

**MINUTES**  
**STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES**  
**August 18, 2006**

The regular meeting of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges was held on Friday, August 18, 2006, at 9:00 a.m., in the Board Room of the Mississippi Library Commission in Jackson, Mississippi.

**Members present:** Mr. Chip Crane, Mrs. Patricia (Pat) Dickens, Mr. Henry (Bubba) Hudspeth, Mr. Bruce Martin, Mr. Napoleon Moore, Mr. Ed Perry, Mr. Henry Thomas and Mrs. Brenda Yonge.

**Members not present:** Dr. Dorothy Nelson and Mr. George Walker,

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

**Guests in attendance:** Mr. Chuck Rubisoff – Attorney General’s Office; Dr. Bill Smith – Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL); and Ms. Bobbie Gilkey – Mississippi Department of Education (MDE).

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Napoleon Moore called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**PRELIMINARIES**

Mr. Napoleon Moore gave the invocation.

**Approval of the Minutes of the July 7, 2006, Meeting**

Upon a motion by Mr. Henry Thomas and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2006, meeting.

**Review and Approval of Agenda**

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

**WELCOME**

Ms. Sharman Smith, Executive Director of the Mississippi Library Commission (MLC), welcomed everyone to the new location located at the Education and Research Center, as of January 2006. She promised a tour of the building during a break of the meeting. The MLC is a state agency that was established in 1926. It also serves as an operating library and is the library for the blind and physical handicapped of Mississippi. The agency serves and works in conjunction with the other public libraries in the state and it is the internet service provider for each of the libraries.

Ms. Smith stated that the Board Room can be booked for meetings by all state agencies, free of charge. Art exhibits will be on display throughout the building.

## REPORTS/ACTION

### Executive Director's Report

Dr. Stonecypher announced that Mrs. Eloise Richardson recently received the 2006 Extraordinary Service Award by the American Council on Education (ACE). The award was established to honor state administrators who have gone above and beyond their normal responsibilities in contributing to the national or international GED Testing program. A press release is included as "Exhibit H".

Dr. Stonecypher stated that the Board had been told at the July meeting that Mr. Joseph Larry would be moving into the vacant position of Director of Research. Since that announcement, Mr. Larry has decided to stay in his current position in the workforce division. The director of research position has not been posted, but will need to be filled at some point in the near future.

IHL is currently advertising an Assistant Commissioner for Community and Junior Colleges Relations. IHL has also recently named Dr. Lynn House as Assistant Commissioner for Academic and Student Affairs. Dr. House, who is currently an employee of Delta State University, will begin her new position at IHL on September 1, 2006.

Dr. Stonecypher announced that the U.S. Department of Labor Title IV funds in the amount of \$95,000,000 for Hurricane Katrina victims have been depleted. However, congress has passed another bill allocating \$50,000,000 for assistance to educational institutions that were affected during the hurricane in three (3) states (Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana). These funds can be used for expenses that would have been covered by revenue losses as a direct result of the hurricane and reimbursement for expenses already incurred for construction at the institutions.

Dr. Stonecypher reported that the community college presidents are having a retreat at Hinds' Eagle Ridge in Raymond on August 24 and 25, 2006. Dr. Stonecypher will give a report on the retreat at the September meeting.

In regards to the WIRED Grant Initiative that Dr. Stonecypher serves on, he related that his counterpart in Alabama has been terminated and that the Louisiana counterpart has resigned to take a position in Texas. Also, the Montgomery Institute that handles the leadership aspect of the Initiative has recently had changes in administrators.

A *Letter to the Editor* was submitted to the Clarion-Ledger from Mr. Walker, regarding the PEER report, see "Exhibit I". Dr. Stonecypher stated that the staff is working on a response to the PEER Committee for the Board's review and hopes to have it completed by the September meeting. Other publications that were provided to the Board and discussed include The Sea Coast Echo article entitled *Hancock Could Go "Belly-Up"* and several articles relating to the PEER report, all are attached as part of "Exhibit I".

Mr. Ray Smith is working on revising the Acceptable Use Policy for SBCJC technology equipment. This will be on the agenda for the September meeting, at which time the Board will be asked to take action on the policy.

