

**EVENING MEETING
BOARD WORK SESSION
MAY 18, 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 May 18, 2000. Following dinner, those present moved to Ballroom II on the 2nd floor in the Hotel.

Mr. George Walker, SBCJC Chair, officially called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m. The following members were present: Brenda Collins, Sara Fox, Joanna Heidel, Henry "Bubba" Hudspeth, John Junkin, Patricia Puckett, William Seal, Hazel Terry and George Walker. Yvonne Brown was absent. State Board for Community and Junior Colleges (SBCJC) staff present included Becky Cade, Deborah Gilbert, Olon E. Ray, Wayne Stonecypther, Evelyn Webb and Frankie Walton White.

Mr. Walker called on Ms. Sara Fox to lead the discussion as a committee of the whole on the finance agenda items as follows:

1. The disbursement of Education Enhancement Funds 4080 and 4110 for a total of \$2,376,948 for May 31, 2000, and \$2,376,948 for June 30, 2000;
2. A report on FY 2001 appropriations, both support and administration, and bond fund;
3. A recommendation pertaining to the FTE Funding Formula conversion;
4. The expenditure of up to \$16,416 on workforce resource library materials;
5. FY 2000 Z-1 Budget update for deficit and additional appropriation in S.B. 2571;
6. Approval of the FY 2001 Disbursement Schedule and related Z-1;
7. Proposed guidelines for the Disbursement of Education Technology funds for FY 2001;
8. Proposed guidelines for the Administration of Associate Degree Nursing Support for FY 2001;
9. Approval of the FY 2001 Administrative Budget and related Z-1;
10. FY 2002 Budget Requests for Support and Administration; and
11. Financial Statements for Funds 2291, 3291 and 4300 as of April 30, 2000.

In discussion Mr. Walker asked to be kept posted on progress made on the Workforce budget request for FY 2002. Also Mr. Junkin stated that we consider pre-emptive strikes relating to the newly proposed Labor Department and the possible loss of workforce funding.

There being no other business under the finance agenda, Mr. Walker called on Ms. Joanna Heidel, to lead discussion pertaining to program agenda items as follows:

1. A request from Mississippi State University to offer three lower division courses at Meridian;
2. A request from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College to add Court Reporting Technology as an option under their existing program of Business and Office and Related Technology;
3. Approval of thirteen vocation-technical programs;
4. A report on an anticipated increase of \$190,000 to a NASA Remote Sensing Grant, which will allow for the expansion of beta testing sites from three to five colleges; and
5. The Board's reappointment of Dr. Starkey Morgan to represent them on the Mississippi Higher Education Assistance Corporation Board.

Mr. Walker then called on Dr. Ray for general comments. Dr. Ray provided copies of recent editorials and other newspaper clippings related to community colleges. He also provided a brief report of the annual meeting of the Mississippi Community College Public Foundation, Inc., on which five SBCJC members participate as a result of being SBCJC members. In reference to the lawsuit against the Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL) and the University of Southern Mississippi (USM), Dr. Ray provided an overview of the hearing held in Chancery Court on 4/25/00 and of Judge Singletary's subsequent ruling, as well as the possibility of an Interlocutory Appeal by the IHL to the Supreme Court. A current status of the private funding and bills associated with the lawsuit were also discussed.

Next Dr. Ray reported his plans to hire an additional person in the technology area to assist staff in the development and implementation of online reporting. This decision is being made in lieu of contracting services.

Dr. Ray informed the Board of his intention to participate as a member of the Mississippi Community College Foundation. He explained to the Board that he had been invited as an equal player in this Foundation's attempt to get all fifteen presidents and the SBCJC to participate in this Foundation. He further explained their efforts to revamp and improve the problems that had arisen years earlier. There were no negative comments.

Dr. Ray also mentioned to members some opportunities that he and several representatives from the college presidents are working on to expand and enhance educational options for Mississippi citizens. The options most likely will include both virtual and on campus offerings and will cover a range of academic and workforce training courses. One specific area being researched as joint effort is LEAN Manufacturing.

Next Dr. Ray distributed a handout on upcoming budget projections.

At the conclusion of his report, Dr. Ray thanked members for their thoughts, gifts and cards during his recent recuperation from knee surgery.

In other matters, Mr. Walker discussed an invitation from the Clarion Ledger to do a guest editorial on Workforce Training that will be published in their Sunday, 5/21/00, edition. He also mentioned that Dr. Ray and he have been asked to participate in a program to be aired over Educational Television (ETV), Thursday, 25, 2000, at 7:30 p.m. The issue to be discussed is the expansion of the USM-Gulf Park campus and the pending lawsuit. Joining them will be spokesmen from the IHL and USM.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.