

MINUTES  
STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES  
FEBRUARY 18, 2000

The regular meeting of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges was held on Friday, February 18, 2000, at 9:00 a.m., in room 507 of the Education and Research Center in Jackson, Mississippi.

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

**Staff in attendance:** Dr. Olon Ray, Executive Director, Nancy Alley, Dr. Randall Bradberry, Becky Cade, Dr. Larry L. Day, Deborah Gilbert, Sandra Lucas, and Dr. Evelyn Webb.

**Guest in attendance:** Alice Cobb, EdNet; Jeffrey Moore, State Department of Education; and James Robertson, Wise, Carter, Child and Caraway.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman George Walker at 9:05 a.m.

**PRELIMINARIES**

The invocation was given by Brenda Collins.

**Approval of Minutes of January 21, 2000, Board Meeting**

On a motion by William Seal and a second by Henry Hudspeth, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2000, Board meeting.

**Review of Agenda**

On a motion by Henry Hudspeth, and a second by Patricia Puckett, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

On a motion by Henry Hudspeth, and a second by Yvonne Brown, the Board voted unanimously to consider going into executive session.

Chairman Walker asked that Dr. Olon Ray, James Robertson, and Sandra Lucas remain for the executive session. The Board room was cleared.

On a motion by Henry Hudspeth and a second by Yvonne Brown, the Board voted unanimously to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation in the matter of the Attorney General's opinion due to the fact that discussion in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the litigation position of this Board.

Chairman Walker then invited the public to return to the Board room and announced the purpose of the executive session. The room was cleared and the Board began the executive session at 9 :10 a.m.

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Dr. Evelyn Webb distributed a copy of the 1998-1999 SBCJC Annual Report (Exhibit D).

Dr. Ray announced that Dr. Ned Lovell had contacted him to report that IHL had approved the Mississippi State University's community college Masters and Doctoral Degree programs.

#### EdNet Report

Yvonne Brown distributed a packet of information regarding EdNet activities, including a half year FY 2000 budget comparison, and a balance sheet as of February 3, 2000 (Exhibit E). Mrs. Brown discussed highlights of the report with the Board. EdNet revenues are low, and there is a possibility that only enough operating funds will be available for approximately only one year into the future. Also, there will be a meeting of the National ITFS Association (NIA) in the near future where the future of ITFS will be discussed at length. The NIA is seeking to defeat expansion of international cell phone activities on frequencies used for education purposes in the United States, and Ed Net will support the NIA's position.

During a February 7, 2000, meeting, Michael Gallagher reported that ETV Executive Director, Larry Miller, is sending a letter to Wireless One requesting a lump-sum disbursement of the \$220,000 in classroom construction funds. EdNet will relieve Wireless One of the responsibility for classroom construction and assume responsibility for disbursing the funds to Local Origination Sites (LOS) based on need.

During the last meeting Larry Miller was asked to create a working group to organize and address concerns and issues related to the present and future operations of EdNet. Alice Cobb, EdNet Administrative Assistant, discussed with the Board budget items shown on the EdNet FY 2000 Budget Comparison.

Dr. Evelyn Webb reported on a meeting via the CCN with community colleges and universities that have been designated LOS sites for EdNet. Northeast Mississippi Community College, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, and Hinds Community College agreed to write letters reaffirming their interest in being a LOS site. Also Meridian Community College is working with EdNet with regard to becoming an LOS site. Dr. Webb also reported that Hinds Community College and Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College are now airing courses on the EdNet system.

Dr. Ray stated that upon the Board's request, Dr. Webb has written a letter requesting that the SBCJC be included in any negotiations involving EdNet. John Junkin requested that a copy of the entire EdNet FY 2000 budget be provided to the Board.

#### **REPORTS/ACTION**

##### MACJC Report

Dr. Ted Alexander reported on the following items discussed at the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges annual athletic recommendations meeting on January 24, 2000:

Dr. Alexander reported on a meeting of a committee appointed to evaluate and develop recommendations on areas of concern regarding MACJC athletics. The committee is examining four areas: (1) equity in competition (football), (2) possible cost reductions for

athletic program activity, (3) allowing more Mississippi students to participate by concentrating on them instead of recruitment of out-of-state students, and (4) attempting to find a system of ownership for MACJC athletic programs.

Dr. Randall Bradberry presented rule change recommendations on behalf of the MACJC Athletic Directors' Association for consideration and action. The Association voted to allow each college to keep a specified number of non-scholarship home district athletes [football (10);basketball (5); baseball (5); soccer (5); softball (5)] above the squad limit in each sport to practice during their freshmen year and not have that participation count against their eligibility.