Mrs. Deborah Gilbert is an officer on the Executive Board for Community College Business Officers (CCBO). The organization will have its international meeting in Victoria, Canada this year and Mrs. Gilbert will need approval from the Board for out-of-country travel, as well as

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approval from the Department of Finance Administration. Upon a motion by Mr. Ed Perry and a second by Mr. Bubba Hudspeth, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve travel for Mrs. Gilbert to attend the CCBO meeting to be held in Victoria, Canada.

Dr. Stonecypher reminded the Board that the September Board meeting will be held on the 20 and 21, in order to participate in a joint gathering with the IHL Board at the Mississippi Nurses Association in Jackson.

Copiah-Lincoln Community College has extended an invitation to host the February 2007 Board Meeting in conjunction with the Natchez Literary Cinema Celebration (NLCC); see "Exhibit G". If the Board decides to accept the invitation, hotel rooms will need to be secured as soon as possible.

### **MACJC Report**

Dr. David Cole, President of the MACJC, gave his report via video teleconference. Dr. Cole mentioned the 2-day retreat for the presidents. The presidents expect to discuss various issues, such as planning and coordinating the focus of the community colleges for the next several years. Mid-level funding for the community and junior colleges will be a major priority.

Dr. Cole reported on a letter from IHL Commissioner Dr. Tom Meredith regarding a search for a liaison to work with deans and faculty at the community colleges to increase the transfer rate to universities, which is currently 25%.

Dr. Cole stated that preliminary reports show that enrollment at the community colleges has slightly increased.

Dr. Cole commended Dr. Stonecypher and staff for working diligently to enlighten the PEER Committee on the mission of the community colleges and the functions of the SBCJC.

The colleges and the SBCJC are working together to prepare for the upcoming LBO presentation, which will be held on September 26, 2006.

The Association plans to approve committee assignments at their next meeting. Two (2) important committees that will be assigned are the Legislative Committee (chaired by Dr. Clyde Muse) and the Athletic Committee (to be chaired by Dr. Rick Young).

### **Workforce Report**

Dr. Jason Pugh began by directing the Board's attention to "Exhibit A", the Workforce Division Report. He reviewed the figures of the FY2006 final report and the FY2007 beginning summary.

Dr. Pugh attended the August 10, 2006, State Workforce Investment Board (SWIB) Meeting. The SWIB is very interested in the Drop out Prevention and Recovery efforts that are currently taking place. The group is also looking at career and technical courses that are taking place and being considered in correctional facilities. Committees have been assigned to study the progress of both endeavors.

Due to Department of Labor grants, the H-1B and Pathways, training activity is now occurring on the coast. Several hundred citizens have been trained over the last month in the construction trades area, with modifications being made to the grants to cover changes in specific needs. A \$1,500,000 grant has been applied for to cover training in the Advanced Manufacturing Industry. Also, the workforce division is in the process of preparing submission for a \$2,000,000 proposal grant for community based job training; there are five (5) of our community colleges interested in

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participating, if the grant is awarded.

When the Board approved the latest Workforce Policy Guidelines it was understood that any and all policy exceptions would be reported to the Board. Dr. Pugh stated that he would be reporting on two (2) requests for exceptions to the Board in September. He also plans to have the results of the Challenge Grant competition.

The Business Roundtable Group, a national organization associated with Fortune 500, has offered to help areas that were affected by Hurricane Katrina. They are running several radio commercials, and have put together advertising campaigns, one of which includes highway billboard signs, entitled "We're Great". A picture of the billboard is included in "Exhibit A". In addition, the group is working on a governor's news event that will take place sometime in September. The group has a lot of ideas to help promote the rebuilding of the gulf coast area.

Also included in the workforce exhibit section are several newspaper articles:

*Training Helps people, Region Recover from Storm, Mississippi Business Journal; and  
Company Gives Back To Community in PRCC Donation, The Hattiesburg American.*

### **Accountability and Technology Report**

Dr. Larry Day reported that the EdNet Board met on August 17, 2006. An initial payment of \$975,000 has been received from ClearWire for excess channels. EdNet plans to put 375,000 in a special account to pay off back bills and other necessities, and the remainder will be placed in a money market account.

Dr. Stonecypher reminded the Board that Mr. Jimmy Murphy was the Board's representative to the EdNet Board. Now that Mr. Murphy is no longer a SBCJC Board Member, the Board will be expected to recommend a replacement to the governor for appointment to that Board.

