

**MINUTES**  
**STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES**  
**February 17, 2006**

The regular meeting of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges was held on Friday, February 17, 2006, at 9:00 a.m., in Room 507 of the Education and Research Center in Jackson, Mississippi.

**Members present:** Mrs. Patricia (Pat) Dickens, Mr. Napoleon Moore, Dr. Dorothy Nelson, Mr. George Walker, Mr. Lawrence Warren, Mrs. Brenda Yonge and Ms. Veldore Young.

**Members not present:** Major General Denver Brackeen, Mr. Chip Crane and Mr. Jimmy Murphy.

**Staff in attendance:** Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Mr. John Adcock, Dr. Randall Bradberry, Dr. Larry Day, Mrs. Deborah Gilbert, Dr. Jason Pugh and Mrs. Denise Walley.

**Guests in attendance:** Dr. Johnny Allen – Northeast Mississippi Community College; Dr. Bill Smith – Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL); Mr. Chuck Rubisoff – Attorney General's Office; Mr. Tom Hood – Mississippi Ethics Commission, Ms. Bobbie Gilkey – Mississippi Department of Education; Mr. Martin Mangold – EdNet; and Dr. Vivian Presley – Coahoma Community College.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. George Walker called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

**PRELIMINARIES**

Mr. Napoleon Moore gave the invocation.

**Approval of the Minutes of the January 20, 2006, Meeting**

Upon a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2006, meeting.

**Review and Approval of Agenda**

Upon a motion by Mrs. Brenda Yonge and a second by Mr. Napoleon Moore, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the agenda as presented.

**REPORTS/ACTION**

**Swearing In of Mrs. Patricia (Pat) Dickens**

Mrs. Sandra Lucas, SBCJC staff member, conducted the swearing in ceremony of newly appointed Board Member, Mrs. Patricia (Pat) Dickens of Natchez, Mississippi. A copy of the Oath of Office for Mrs. Dickens is shown as "Exhibit E".

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### **Executive Director's Report**

Dr. Stonecypher began by stating that General Denver Brackeen is in the hospital at Meridian. Flowers will be sent on behalf of the Board and staff.

Dr. Stonecypher stated that there would be another step in confirming Mrs. Dickens as a member of the SBCJC, which will be conducted by the Senate. At this time, there has not been a date set, but the Board Office will keep Mrs. Dickens updated.

Dr. Stonecypher recognized Mrs. Terica McKennis, SBCJC staff member, who recently earned a BS in E-Business. The Board and staff congratulated Mrs. McKennis on her accomplishment.

Dr. Stonecypher presented a copy of a questionnaire that will be used to help plan the upcoming Board retreat in April 2006. A copy of the questionnaire is attached as "Exhibit F". The Board was asked to complete the form and return it to the staff to assist with planning the retreat.

A copy of a recent article published in the *Community College Times*, entitled Mississippi Junior Colleges Outpaces Universities, which is shown as "Exhibit D". The article states that in recent years enrollment at the community colleges in Mississippi have grown more than twice as fast as that of the universities.

The photographer that took the Board's portrait in December was not satisfied with the results and has requested a retake. There being no objections, plans will be made for the portrait to be retaken at the March meeting.

Due to conflicting language in the workforce legislation, an amendment will be filed to clarify legislative intent during this session. Hopefully, this will clear up any misunderstanding of the authority of the SWIB vs. the SBCJC.

Dr. Stonecypher related that he received a telephone call from Education Committee Chair of the Chamber of Commerce in Waveland, Mississippi. The Board had previously approved a permanent site location in Waveland, which was completely destroyed during Hurricane Katrina. The classes have resumed in mobile units at the airport, but Waveland is interested in getting the location back to full capacity. Pearl River will be seeking assistance through federal funds and legislation to help with the \$3,000 a month rent, for an expected 2 year period. Plans are currently being made to build a new high school in Waveland, which will include a building for post-secondary education that can assist with dual enrollment opportunities.

### **MACJC Report**

Dr. Vivian Presley stated that the Association met on January 24, 2006. The meeting was short, due to the fact that the Legislative Luncheon was held on the same day. Dr. Presley felt that the luncheon was a success, with the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Speaker of the House being present.

The Faculty Association is hosting a reception for the legislators on March 6, 2006, from 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at the Fairview Inn. Each of the colleges was asked to contribute \$300 to offset the cost.

Mr. Jim Craig, Director of Health Protection – Mississippi Department of Health, came before the Association to ask the colleges to serve as special needs centers. The Association asked Mr. Craig to submit a written report for review before they would make a decision. Colleges

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would be reimbursed directly by FEMA.

