

**EVENING MEETING  
BOARD WORK SESSION  
APRIL 19, 2000  
MINUTES**

The State Board for Community and Junior Colleges (SBCJC) met for dinner at 6:00 p.m. in The Edison Walthall Hotel, 225 East Capitol Street, Jackson, Mississippi, on April 19, 2000. Following dinner, those present moved to Ballroom II on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor in the Hotel.

Mr. George Walker, SBCJC Chair, officially called the meeting to order at 7:58 p.m. The following members were present: Yvonne Brown, Brenda Collins, Joanna Heidel, Henry "Bubba" Hudspeth, John Junkin, Patricia Puckett, William Seal, Hazel Terry and George Walker. Sara Fox was absent. State Board for Community and Junior Colleges (SBCJC) staff present included Randall Bradberry, Becky Cade, Deborah Gilbert, Olon E. Ray, and Wayne Stonecypher.

Since Sara Fox was not present and since the Board meeting was started late due to the length of time it took to order and get dinner, Mr. Walker called on Ms. Joanna Heidel to go over any Program agenda items. Ms. Heidel reported that Dr. Stonecypher would provide copies of a sheet with recommendations for action on various vocational-technical programs during the meeting on 4/20/00.

Mr. Walker then called on Dr. Bradberry to provide a report on Spring athletics. Dr. Bradberry mentioned the following:

- 1) The state baseball tournament will be held on May 5-7, 2000, at the site of the Northern Division winner.
- 2) Division I and II regionals will be held on May 11-14, 2000.
- 3) The state softball tournament will be played on April 28-29, 2000, at New Albany.
- 4) Men's tennis finals will be held on April 28-30, 2000, at Ellisville, Ms.
- 5) Itawamba Community College women won the state tennis championship this past weekend on April 14-16, 2000, at Tupelo, Ms.
- 6) State and regional track finals will be held at Meridian on April 27, 2000.
- 7) Hinds won the state golf championships, April 19, 2000, in Tupelo.

At the conclusion of Dr. Bradberry's report, Mr. Walker called on Dr. Ray for the Executive Director's report. Dr. Ray brought the Board up to date on the lawsuit as follows:

- 1) He reminded members of the upcoming Preliminary Injunction Hearing to be held in Chancery Court beginning at 9:00 a.m. on 4/25/00.
- 2) He explained that Dr. Ed Hartsell, former President of Pensacola Community College in Pensacola, Florida, would be in Jackson for the hearing to describe how university encroachment destroyed programs and diminished funds in Florida.

- 3) He reminded members that the week of October 30, 2000, has been set by Judge Singletary to hear the lawsuit.
- 4) An MACJC and SBCJC committee met on 4/12/00 to discuss continued funding options for the lawsuit. Ms. Heidel, Mr. Hudspeth and Mr. Walker participated as members of that committee representing the SBCJC. There was a unanimous motion passed by the committee to recommend to the MACJC at their April meeting that the colleges participate in raising up to \$80,000 in non-public funds by 2/1/01 for the purpose of contributing to the lawsuit.
- 5) Dr. Ray mentioned that he had formally requested an opinion from the Ethics Commission on the use of non-designated, private foundation funds towards the lawsuit.

In other matters, Dr. Ray discussed the continuing trouble the colleges are experiencing at the legislature with the appropriation request. Language recently inserted into a bond bill prohibited any entity suing another state agency from receiving benefits.

He also shared a copy of a letter signed by the Harrison County Board of Supervisors and six of the trustees from the MS Gulf Coast Community College Board requesting that we discontinue the lawsuit. Dr. Ray provided members with a draft copy of a response letter for their review, revision requests and approval.

Finally, Dr. Ray shared that he would be out of the office for a couple of days beginning May 11, 2000, for knee surgery.

In discussion, members asked that they be notified immediately of the outcome on the 4/25/00 hearing. Further, they suggested that a written statement be ready for release as soon as possible after the hearing.

In other matters, Mr. Walker asked if it might be helpful to develop a chronology of workforce training funding per college that would reflect what the proposed cuts in workforce training would do to the colleges.

He also provided a brief overview of the Governor's visit to April meeting of the State Workforce Development Council. In that overview, he mentioned that the Governor intends to have his 2002 budget completed by August 15, 2000.

There being no further business, Mr. Billy Seal made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Joanna Heidel, that we adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.