

MINUTES  
STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES  
DECEMBER 12, 1996

The regular meeting of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges was held on Thursday, December 12, 1996, at 9:00 a.m., in Conference Room 507 of the Education and Research Center in Jackson, Mississippi.

**Members present:** Alton Bankston, Yvonne Brown, Joanna Heidel, Henry Hudspeth, John Junkin, II, Perrin Purvis, William Seal, Hazel Terry, and George Walker.

**Member absent:** Patricia Puckett.

**Staff in attendance:** Dr. Olon Ray, Executive Director, William Bunch, Jr., Becky Cade, Dr. Larry Day, Shanta Elizenberry, Ethel Ewing, Deborah Gilbert, Sandra Lucas, R. L. McClellan, Ed Schneider, Danny Seal, and Dr. Evelyn Webb.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman George Walker at 9:00 a.m.

**PRELIMINARIES**

The invocation was given by Yvonne Brown.

Chairman Walker welcomed the following visitors:

- Mr. Larry Miller, Executive Director of Mississippi ETV
- Mr. Martin Mangold, Mississippi ETV Director of Technology
- Mr. Howard Stover, Chairman of the Board of EdNet
- Mr. Walt Eilers, Wireless One
- Mr. Samuel W. Keyes, Jr., EdNet General Counsel
- Mr. Patrick McKinnis, EdNet Program Services Manager
- Dr. Barry Mellinger, President, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College
- Mr. Bill Blasingame, State Department of Education

**Approval of Minutes**

On a motion by Alton Bankston, seconded by Henry Hudspeth, the Board approved the minutes of the November 13 and 14, 1996, meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

**Review of Agenda**

On a motion by Henry Hudspeth, seconded by John Junkin, the Board unanimously adopted the agenda.

**REPORTS/ACTION**

**MACJC Report**

Dr. Barry Mellinger reported on the following items discussed at the Mississippi Association of

Community and Junior Colleges meeting held at the University of Mississippi on November 26, 1996:

A report was received from the CCN Taskforce regarding operating policies and procedures for the CCN Network.

Dr. Ned Lovell of Mississippi State University, reported on the Mississippi Community College Fellowship Program. The presidents indicated their continuing support of the MCCF Program.

Mrs. Deborah Gilbert presented a request from an insurance agency to prepare and present a proposal for liability insurance coverage to the presidents. The presidents referred the item to the community and junior college business managers association.

The presidents discussed the issue of planning and coordination of statewide activities.

A discussion was held on recurring nursing issues.

Congratulations were extended to Hinds Community College on winning a third football championship.

Dr. Olon Ray reported on recent SBCJC activities, including the first meeting of the Funding and Formula Study Committee meeting. Dr. Ray also shared with the presidents the Legislative Budget Offices' recommendations for the upcoming Legislative Session.

Dr. Ray commended Bill Bunch for taking members of the LBO staff to visit various community and junior colleges campuses to gain first hand knowledge of those operations.

Dr. Evelyn Webb reported on the Resource Center Taskforce and the Accountability Taskforce's activities.

Reports were also received on enrollment audit results, technology, the Ed Tech Conference, the healthcare conference, and continuing efforts to provide graduate level nursing instruction over the CCN.

Dr. Mellinger reported to the presidents on a meeting with Dr. Therrell Myers of the Bureau of Vocational Technical Education, relative to job descriptions and procedures for vocational counselors and administrators.

Dr. Clyde Muse gave the Legislative Committee report. Dr. Muse also reported on the work of the MACJC Dual Enrollment Committee.

A discussion of the Phi Theta Kappa Recognition Luncheon set for March of 1997, was held.

Halbrook Award Certificates were distributed to the presidents for individual presentations that will be made at their colleges.

The presidents approved a request from Northwest Mississippi Community College to host the 1997 MACJC All Star Basketball Game.

During announcements the following items were discussed: the MACJC Trustees Conference in July 1997; the Legislative Appreciation Luncheon on February 4, 1997; the Headwae Luncheon on February 11, 1997; and East Central Community College's participation at the Golden Isle Bowl in Brunswick, Georgia.

