

**MINUTES**  
**STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES**  
**February 23, 2007**

The regular meeting of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges was held on Friday, February 23, 2007, at 9:00 a.m., at Copiah-Lincoln Community College, 11 Co-Lin Circle, Natchez, Mississippi.

**Members present:** Mrs. Patricia (Pat) Dickens, Mr. Henry (Bubba) Hudspeth, Mr. Ed Perry and Mr. George Walker. Dr. Dorothy Nelson participated via telephone.

**Members not present:** Mr. Chip Crane, Mr. Bruce Martin, Mr. Napoleon Moore, Mr. Henry Thomas and Mrs. Brenda Yonge.

**Staff in attendance:** Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Dr. Randall Bradberry, Dr. Larry Day, Mrs. Deborah Gilbert, Ms. Debra West and Mrs. Denise Walley.

**Guests in attendance:** Dr. David Cole – Itawamba Community College; Dr. Howell Garner, Dr. Ronnie Nettles, Dr. Teresa Harrison, Mr. Bobby Kerrigan – Copiah-Lincoln Community College; Dr. Reginald (Reggie) Sykes – Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL); and Mr. Chuck Rubisoff – Attorney General's Office.

**PRELIMINARIES**

Dr. Larry Day gave the invocation.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. George Walker called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. He thanked Mrs. Dickens for hosting the reception that was held the previous evening.

**Approval of the Minutes of the January 18-19, 2007 Meetings**

Due to a lack of quorum, the minutes of the January 18-19, 2007 Board meetings will be brought to the Board in March for approval.

**Review and Approval of Agenda**

Upon a motion by Mrs. Pat Dickens and a second by Mr. Bubba Hudspeth, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the agenda as presented.

**WELCOME**

Dr. Howell Garner greeted the Board and staff and welcomed them to the Natchez Campus of Copiah-Lincoln Community College and to the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. Dr. Garner introduced his staff members that were present: Dr. Ronnie Nettles – Executive Vice President, Dr. Teresa Harrison – Dean of the Natchez Campus, and Mr. Bobby Kerrigan – Director of Technology for the Natchez Campus. Dr. Garner gave a brief history of how Co-Lin started the Natchez campus in 1972.

## **REPORTS/ACTION**

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

Dr. Stonecypher reported that Dr. Jason Pugh's father recently passed away.

There are several new employees that have been hired: Ms. Janet Dominy is the new executive secretary and Ms. Shana Hansen, an Accountant/Personnel Manager, will begin on March 1, 2007 in the Finance Division. Dr. Stonecypher explained the contract agreement with Mr. Jim Lott, who will be working with Dr. Pugh regarding the Career Readiness Certificate. The Board is required to approve the contract; therefore, it will be brought back to the Board next month for approval. Dr. Stonecypher also mentioned the possibility of using federal funding to support the salary of a new employee in the ABE/GED division.

A brief explanation regarding an Attorney General's Opinion concerning "Alcohol on College Campuses" was given by Mr. Chuck Rubisoff. Currently, it is not unlawful to possess alcoholic beverages on campuses that are located in "wet" counties. For a more detailed clarification of "wet" and "dry" counties, see "Exhibit D".

Dr. Stonecypher commended the Presidents regarding their involvement with *The Mississippi Public Community and Junior College Story: 1972 – 2002*. Dr. Scott Elliott was the Chair of the Committee that worked on the project. A copy of the book was given to each of the Board Members present.

In closing, Dr. Stonecypher stated that there has been much discussion regarding moving the Mississippi State University Community College Leadership Program to Meridian, Mississippi. Further discussion concerned developing a Rural Community College Foundation Center (National Center for Rural Colleges) at the same location.

### **MACJC Report**

Dr. Howell Garner reported that at the last MACJC meeting, the Association heard a presentation from Mr. Chad Jennings and Mr. Peter Segall regarding Blackboard, the platform used for the Mississippi Virtual Community College (MSVCC). Mr. Segall gave a presentation regarding the long-term commitment of Blackboard and the strategy that they plan to use to meet the community colleges' needs as enrollment in the MSVCC continues to grow.

Dr. Reggie Sykes talked with the Presidents regarding Phi Theta Kappa students transferring to the Universities. There is an effort to increase the number of students transferring to Mississippi universities (instead of out-of-state universities) by offering more scholarships.

A presentation was given by Ms. Teresa Planch, a State Insurance Administrator with the Department of Finance and Administration. She provided copies of a program entitled *Motivating Mississippi: Keys to Living Healthy*.

Dr. Vivian Presley gave a presentation regarding the Mississippi Women in Higher Education Leadership Award. The award recognizes women that demonstrate leadership and commitment to higher education in our state.

The Mississippi Phi Theta Kappa Awards luncheon will be held on March 21, 2007. Capitol Day will be held on February 28, 2007.

Mrs. Pat Dickens commended Dr. Stonecypher on his speech to the Natchez Rotary Club regarding Community Colleges. She stated that he was well received and hopes he continues to promote the Mississippi community colleges at other Rotary Clubs.

### **Career and Technical Report**

Ms. Debra West requested approval of the following programs, as shown in "Exhibit A":

**Mississippi Delta Community College - new Biomedical Equipment Repair Option** under their existing **Electronics Technology Program**.

**Northeast Mississippi Community College – new Certificate Option under Office Systems Technology** (currently offers an AAS option).

**Hinds Community College – program closure of Environmental Technology** (due to low enrollment).

Due to a lack of a quorum, these items will be held until the March meeting.