The Association voted to change Article III. Section 2 c. to permit athletes who are not high school graduates and have not passed the GED to gain initial eligibility by enrolling for a Fall or Spring term (no summer school terms qualify) and passing 12 hours with a GPA of 1.75. This policy will apply "only" to in-district students whose high school class has graduated.

With regard to football, the Association voted to allow each college ten (10) out-of-state players to participate in spring practice. This number includes returning scholarship freshmen, new signees replacing mid-year transfers and walk-on players equal to the number of scholarship out-of-state sophomores returning for the spring semester. These walk-on players may receive only Federal PELL and SEOG monies, student loans and federal work-study. Article V. Section 1 and Article VIII. Section 1 b, c. (1) and c. (2), mandating the number of out-of-state players receiving athletic aid per semester, would still apply.

With regard to basketball, the Association voted to allow each college to substitute district players in certification for second semester. This would allow teams to maintain a squad limit of fifteen (15) players for the second semester of the season. A player may be certified to replace another player lost to the team through institutional disciplinary action, becoming academically ineligible, or for certain medical reasons as approved by the Commissioner. The Association also voted to set up a 19 game schedule within MACJC schools. In addition to playing twelve division games, each college would play all seven (7) non-division opponents on a year to year home and home basis. The Association voted to change the number of officials used for MACJC basketball games from three (3) to two (2) per game, effective with the Fall 2000 season.

With regard to softball, The Association voted to approve sanctioning fast-pitch softball beginning in the spring semester of 2001; that softball be considered a major sport and follow guidelines comparable to baseball.

Dr. Scott Elliott, President of Meridian Community College, voiced his interest in Meridian re-affiliating with the MACJC Athletic Conference. Dr. Elliott is working with Dr. Bradberry and other individuals to research the possibility and options available to accomplish the process.

Dr. Alexander reported on the following items discussed during the January 25, 2000, MACJC regular meeting:

Dr. Howell Garner made a motion, seconded by Dr. Tommy Davis, that the MACJC Chairman appoint a committee to develop a statewide substantive change request to SACS and to prepare a letter requesting a SACS visit to approve distance learning programs statewide. Motion passed unanimously.

The Association discussed the Veterans' Administration Initiative on the employment of ADN nurses. The Veterans' Administration is requiring that nurses hired at VA hospitals have a Bachelors Degree by 2005 which greatly impacts Associate Degree Nursing.

Dr. Muse led the Association in a discussion of the priorities and budget increases requested in the MACJC legislative platform and strategies to utilize in accomplishing the goals of the platform. The MACJC re-emphasized that salary increases for faculty members is still the number one priority. The Association discussed the impact of the proposed Joint Legislative Budget cuts.

The MACJC discussed possible workforce consolidation legislation.

Dr. Olon Ray reported on the Mississippi Virtual Community College (MSVCC).

Dr. Ray updated the MACJC on a meeting called by Representative Charles Young, to try and bring the issues involved in the law suit to an amicable conclusion.

Dr. Randall Bradberry distributed copies of the MACJC Financial Report for the period ending January 18, 2000.

The Board asked for clarification on the MACJC 12 hour rule. Dr. Randall Bradberry offered further information regarding the MACJC Athletic Directors Association 's request for reinstating the 12 hour rule. Mr. Junkin requested that the Board be provided with a copy of the minutes of the MACJC Athletic Recommendations meeting of January 24, 2000. Mr. Hudspeth requested that Dr. Bradberry provide some background information on the number of athletes that had previously participated under the 12 hour rule.

#### Finance Report

Upon a motion by Sara Fox, and a second by Henry Hudspeth, the Board voted unanimously to approve the February 29, 2000, Education Enhancement Fund Disbursement from Fund 4080 and Fund 4110, in the total amount of \$2,376,948 (Exhibit F).

Upon a motion by Sara Fox, and a second by Hazel Terry, the Board voted unanimously to accept the lowest and best bid for the purchase of six mobile classroom/labs from Modular Technologies, Inc., in the amount of \$94,806.00 (Exhibit G).

Mrs. Fox presented the FY 2000 Appropriation with Fall 1999 Enrollment Report (Exhibit H) and the FY 2001 Legislative Budget Recommendations with Fall 1999 Enrollment Report (Exhibit I), and financial statements for Funds 2291, 3291, and 4300 (Exhibit J) for the Board's information. No action was required.

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Deborah Gilbert gave an update on the travel reimbursement forms.

Program Committee

Joanna Heidel presented an SBCJC Policy and Procedure change with regard to all equipment transferred from the Mississippi Department of Education Industrial Training Program to the SBCJC (Exhibit K). Mrs. Heidel made a motion seconded by John Junkin, that the SBCJC approve the policy and procedure change regarding the transfer of equipment from the Mississippi Department of Education's Industrial Training Program to the SBCJC. Motion passed unanimously.