On a motion by Perrin Purvis, and a second by John Junkin, the Board voted unanimously to commend SBCJC member Hazel Terry for her leadership participation in the recent healthcare conference. Ms. Terry also commended Dr. Olon Ray, Dr. Larry Day and other SBCJC staff members for their cooperation and patience during the planning and implementation of the conference.

Dr. Olon Ray commended Dr. Barry Mellinger for the very positive and pro-active manner in which he handles business dealings with the SBCJC and staff.

#### EdNet Report

Dr. Olon Ray introduced Mr. Larry Miller, Executive Director of Mississippi ETV, who presented an update and background on Mississippi EdNet Institute, Inc., in response to questions raised by SBCJC members. EdNet is a consortium comprised of the Institutions of Higher Learning, State Board for Community and Junior Colleges, State Board of Education and Mississippi Educational Television whose purpose is to operate a statewide Instructional Television Fixed Service (ITFS). Mr. Miller distributed an outline and information packet for the presentation (Exhibit A).

Mr. Patrick McKinnis made a presentation on EdNet's financial considerations. EdNet income is primarily received from basic rental payments from the private partner Wireless One. Wireless One pays to EdNet monthly a \$.75 per commercial subscriber fee. For the month of November 1996, the gross payment to EdNet was \$17,010.75. As Wireless One completes the statewide system "build-out" and subscribers increase, payment amounts to EdNet should increase. Board member Joanna Heidel requested further clarification on the \$1.5 million funding commitment from Wireless One to cover infrastructure costs within the ITFS cells. Mr. McKinnis and Mr. Miller responded to her questions. If the infrastructure "build-out" of the statewide system exceeds the \$1.5 million ceiling, ETV will be responsible for the additional costs to provide interconnectivity between ITFS cells.

In response to a question posed by Mr. Alton Bankston, Mr. McKinnis explained that future revenue received from Wireless One might be spent on additional equipment needs and staffing for EdNet. If projections are correct, monies might be available on a grant basis for the development and production of educational programming for EdNet.

Mr. Martin Mangold, Mississippi ETV's Director of Technology gave the Board an overview of how the interconnectivity system of EdNet operates.

Mr. Walt Eilers spoke to Board members with regard to matters pertaining to EdNet's private partner, Wireless One. Mr. Eilers reported that eight of the cells are now operational and that the complete "build-out" of the ITFS will be completed in March of 1997. He also distributed a handout stating Wireless One's commitment to EdNet (Exhibit B).

At the conclusion of the EdNet presentation, Board member John Junkin asked for clarification on several points and requested a copy of the original contract between EdNet and TruVision and certain other information.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Dr. Olon Ray introduced two new staff members, Mrs. Ethel Ewing, and Ms. Shanta Elizenberry.

Dr. Ray reported on the Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Program (MPACT) activities. The first enrollment period will begin on February 1, 1997.

Dr. Ray gave a brief synopsis of the Mississippi Healthcare Conference. He thanked the presidents for their support and participation in the Conference.

Dr. Ray also reported on the SACS meeting held in Nashville, Tennessee. Dr. Ray participated in a session in which Mississippi's Workforce Education efforts were highlighted.

The CCN Taskforce is continuing work on better utilizing the compressed video network. Issues being discussed include program delivery, program origination, scheduling, and management of the system to achieve the maximum utilization of the system.

Dr. Ray distributed to Board members' employment data from the Mississippi Employment Security Commission (Exhibit C), a copy the recently completed SBCJC Fall 1996 enrollment audit figures (Exhibit D), a copy of a report dealing with minority enrollment figures requested by the Mississippi Legislature (Exhibit E), and a copy of the 1995-1996 SBCJC Annual Report (Exhibit F).

Executive Director's Out-of-Town Schedule:

December 18 and 19 - Gulf Coast for a meeting to examine ways to provide long term financing for technology for the State of Mississippi.

