--------------------|-------------|
| #2290 | Nursing Education | \$1,708,416 |
| 2293 | Vocational | 1,344,375 |
| 2294 | Part-Time Academic | 2,542,252 |

FY 90 Budget Request for Support

The announcement was made that budget requests had been received from thirteen districts, two outstanding, and the composite request was being assembled in accordance with the guidelines and amount previously approved by the State Board.

Adjournment

The State Board adjourned at 3:22 p.m. after motion by H. J. "Foots" Pearson, seconded by Barbara Ricks, and unanimous vote in favor.

Recorded By: 
George V. Moody, Executive Director

Signed By: 
Thomas E. Childs, Jr., Chairman

Approved: October 20, 1988
By Board Date