Ms. West gave an update on the State Plan for Career Technical Education. She gave a brief explanation of the Federal Perkins Act, which helps fund career and technical education. Each state is required to submit a proposal regarding plans to utilize the funds received through Perkins.

### **Workforce Report**

Mr. Walker stated that the State Workforce Investment Board (SWIB) met on February 15, 2007. Ms. West presented a description of grant activities and the Workforce Budget Report, both shown as "Exhibit B". The Workforce Center Directors will be meeting next week and plan to look at the FY 08 Policies and Procedures. Dr. Pugh hopes to have the policy ready for the Board's review at the March meeting, at which time he will request initial approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process.

### **Accountability and Technology Report**

Dr. Larry Day reported that EdNet has not met since the last SBCJC meeting. Also, there have been no additional requests for location of classes.

Dr. Day stated that he and other SBCJC staff members have finished Fall Enrollment Audits using the newly approved policy for enrollment audits. Dr. Day plans to bring several findings to the Board at the March meeting and will possibly make recommendations on the policy regarding attendance.

### **Program Report**

Dr. Bradberry reported on a recent meeting of the Academic Deans' Association. The majority of discussion during the meeting related to concerns of the Southern Association of Colleges (SACS), the accrediting body of the community colleges, that were brought to the attention of Hinds Community College during their recent SACS review. SACS stated that several of the courses offered at Hinds should not have an EDU prefix, but that they should be changed to a prefix that better describes the courses. The deans approved the change in course prefixes offered at Hinds on "Exhibit E" for a one-year time period.

## **SBCJC Minutes: February 23, 2007**

Dr. Bradberry described a Business Scholarship offered to various community college business majors who are interested in continuing their education at the University of Michigan. The scholarship is in the approximate amount \$65,000, which includes living expenses and other necessities.

### **Legislative Report**

Dr. Bradberry provided a list of bills that are currently being tracked by the SBCJC office; see "Exhibit F". Mid-Level Funding (HB 1180) has passed through the Universities and Colleges Committee and has gone to the Senate.

February 27 is the deadline for committees to report bills and constitutional amendments originating in the other house. March 7 is the deadline for original floor action on bills and constitutional amendments originating in the other house. March 13 is the deadline for original floor action on appropriations and revenue bills originating in the other house. Conference weekend will be March 24-25, 2007.

Dr. Bradberry provided picture books of the legislators to the Board Members.

Dr. Reggie Sykes reported on several bills that IHL and the community colleges will have to work together on: SB 2081 – regarding teleconference; HB 1144 – regarding aliens paying out-of-state tuition regardless of domicile and immigration status; SB 3061 – which provides funding for community college graduates to IHL universities; and SB 3015 - pertains to giving security guards the authority to go 500 yards off the colleges campuses to detain violators until local police arrive.

### **Finance Report**

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

**Education Enhancement Fund Disbursement for March 31, 2007** from funds 4080 and 4110 in the total amount of \$ 3,213,260. See "Finance Attachment 1".  
(Action Required)

**Financial Statements for Funds 2291 and Special Funds**, as of January 31, 2007 are shown as "Finance Attachments 2a and 2b".

Purchasing Approval: **Contract with James Lott** to design a Career Readiness Certificate (CRC) implementation plan, not to exceed \$23,000. See "Finance Attachment 3a". (Action Required)

Purchasing Approval: **Contract with IHL** to install carpet in SBCJC offices on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> floors in the amount of \$33,700. See "Finance Attachment 3b".

**Summary of Appropriation Bills:** SB 3130 (Administration), SB 3131 (Support), and HB 242 (Support), shown as "Finance Attachments 4a – 4c".

**New Mileage Rate Change** from \$0.445 to **\$0.485**, effective February 1, 2007. See "Finance Attachment 5".

**Fidelity Bond for employee dishonesty** has been renewed, with the limit of liability being \$250,000, with a \$2,500 deductible. The premium has decreased from \$943 per year to \$898 per year.

**SBCJC Minutes: February 23, 2007**

The items that require Board approval will be brought before the Board again in March for approval.

**Travel Authorizations**

Mr. Walker asked if there were requests for travel reimbursements for events other than regularly scheduled Board meetings.

Blanket approval for any members who attend the Capitol Day on February 28, 2007.

This will be placed on the March Agenda for Board Approval.

**March Meeting Reservation Plans**

Per Mr. Perry's request, several of the local hotels were contacted regarding room rates. Prices are listed in "Exhibit C". Since the Jackson Hilton has stated that they would not be able to accommodate the Board in March, the best alternative seems to be the Homewood Suites, which is owned by Hilton. The hotel has agreed to let the Board meet Thursday evening in one of its meeting rooms, free of charge.

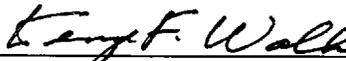
**Summary of Items to be Ratified at the March 15, 2007 Meeting**

Upon a motion by Mr. Ed Perry and second by Mrs. Pat Dickens, Board Members present voted to ratify the following February Action Items at the March 16, 2007 Board Meeting:

- January 18-19, 2007 Meeting Minutes
- Program Changes for Mississippi Delta Community College (Biomedical Equipment Repair Option), Northeast Mississippi Community College (Office Systems Technology Certificate Option) and Hinds Community College (Environmental Technology Program closure).
- Finance Items: The Education Enhancement Fund Disbursement for March 31, 2007 from funds 4080 and 4110; and a contract with James Lott to design a Career Readiness Certificate (CRC) implementation plan.
- Travel Authorization to attend Capitol Day on February 28<sup>th</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

  
Mr. George Walker, Chairman

  
Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Executive Director