Dr. Ray suggested that in light of the Board's continuing concerns about the operation of EdNet, that the earlier endorsement of ETV's budget request for \$6.7 million in funding to purchase a new microwave delivery system be reviewed.

### **DIVISION DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Dr. Evelyn Webb reported on activities of the Accountability and Support Services Division as follows:

Four of the five Rural Health Corp program monitoring visits have been completed and went extremely well. The last program will be monitored in January. A meeting will be held on January 27, 1997, for sponsors and administrators of the program to share and discuss concerns.

The Skill/Tech Directory is currently being printed.

Planning for the next Quality Awards Program has begun.

The Accountability Taskforce met and has prepared a draft of the workforce measuring instrument consisting of twelve items to measure workforce effectiveness for presentation to the Legislature.

Deborah Gilbert reported on the activities of the Finance Division as follows:

A Funding and Formula Study Committee meeting was held November 22, 1996, with all members present.

Finance Division employees have been busy attending Public Employees' Retirement System seminars and meetings on the new health insurance pharmacy program that becomes effective January 1, 1997.

Deborah Gilbert and Debbie Mock accompanied Dr. Evelyn Webb on Rural Health Corp monitoring visits to East Central Community College, Itawamba Community College, and Northeast Mississippi Community College.

Mrs. Gilbert also attended a Regional Legislative Meeting, the MACJC meeting held at the University of Mississippi, and is currently preparing a questionnaire dealing with liability insurance coverages at the community colleges.

The SBCJC Orientation Manual was updated and presented at the new Board member orientation held yesterday for Joanna Heidel and Henry Hudspeth.

Reports are being received on health insurance reconciliations from the colleges.

Efforts are being made to comply with a mandate from the Mississippi Legislature to report information on state funding expended on contracts by the colleges and the SBCJC.

Bill Bunch reported on activities of the Program Division as follows:

Eloise Richardson conducted a workshop in Vicksburg for staff development for adult education teachers. Over 200 instructors and 22 directors of adult education attended. A workshop for Basic Skills Specialist from the Career Centers was also held. Mrs. Richardson also conducted a workshop at Whitfield for 28 adult education instructors. During this last month she also monitored several county school adult education programs and attended various committee meetings.

Ed Schneider has been working with the State Workforce Council, attending committee meetings with the Industrial Training Division of the State Department of Education and the Department of Human Services on the School-to-Work transition and block grants, and he is continuing his work with the Career Centers.

R. L. McClellan has certified 450 community and junior college basketball players. Meetings have been held with college athletic directors, basketball coaches and officials, and spring sports coaches to set dates for those activities. Mr. McClellan also attended the Golden Isle Bowl in Brunswick, Georgia.

William Box, Director of the GED Division, has been very busy, due to the fact that requirements to pass the GED test will increase on January 1, 1997.

Mr. Bunch attended seven Regional Legislative meetings and arranged two meetings for Chairman Walker with key Legislators and representatives of the Workforce Council in Tupelo and Jackson. Mr. Bunch reported that he also attended part of the recent Healthcare Conference.

Mr. Bunch reported that he had escorted representatives of the LBO on visits to two community colleges.

Mr. Bunch also reported on the recently completed Fall 1996 enrollment audit figures.

#### Finance Committee

On a motion by William Seal, and a second by Alton Bankston, the Board voted unanimously to approve the General Fund 2298 Disbursements for January 1997, in the total amount of \$15,612,618. (Exhibit G).

On a motion by William Seal, and a second by Perrin Purvis, the Board voted unanimously to approve the December 31, 1996, Education Enhancement Fund Disbursement from Funds 4080 and 4110 in the total amount of \$1,772,062.67 (Exhibit H).

On a motion by William Seal, and a second by Henry Hudspeth, the Board voted unanimously to approve the purchase of a Sharp XG-E 1100U Multimedia Table Top Video LCD Projector in the amount of \$5,969.

Mrs. Deborah Gilbert presented a review of the community and junior college funding formula and funding sources for the SBCJC (Exhibit I).