The Natchez Literary Cinema and Celebration, which is co-hosted by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, is scheduled for February 23-26, 2006. It will be centered on Southern food and drink.

The Mississippi Virtual Community College (MSVCC) has increased tremendously each year. Enrollment this year is over 30,800.

The Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Luncheon will be held on March 22, 2006, at the Regency Hotel. Students from Louisiana were invited to be part of Mississippi's recognition.

### **Workforce Report**

Mr. Walker touched on concerns regarding the State Workforce Investment Board's (SWIB) decision to cut off funding for training with business and industry for the remainder of the year.

Mr. Walker will be speaking at the **Quality Awards Ceremony** on March 23-24, 2006, that will be held at the Pearl River Resort. A list of Award Winners is shown on "Exhibit A, page 4". Upon a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by Dr. Dorothy Nelson, the Board **unanimously** to approve travel authorization for any Board Member who attends the Quality Awards Ceremony.

Dr. Jason Pugh presented a **Synopsis of Workforce Training Funding for FY 2006**, shown as "Exhibit A, page 2", that was created for legislators who had questions about the funding. In response to action taken by the SWIB on January 10, 2006, the SBCJC had to reject pending training projects for over 100 businesses, colleges and industries, in the approximate amount of \$1,300,000.

The **Workforce Budget Report** is shown on page 3 of "Exhibit A".

Currently, **Grant Activities** for Workforce are approximately \$9,000,000, almost all of which are federal dollars.

In closing, Dr. Pugh referred to page 5 of "Exhibit A", which is a hard copy of the PowerPoint presentation that he gave during the February 16, 2006, work session.

### **Career and Technical Education Report**

Mr. John Adcock reported that **East Central Community College** is requesting to offer the **Culinary Arts Option under Hotel and Restaurant Management Technology** in Choctaw, Mississippi, where the Choctaw Hospitality Institute will provide classroom and laboratory space. Upon a motion by Mrs. Pat Dickens and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the request as stated.

**Holmes Community College** is requesting that the **Emergency Medical Technology-Paramedic Program** be extended to the Grenada Center, effective for the Fall 2006 semester. Upon a motion by Mrs. Pat Dickens and a second by Dr. Dorothy Nelson, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the request as stated. Both requests are shown as "Exhibit B".

**Accountability and Technology Report**

Dr. Larry Day reminded the Board of the discussion held the previous evening regarding a contract between EdNet Board and Clearwire Communication. Dr. Day introduced Mr. Martin Mangold, President of EdNet.

Mr. Mangold thanked the Board for allowing him for the opportunity to address them during the meeting. He gave a brief history of what EdNet is and what it does. During the 1992 legislative session, it was recognized that there are special television channels available for educational purposes. EdNet is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Since its formation it has had three (3) partnerships. Upon sending out RFPs for leasing of excess channels, it was decided that Clearwire Communication had submitted the best offer.

Dr. Stonecypher stated that the contractual agreement is not at its final stage, but is expected to be final before the next Board meeting. Mr. Rubisoff, Mr. David Litchliter (ITS) and Dr. Stonecypher have read the draft agreement and don't see anything of concern. Due to the fact that action will need to be taken within the next two (2) weeks, Dr. Stonecypher asked for the Board to give him authority to sign the agreement.

Upon a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board **voted unanimously** to allow Dr. Stonecypher to sign the agreement with Clearwire Communications, provided that he feels comfortable with the final agreement.

Dr. Day stated that there were no additional requests for **location of classes for Spring 2006**.

Mr. Ray Smith gave an update on the **Creating Futures Through Technology Conference** that will be held on March 22-24, 2006. This will be the 10<sup>th</sup> year of the Conference, which is recognized as a venue for administrators and IT professionals to come together to share their strategies, methods and best practices with their fellow educators. This is sponsored by the SBCJC and IHL. MGCCC will offer Continuing Educational Unit (CEU) credits to instructors that participate.

Upon a motion by Dr. Dorothy Nelson and a second by Mrs. Pat Dickens, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve travel for any Board Member that attends the Conference.

**Dr. Tom Hood, Mississippi Ethics Commission**

Dr. Tom Hood, Director of the Mississippi Ethics Commission, was introduced by Mr. Chuck Rubisoff. Dr. Hood explained that the Commission has two (2) basic roles: the advisory role and the enforcement role. In the advisory role, they issue written opinions, answer questions and give presentations, such as the one given during this meeting. In the enforcement role they are charged with enforcing the ethics laws. This applies to every level of government in Mississippi: state, county, municipal, district, and to every person that is a public official or public employee (other than federal).

The Commission's three (3) primary duties are to: receive Statements of Economic Interest for filing by public officials and candidates, and make the completed forms available for public inspections; process sworn complaints and investigate alleged violations of law by public servants; and to issue written advisory opinions to public servants regarding the conflict of interest laws.