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

Mr. Ray Smith advised that ITS issued a RFP (entitled RFP4000), in which BellSouth was awarded to handle various technology needs, such as internet connection. The SBCJC will be connected to a fiber optic ring through ITS with other state agencies. Mr. Smith has been working with ITS to prepare a Memorandum of Understanding before migrating to this type of connection.

### **Program Report**

Dr. Randall Bradberry stated that the **Commission on Proprietary School and College Registration (CPSCR)** met on August 17, 2006, at which time the Commission approved the following: five (5) initial applications for schools and six (6) renewal applications; eight (8) new programs; 47 new instructors; 31 new agent permits and 13 agent renewals. For June – August the CPSCR collected \$15,805.69 in required fees, bringing the fiscal year total to \$31,276.69. There are 45 schools presently registered, with 29 of those being in-state and 16 being out-of-state.

\*A break from 10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. took place to tour the new Mississippi Library Commission Building. Ms. Sharman Smith stated that meeting rooms were available free of charge to state agencies.

Upon resuming the meeting, Dr. Bradberry continued discussion on program activities by explaining the necessity for *Guidelines for Implementation of Dual Enrollment/Credit*. He stated that he and Dr. Bill Smith have worked to create a template to be used by the high schools and

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colleges and included the guidelines as "Exhibit C", for Board approval. Upon a motion by Mr. Chip Crane and a second by Mrs. Pat Dickens, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the proposed ***Guidelines for Implementation of Dual Enrollment/Credit***.

Dr. Bradberry provided information on the **Academic Competitiveness Grant Program**, see "Exhibit D". This contains federal funds that are set aside for students that are eligible for the PELL Grant, are a U.S. citizen and have been involved in a rigorous high school program. Included as part of Exhibit D are various responses from the colleges regarding students that may or may not qualify. Unfortunately, many of the high schools do not have the required rigorous curriculum in place at this time.

### **Legislative Report**

Dr. Bradberry presented a proposed bill (see Exhibit E) to create Mid-level Funding for Mississippi's Public Community and Junior Colleges. This item will be discussed at length at the upcoming Community College Presidents' Retreat, with plans to get key legislative committee leaders on-board with the concept. Upon a motion by Mr. Bubba Hudspeth and a second by Mrs. Pat Dickens, the Board **unanimously approved** the proposed **bill to create Mid-level Funding for Mississippi's Public Community and Junior Colleges**.

Dr. Bradberry stated that another initiative that is currently being pursued is Drop Out Recovery, whereby the community colleges would be given incentives to recruit high school drop outs for the ABE/GED and other hard skills training programs.

### **Finance Report**

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

Upon a motion by Mr. Chip Crane and a second by Mr. Bubba Hudspeth, the Board **unanimously approved** the **Education Enhancement Fund Disbursements** from Fund 4080 in the amount of \$3,162,599 and Fund 4110 in the amount of \$50,660 (a total amount of \$3,213,259) for July 2006 and the same amounts for August 2006, shown as "Finance Attachments 1a and 1b".

Upon a motion by Mr. Henry Thomas and a second by Mr. Henry Hudspeth, the Board **unanimously approved** a contract between the SBCJC and Copiah-Lincoln Community College for support of the Mississippi Electronic Libraries On-Line (MELO) in the amount of \$55,000; see "Finance Attachment 2a".

Upon a motion by Mrs. Pat Dickens and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board **unanimously approved** a Memorandum of Agreement between the Mississippi Board of Education, the Mississippi Department of Education and the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges relating to Post-Secondary Vocational and Technical Education for July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2009. The amount of the contract is approximately \$30,000,000 with \$125,000 going to the SBCJC for Administrative purposes; see "Finance Attachment 2b".

Mrs. Gilbert gave a report on **Financial Statements for Funds 2291 and Special Funds** as of July 31, 2006 for FY2006 – Lapse Period, shown as "Finance Attachments 3a & 3b" and **Financial Statements for Funds 2291 and Special Funds** as of July 31, 2006 for FY2007; shown as "Finance Attachments 3c & 3d".