Also included with the Finance Committee agenda was a Bimonthly Capital Improvements Report (Exhibit J), a copy of the Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (Exhibit K), a copy of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee Recommendations for FY 1998 (Exhibit L), a report on the Allocation of the FY 1997 Appropriation using Fall 1996 Enrollment Figures (Exhibit M), and financial statements for funds 2291, 3291, and 4300 (Exhibit N).

#### Program Committee

On a motion by John Junkin, and a second by Henry Hudspeth, the Board voted unanimously to add certificate level approval to three Associate Degree level programs at East Central Community College as follows:

Drafting and Design Technology - 2.3/48.0101

Electronics Technology - 2.3/15.0303

Surgical Technology - 2.3/51.0909.

#### Workforce Education Report

Chairman Walker distributed a copy of an article from The Wall Street Journal on two-year colleges and workforce training (Exhibit O).

Mr. Walker urged that SBCJC members attend their local District Workforce Council meetings. He reported that on January 13, 1997, a trip will be made to a Resource Center in Alabama by staff members for further research and planning in the development of a SBCJC Resource Center.

Proprietary Schools Report

Dr. Evelyn Webb reported that the duties of the Commission on Proprietary Schools and College Registration are being carried out by a developing team from the Accountability and Support Services Division headed up by Mr. Danny Seal. Mr. Seal reported to the Board on the activities of the Commission meeting on August 15, 1996, (Exhibit P).

Health Care Conference Report

Ms. Hazel Terry reported on the recent Healthcare Conference speakers. Several of the sessions were video taped and will be made available for interested parties to review.

Funding and Formula Study Committee Report

Mr. John Junkin distributed a copy of a draft of the minutes of the first Funding and Formula Study Committee meeting held on November 22, 1996. Future meetings will be held on Friday following the third Thursday of each month. The next meeting is scheduled for January 17, 1997, and Mr. Junkin reported that the meetings will be open and any interested party is welcome to attend.

Recommendation on MS Humanities Council Request

Chairman Walker reported that the consensus of the Board was to hold the Mississippi Humanities Council request in abeyance, taking no action.

Travel Authorizations

Chairman Walker asked for requests to authorize travel reimbursements for events other than regularly scheduled Board meetings. On a motion by Perrin Purvis, seconded by Henry Hudspeth, the Board voted unanimously to approve requests for reimbursement of travel expenses to the following:

Hazel Terry, Perrin Purvis, and George Walker for their attendance at the Health Care Conference on December 3, 1996.

Joanna Heidel and Henry Hudspeth for their attendance at the SBCJC Orientation on December 11, 1996.

George Walker and Patricia Puckett for their attendance at a Northwest Mississippi Community College District Workforce Council meeting on December 10, 1996.

George Walker for his attendance at a State Workforce Council meeting on December 11, 1996.

Yvonne Brown for her attendance at regional legislative meetings at Coahoma Community College on November 19, 1996, and Holmes Community College on November 21, 1996.

William Seal for his attendance at a regional legislative meeting at Jones County Junior College on December 2, 1996.

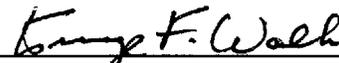
John Junkin, William Seal, Alton Bankston, and George Walker for their attendance at the Funding and Formula Study Committee meeting on November 22, 1996.

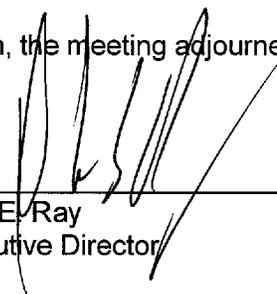
**OTHER BUSINESS**

In other business, Mr. Bill Bunch reported that the Ornamental Horticulture Program at Jones County Junior College had delivered poinsettias for the SBCJC members. Chairman Walker directed Mr. Bunch to draft a letter of thanks on behalf of the Board.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by William Seal, and a second by John Junkin, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

  
George Walker, Chairman

  
Oton E. Ray  
Executive Director