Dr. Hood gave a brief review of Ethics Opinions on Community Colleges in recent years. A copy of a handout provided by Dr. Hood is shown as "Exhibit G".

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*\*The meeting recessed at 10:50 a.m. and reconvened at 11:00 a.m.*

### **Program Report**

Mrs. Eloise Richardson provided a calendar that was compiled by Mr. Danny Seal and an ABE instructor from Holmes Community College that tells success stories of various ABE students. On Tuesday, Jackson Public Schools will be hosting a ceremony at the Governor's Mansion for several inmates that have recently received the GED. Mrs. Richardson also stated that she has been invited to serve on a monitoring visit in Tennessee. The Director of the ABE program is looking forward to having Mrs. Richardson there to work with their staff to replicate Mississippi's master trainer model.

### **Legislative Report**

Dr. Bradberry reviewed a list of Direct Bills that the SBCJC is currently tracking, see "Exhibit H". Not included on the list due to just being posted, is Senate Nomination 18 naming Mrs. Pat Dickens to fill the unexpired term of Mrs. Patricia Randall. Dr. Bradberry stated that Mrs. Dickens' confirmation will be coming up soon and would keep her and the Board informed.

### **Finance Report**

Mrs. Deborah Gilbert presented the items on the Finance Agenda as follows:

Upon a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by Ms. Veldore Young, the Board **unanimously approved** the **Education Enhancement Fund Disbursements** from Fund 4080 in the amount of \$2,563,982 and Fund 4110 in the amount of \$50,662 (a total amount of \$2,614,644) for January 31, 2006, shown as "Finance Attachment 1".

Mrs. Gilbert presented a follow-up report on **Community and Junior College Acreage and Square Footage**, shown as "Finance Attachment 2".

**Financial Statements for Funds 2291 and Special Funds** as of January 31, 2006 were reviewed and are shown as "Finance Attachments 3a and 3b".

Upon a motion Mrs. Pat Dickens and a second Mr. Napoleon Moore, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve purchase of **Desire2Learn** software to be used for the MSVCC in the amount of \$77,250, which includes the hosting fee. This will be paid for by fees that are assessed from the colleges for each course that every MSVCC student is charged. See "Finance Attachment 4".

Mrs. Gilbert reviewed the **Request for FY 2006 Deficit Appropriation and FY 2007 Additional Appropriation**, shown as "Finance Attachment 5".

### **Travel Authorizations**

Mr. Walker asked if there were requests for travel reimbursement for events other than regularly scheduled Board meetings. No additional travel was requested at this time.

*Note: Approval for the Quality Awards Ceremony was done during the Workforce portion of this meeting, as well as the Creating Futures Through Technology Conference that was approved during the Accountability and Technology report.*

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### **Election of Officers**

Dr. Stonecypher stated that in the past few years election of officers has been done in April; however, he recommended that this revert back to being a March agenda item. Upon a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board **voted unanimously** to elect officers in March of each year.

### **Board Retreat Update**

Dr. Stonecypher provided a copy of the **5-year Plan** that will be reviewed during the upcoming retreat; see "Exhibit C".

Several Board Members stated that they would be unable to attend the retreat in April. Mr. Walker asked the staff to inquire if accommodations could be changed to May and to poll the Board on whether or not they would be able to attend.

### **Future Off-Site Meeting**

Dr. Bradberry stated that he had talked with Dr. Howell Garner about hosting the February 2007 meeting in Natchez; in conjunction with the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration that is co-hosted by Copiah-Lincoln Community College. Dr. Garner expressed interest in hosting the meeting and will begin planning the event.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

  
Mr. George Walker, Chairman

  
Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Executive Director

**Exhibits and Finance Attachments**

List of Quality Award Winners ----- A  
Career and Technical Education Program Request ----- B  
Proposed 5-year Plan for SBCJC----- C  
Article: Mississippi Junior Colleges Outpaces Universities----- D  
Oath of Office – Mrs. Pat Dickens ----- E  
Retreat Questionnaire ----- F  
Mississippi Ethics Commission Handout as reviewed by Dr. Tom Hood ----- G  
List of Direct Legislative Bills----- H  
Education Enhancement Fund Disbursement----- Finance Attachment 1  
Report on Community and Junior Acreage and Square Footage ----- Finance Attachment 2  
Quarterly Capitol Improvements ----- Finance Attachment 3a & 3b  
Purchase Approval for Desire2Learn ----- Finance Attachment 4  
Request for FY 2006 Deficit Appropriation & FY 2007 Additional Appropriation ----- Finance Attachment 5