

MINUTES  
STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES  
AUGUST 20, 1999

The regular meeting of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges was held on Friday, August 20, 1999, at 9:00 a.m. in room 507 of the Education and Research Center in Jackson, Mississippi.

**Members present:** Yvonne Brown, Joanna Heidel, Henry Hudspeth, John Junkin, Patricia Puckett, William Seal, Hazel Terry, and George Walker.

**Members absent:** Billy Hewes and Sara Fox.

**Staff in attendance:** Dr. Olon Ray, Executive Director, Dr. Randall Bradberry, Becky Cade, Dr. Larry Day, Ethel Ewing, Deborah Gilbert, Candi Jenkins, Sandra Lucas, Danny Seal, Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, and Dr. Evelyn Webb.

**Guests in attendance:** Terry Cassreino, The Sun Herald, Biloxi, Mississippi.

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**PRELIMINARIES**

The invocation was given by Joanna Heidel.

**Approval of Minutes of July 16, 1999, Board Meeting**

On a motion by Henry Hudspeth and a second by William Seal, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the July 16, 1999, meeting.

**Review of Agenda**

Mr. Walker suggested that the EdNet Report and the Oregon/Washington Trip on Distance Learning Report be moved to the top of the agenda. On a motion by Joanna Heidel, and a second by Patricia Puckett, the Board voted unanimously to approve the amended agenda.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Dr. Olon Ray introduced new SBCJC Accountability and Support Services Division staff member Candi Jenkins.

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Dr. Ray gave an update on the SBCJC Funding and Formula Study Sub-Committee's meeting held on August 17, 1999. A set of recommendations will be presented to the entire Funding and Formula Study Committee for discussion and possible action. The recommendations, if approved, could be presented to the Mississippi Legislature for action during the upcoming Legislative Session. Dr. Ray stated his belief that there is growing sentiment on the part of the presidents to review the current funding formula and to better match the mission of Mississippi's community and junior colleges with funding provisions.

Dr. Ray stated that language was added to the SBCJC appropriations bill that enables the Board to provide funding for programs that do not fit the typical fall semester enrollment package. The existing language states that the SBCJC may reimburse funding for students enrolled and in attendance at the end of the first six weeks of the fall semester. The new language adds "or it's equivalent" to the end of that phrase. The new procedure will be put into place during the fall 1999 enrollment audits.

Dr. Ray also updated the Board on the activities of the Mississippi.Future.Net Workgroup. The Workgroup is nearing the completion of a set of recommendations addressing Mississippi's future technology needs. Dr. Ray stated that the recommendations would be presented to the Board for their approval and support a future meeting.

Dr. Ray gave an update on the transition of Industrial Services and Workforce Consolidation. Since the beginning of the fiscal year the SBCJC office has received and is processing 356 workforce projects. Also, under the direction of Mrs. Nancy Alley, the SBCJC will begin to provide professional development activities for community and junior college Career Center staff members around the State. Dr. Ray distributed a copy of a brochure, Mississippi's Workforce Education Program (Exhibit A), and a copy of a Mississippi Economic Council newsletter, Working to Build a Better Workforce! (Exhibit B) for the Boards' information.

Dr. Ray stated that SBCJC staff members are working to develop a way in which non-credit students may be uniformly counted. Three colleges have responded to an RFP to assist in developing a statewide model for counting non-credit enrollment.

Dr. Wayne Stonecypher discussed with the Board, a Mississippi Department of Human Services' proposal to provide scholarships for community and junior college students enrolled in Child Care Technology Programs.

Dr. Ray reported that the Mississippi Quality Awards Program for 2000 is underway. Four training sessions have been completed involving 50 examiners that will serve as site evaluators of business, industries, and organizations.

Dr. Ray also reported on the Annual Mississippi Association of Adult and Community Education Conference, held on June 23 and 24, 1999, in Robinsonville, Mississippi.

Dr. Ray distributed a copy of an Action Alert for all ITFS (Instructional TV) Licensees (Exhibit C) issued by the National ITFS Association.

## REPORTS/ACTION

### EdNet Report

Yvonne Brown distributed a copy of a memorandum updating the Board on EdNet matters (Exhibit D). The next EdNet Board meeting is scheduled for August 23, 1999. Mrs. Brown highlighted key points detailed in the memorandum and urged Board members to read and review the information carefully for further discussion at the next Board meeting.

Dr. Olon Ray stated that he felt that Wireless One's emphasis had shifted from the original purpose of video programming to data transfer. The current EdNet contract, which will expire in 2002, only covers the video component of the ITFS lines, and does not cover data transfer.

John Junkin made a motion, seconded by Yvonne Brown, that following the EdNet Board meeting on August 23, all the pertinent information with regard to the Wireless One contract be forwarded to Assistant Attorney General Frankie White to determine what the SBCJC's obligations, liabilities, and options are with regard to any further action. Dr. Olon Ray also proposed, as part of the motion, that the SBCJC invite IHL and the State Department of Education to participate in the review. Motion passed unanimously.

### Oregon/Washington Trip on Distance Learning

Yvonne Brown thanked the Board for allowing her to participate in the visit to Oregon and Washington to examine distance learning programs. She stated that she was encouraged by the way the consortiums are meeting the needs of the students in those areas.