Workforce Education

The Board viewed an eight minute videotape of a CCN meeting held on January 26, 2000, that includes individuals from all of the fifteen District Workforce Councils. Mr. Walker stated that the tape, highlighting comments from employers across the state, was presented to members of the Legislature in light of proposed budget cuts in workforce education funds. Mr. Walker stated that the State Workforce Development Council (SWDC) is continuing to support workforce consolidation efforts and the SBCJC funding and formula revision.

Mr. Walker announced that Mr. J. C. Burns, Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Economic and Community Development and Co-Chair of the SWDC, attended and was introduced at the February meeting.

Mr. Walker stated that a follow-up meeting to the January meeting, with District Workforce Council members via the Community College Network, is scheduled for Tuesday, January 22, 2000. He urged SBCJC members to attend the meeting at their local community college. Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Deborah Gilbert, and Dr. Clyde Muse will give legislative updates during the meeting and a discussion on Senate Bill 2668 and House Bill 980 related to the establishment of a Department of Labor Management relations, will be discussed.

MS Virtual Community College Report (MSVCC)

Ron Marcy, SBCJC Director of Distance Learning, presented a report on the MSVCC Spring semester (Exhibit L). The report detailed the colleges participating, courses offered, and enrollment figures at the end of the enrollment period for the Spring semester. Mr. Marcy gave an overview of issues that are being worked out during this start-up semester and reported that all the colleges are working to develop solutions for the myriad of challenges presented by the new medium.

State Adult Basic Education Plan

Eloise Richardson presented the Mississippi State Plan for Adult Education and Family Literacy at the Thursday evening meeting. A copy of the plan is attached (Exhibit M).

Mrs. Richardson distributed copies of newspaper articles highlighting Mrs. Lorene Graham, who received her GED diploma at age 75. Mrs. Graham then entered East Central Community

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College and received her degree at age 77. Mrs. Graham now aids other individuals preparing to take the GED to reach their goal.

Mrs. Richardson reported on a national teleconference where Mississippi's Virtual GED Preparation Class that will soon be offered over the MSVCC was highlighted. Ron Marcy, SBCJC Director of Distance Learning, participated in the teleconference. Also, a representative from National Public Radio, was in Mississippi preparing a segment on Literacy in Mississippi that will air at a later date. A tape of the segment will be made available to the SBCJC office.

#### Proprietary Schools

Eloise Richardson reported on the actions taken by the Commission on Proprietary School and College Registration at the February 17, 2000, meeting (Exhibit N). The next Commission meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2000.

#### 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 Henry Hudspeth, the Board voted unanimously to approve requests for reimbursement of travel expenses for the following:

Patricia Puckett for attending a District Workforce Development Council meeting, via the CCN, on January 26, 2000.

Hazel Terry for attending a State Workforce Development Council meeting on February 9, 2000.

Yvonne Brown for attending a meeting at Copiah-Lincoln Community College on February 3, 2000.

George Walker for attending the State Workforce Development Council Meeting on February 9, District Workforce Development Council meetings via the CCN on January 26, and February 22, and a SACS accreditation dinner at Coahoma on February 26, 2000.

Sara Fox for attending a SACS accreditation dinner at Northeast Mississippi Community College on February 7, 2000.

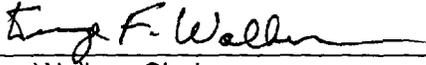
Brenda Collins, John Junkin, George Walker, Hazel Terry, and William Seal for attending the MACJC Legislative Appreciation Luncheon in Jackson, on February 3, 2000.

On a motion by William Seal, and a second by Brenda Collins, the Board voted unanimously to hold the March 17, 2000 meeting at the Beau Rivage Hotel in Biloxi, Mississippi, in connection with the Mississippi Quality Awards Ceremonies.

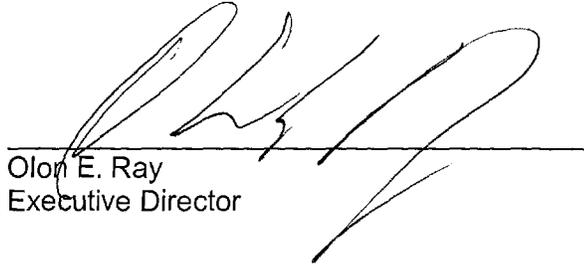
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**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Joanna Heidel, and a second by Henry Hudspeth, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 a.m.



George Walker, Chairman



Olan E. Ray  
Executive Director