Mrs. Gilbert reported on **Lapse and Carryforward Funds for State Year 2006**. She stated that \$245,817.44 in workforce general funds would be carryforward for FY2007, as well as \$5,995,165.26 from Fund 3298 (Unemployment) for See "Finance Attachment 4" for

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additional information.

All Budget Requests for FY 2008 have been submitted to the Legislative Budget Office. Copies of the SBCJC Support Composite and the fifteen (15) community and junior colleges are on file at the SBCJC office and available for the Board's review. The Budget hearing before the Joint Legislative Budget Committee has been scheduled for September 26, 2006, at 3:30 p.m., on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Woolfolk Building in Jackson. A memorandum and schedule of all LBO hearing times was included as a handout and is attached as "Exhibit J".

### **Travel Authorizations**

Upon a motion by Mr. Chip Crane and a second by Mr. Bubba Hudspeth, the Board **unanimously voted** to approve travel for any member attending the LBO Hearing on September 26, 2006. Approval for Mrs. Gilbert to travel to Victoria, Canada was discussed and approved during the Executive Director's Report section of the meeting.

### **Out-of-Town Meetings**

Dr. Bradberry reminded the Board that they had previously accepted an invitation to hold the regularly scheduled October 2006 meeting at Holmes Community College. The Board will stay at the Jackson Hilton and be transported by staff from Holmes to their main campus in Goodman on Thursday evening for dinner and other planned activities and the Board meeting will be held at Holmes' Ridgeland campus on Friday morning.

As discussed during the Executive Director's Report, Copiah-Lincoln Community College has offered to host the February 2007 Board Meeting in conjunction with the Natchez Literary Cinema Celebration (NLCC); see "Exhibit G". Upon a motion by Mr. Bubba Hudspeth and a second by Mr. Chip Crane, the Board **unanimously voted** to accept the invitation extended by Copiah-Lincoln Community College. Dr. Stonecypher asked Mrs. Dickens to explore the local hotels and recommend a place to stay.

### **CASEnergy Coalition**

Dr. Stonecypher reported on a visit from representatives of the ***Clean and Safe Energy Coalition*** (CASEnergy) who were seeking support from the SBCJC. The Coalition's goal is to increase the use of nuclear energy to ensure an environmentally clean, safe, affordable and reliable supply of electricity. Dr. Stonecypher stated that by supporting the coalition the community colleges could be in a position to establish one (1) or more new programs for nuclear power and technology. The Mission Statement and other pertinent information are attached as "Exhibit F". Upon a motion by Mr. Henry Thomas and a second by Mr. Chip Crane, the Board **unanimously voted** to join the CASEnergy Coalition.

### **Other Business**

The Board Members were given MACJC Activity Passes to attend (with a guest) any and all scheduled games and tournaments sponsored by the MACJC. Dr. Stonecypher encouraged the Board Members to take advantage of the passes and enjoy the many community and junior colleges games.

Dr. Bradberry also provided compact disks of the FY2006 Legislative Bills to each of the Board Members for their perusal.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

  
Mr. George Walker, Chairman

  
Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Executive Director

Exhibits and Finance Attachments

Workforce Activity Report -----A  
Career Technical Report-----B  
Guidelines for Implementation of Dual Enrollment/Credit-----C  
Academic Competitiveness Grant Program -----D  
Proposed Legislation for Mid-level Funding (Draft)-----E  
CASEnergy Coalition Information -----F  
Natchez Literary Cinema Celebration (NLCC) Invitation -----G  
American Council on Education (ACE) Press Release Honoring Eloise Richardson -----H  
Various News Articles, Including the Letter to the Editor from the SBCJC Chairman-----I  
Memorandum and Schedule of all LBO Hearing Times-----J  
Education Enhancement Fund Disbursements for July and August-----Finance Attachments 1a & 1b  
Contract between SBCJC & Copiah-Lincoln for support of MELO -----Finance Attachments 2  
MOA between the MDE & SBCJC Post-Secondary Vo-Tech Education ----- Finance Attachment 2b  
Financial Statements for Funds 2291 & Special Funds as of July 31, 2006  
for FY2006 – Lapse Period -----Finance Attachments 3a & 3b  
Financial Statements for Funds 2291 & Special Funds as of July 31, 2006  
for FY2007 -----Finance Attachments 3c & 3d  
Lapse and Carryforward Funds for State Year 2006 ----- Finance Attachment 4