Dr. Ray offered several observations that reinforced Mrs. Brown's comments. Dr. Ray compared the systems of both Washington and Oregon for the Board. Dr. Ray stated that the study group developed several recommendations which will be made to the MACJC in setting up Mississippi's Virtual Community College. One major issue involved is a common software platform to be used for course development. In the near future a request for proposal will be issued for faculty members around the state to develop courses to be offered beginning January 2000. Dr. Ray stated that an initial goal of the system will be to offer an Associate Degree on-line.

### Finance Report

Upon a motion by William Seal, and a second by John Junkin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the September, 1999, General Fund Disbursements from Fund 2298 in the amount of \$7,114,381 (Exhibit E).

Upon a motion by Henry Hudspeth, and a second by William Seal, the Board voted unanimously to approve the August 31, 1999, Education Enhancement Fund Disbursement from Fund 4080 and Fund 4110 in the total amount of \$2,376,948 (Exhibit F).

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Deborah Gilbert presented Financial Statements for Funds 2291, 3291, and 4300 for the Board's review, no action was required (Exhibit G).

Mrs. Gilbert stated that copies of the fifteen community and junior colleges' FY 2001 (MBR) Budget requests, as well as, the composite request and the SBCJC Request are available to each Board member upon request.

#### Program Committee

Upon a motion by Joanna Heidel, and a second by John Junkin, the Board voted unanimously to approve a request from Meridian Community College to add an option in Medical Office Technology to their Business and Office Technology Program.

#### Workforce Education

Mr. Walker updated the Board on the activities of the State Workforce Development Council (SWDC). Mr. Walker announced the winners of the SWDC's Best Practices Awards, Holnam Inc., and East Mississippi Community College. Dr. Ray also announced the retirement of SBCJC staff member, Ed Schneider, effective November 1, 1999.

Mr. Walker gave an update on the School-to-Careers Program. Grants have been awarded to, among others, Coahoma Community College, and Jones County Junior College.

Mr. Walker announced that Mr. Joe Jones, Editor of The Mississippi Business Journal, has made the commitment to feature all fifteen community and junior colleges and their workforce training programs on the front page of his publication. Mr. Jones was recently appointed to the Hinds Community College District Workforce Council.

Mr. Walker briefly mentioned the upcoming Joint Legislative Budget Office Hearings that will be held on September 23, 1999. The SBCJC administrative and community college support budget hearing is set for 2:00 p.m. with the SWDC hearing following at 3:15 p.m. Mr. Walker stated that the SWDC has agreed to continue their concentration in the areas of advanced skills training centers, consolidation of all vocational/technical education under the SBCJC, and requesting additional support for the fifteen workforce development centers in the amount of \$1,710,000. Mr. Walker urged all Board members to attend the budget hearings.

Mr. Walker discussed with the Board changes in the local workforce areas proposed at the last meeting of the Workforce Investment Board.

Mr. Walker announced that Delta State University and Coahoma Community College will partner together to establish an education center in Clarksdale.

#### Report on the Employment of an Attorney

Dr. Olon Ray reported on the status of the employment of legal counsel to analyze the Official Attorney General's Opinion issued on November 12, 1998. The Attorney General has authorized the SBCJC to seek an attorney. Dr. Ray stated that the recommendation of a name

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has been submitted to the Attorney General's Office for approval. If approval is received, an official announcement will be made.

Proprietary Schools and College Registration

Danny Seal discussed the actions taken by the Commission on Proprietary Schools and College Registration during the August 12, 1999, meeting (Exhibit H).

ACCT Membership Renewal

Upon a motion by William Seal, and a second by Henry Hudspeth, the Board voted to renew the membership in the Association of Community College Trustees, and to encourage attendance and participation in the Association. Motion Passed. (Voting Yes - Brown, Puckett, Hudspeth, Seal, Terry, and Walker. Voting No - Junkin. Heidel - abstained.)

Budget Hearings

Dr. Olon Ray announced that the SBCJC's and SWDC's Joint Legislative Budget Hearings have been scheduled for September 23, 1999, at 2:00 p.m. and 3:15 p.m., respectively.

Possible Change in Board Meeting Date for September

After a discussion, the Board agreed to hold the September meeting on the regularly scheduled date of September 17, 1999.

Appointment to the State and School Employee Health Insurance Advisory Council

Upon staff recommendation, a motion by Henry Hudspeth, and a second by John Junkin, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Dale Lewis of Holmes Community College to represent the Board on the State and School Employees Health Insurance Advisory Council.

Travel Authorizations

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

George Walker for attending the State Workforce Development Council meeting on August 17, 1999.

Yvonne Brown for attending the Oregon/Washington Virtual Community College trip.

Hazel Terry, Henry Hudspeth, John Junkin, George Walker, and William Seal for attending the Combase Conference sponsored by Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College on September 26 - 28, 1999.

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Policies and Procedures

On a motion by John Junkin, and a second by William Seal, the Board voted unanimously to approve the SBCJC Workforce Policies and Procedures.

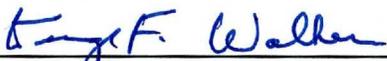
On a motion by Patricia Puckett, and a second by John Junkin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the submission of the SBCJC Policies and Procedures Manual to the Secretary of State's Office to begin the Administrative Procedures process.

Other Business

Dr. Ray announced that he had been invited to travel to Washington D. C., to make a report to the National Head Start Organization. Dr. Ray also stated that he planned to be out of the office on personal leave October 18 - 30, 1999.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by William Seal and a second by Henry Hudspeth, the meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

  
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George Walker, Chairman

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Olon E. Ray  
Executive Director