

MINUTES
STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES
August 17, 2007

The regular meeting of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges was held on Friday, August 17, 2007, at 9:00 a.m., in Room 507 of the Education and Research Center in Jackson, Mississippi.

Members present: Mrs. Patricia (Pat) Dickens, Mr. Henry (Bubba) Hudspeth, Mr. Max Huey, Mr. Bruce Martin, Mr. Napoleon Moore, Mr. Ed Perry, Mr. Bobby Steinriede, Mrs. Brenda Yonge and Mr. George Walker.

Members not present: Mr. Chip Crane.

Staff in attendance: Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Dr. Randall Bradberry, Mrs. Deborah Gilbert, Dr. Jason Pugh, Dr. Larry Day, Mr. Ray Smith, Mrs. Audra Kimble, Mr. Terry Pollard, Mrs. Denise Walley, Mrs. Sandra Lucas, and Mrs. Janet Dominy.

Guests in attendance: Dr. Reginald (Reggie) Sykes – Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL); Mr. Chuck Rubisoff – Office of the Attorney General; Dr. David Cole – Itawamba Community College; Ms. Niki King – Johnson Controls, Inc.; Dr. Dorothy Nelson – outgoing SBCJC Board Member; Mr. Ray Gaillard – Northeast Mississippi Community College; Mr. Jackie R. Harris – Mississippi Department of Transportation; Mr. Bobbie Little – Eutaw Construction; Mr. Lindsey Leake – Leake & Goodlett, Inc.; Mr. Kevin Rose – Thompson Machinery; Mr. Taj Colom – Colom Construction Co. Inc.; Mr. Benton Elliott – Hill Brothers Construction Company; Mr. Bobby Martin – The People's Bank, Ripley, Mississippi; Mr. David V. Dow – Trench Safety and Supply, Inc.; Mr. Brian Aldridge – Mississippi State Legislature, Mr. Steve Wallace – Bonds Co. Asphalt.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. George Walker called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

PRELIMINARIES

Mr. Napoleon Moore gave the invocation.

Approval of the Minutes of the July 13, 2007 Meeting

Upon a motion by Mr. Bubba Hudspeth and a second by Mr. Max Huey, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2007 meeting.

Approval of Agenda

Upon a motion by Mr. Bruce Martin and a second by Mr. Ed Perry, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the agenda for the August 17, 2007 meeting.

Presentation To Dr. Dorothy Nelson

Mr. Walker recognized Dr. Dorothy Nelson, outgoing Board member, for her many years of service to the Board and presented her with a plaque. She received a standing ovation from all present.

Swearing In Of New Board Member

Mr. Walker recognized Mr. Bobby Steinriede, new Board member, appointed by Governor Haley Barbour from Yazoo City. He is representing the second Congressional District and Holmes Community College. Mrs. Sandra Lucas, a Notary Public of the SBCJC, administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Steinriede.

REPORTS/ACTION

Executive Director's Report

Dr. Stonecypher began by recognizing Dr. Reginald (Reggie) Sykes from the Institutions of Higher Learning for a report. He has been working to update and strengthen the articulation agreement between the Institutions of Higher Learning and the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges. The Universities and the Community and Junior Colleges need to work together to assist in the transfer process. There must be trust built between both entities. IHL's website has a link to community and junior college relations. Lack of communication has been the biggest issue as far as the articulation agreement is concerned. Dr. Sykes decided that whenever there are changes to the articulation agreement, he is going to list the changes on the website. One change that has been made is the addition of the seals of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges and the Institutions of Higher Learning. This shows that there is a partnership between the community and junior colleges and the universities.

An articulation committee has been formed with a representative from each of the universities serving on the committee and representatives from the community and junior colleges. Any changes that need to be made to the articulation agreement will be referred to this committee. They will make recommendations to the CAOs of the universities before any changes are made. There are over 160 courses listed in the articulation agreement. All courses are listed by their CIP number. Dr. Stonecypher added that the initial agreement was signed in 1991.

Dr. Stonecypher referred to the article that was written about Mr. Max Huey, Mr. Bobby Steinriede, the newest Board members, and Mrs. Patricia Dickens, who was reappointed, to the State Board. He welcomed them to the Board.

Dr. Stonecypher discussed the possibility of a new facility for the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges as well as a center for the entire system. He would like to have more information on paper by the next Board meeting. The current estimate for the center is \$6.7 million.

Mr. Shawn Mackey was announced as a new employee in the Career/Technical area. Mr. Mackey will be taking the position that Micheal Heindl vacated when he accepted the job at Hinds Community College. Presently, Shawn is the Assistant Dean of Career/Technical at Coahoma Community College. He is scheduled to start at the State Board after Labor Day.

Dr. Stonecypher commended Mr. Chuck Rubisoff, our representative from the Attorney General's Office, for all the hard work and advice that he has given to the State Board. He asked Mr. Rubisoff to give an overview of the Attorney General's opinion on whether undocumented (illegal) aliens, who physically reside in Mississippi, would qualify for in-state tuition. There is a federal statute that was passed in 1996. It states that you cannot award a postsecondary education benefit to an alien who is not lawfully in the United States unless you offer the benefit to every citizen in the United States regardless of residency.

Mr. Perry asked what the percentage is of in-state students versus out-of-state students in our community college system. Dr. Stonecypher stated that 98% of our student enrollment is in-state and 2% is out-of-state at the present time.

Dr. Stonecypher introduced Mr. Ray Gaillard, an instructor from Northeast Mississippi Community College. Mr. Gaillard is involved with the Construction Engineering Technology program at Northeast. He is having difficulty populating the program out of the Northeast District. Mr. Gaillard wanted to address the State Board regarding the policy of not being able to recruit students across district lines without the approval of the president of the particular district. This policy is a MACJC (Mississippi Association for Community and Junior Colleges) policy and is not a policy of the State Board. Dr. Stonecypher asked for all the visitors that accompanied Mr. Gaillard to introduce themselves.

Dr. Stonecypher referred to the letter that he had drafted regarding his resignation as the Executive Director of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges. His resignation will be effective as of January 22, 2008. Upon a motion by Mrs. Pat Dickens and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board **unanimously approved** the resignation of Dr. Stonecypher. Dr. Stonecypher thanked each of the Board members and expressed appreciation for all that they have done on the Board.

Mr. Walker thanked Dr. Stonecypher for all that he has done as the Executive Director of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges.

MACJC Report

Dr. David Cole commended the leadership of Dr. Stonecypher. He stated that under Dr. Stonecypher's leadership, the community and junior colleges have enjoyed an era of solidarity, a spirit of cooperativeness, and a level of leadership that everyone has come to admire and respect. He has led the colleges to focus on the mission of strategic priorities.

Dr. Cole said that the community college's mission should be to offer more post-secondary education opportunities to more people. In today's economy, more skills are needed in communication and technical knowledge in order for our people to become successful. The Trustee Association, the Alumni Association, the Affiliated Group, the State Board Staff and Directors met together and developed our legislative priorities. Mid-level funding requests were made in order to better meet the needs of the people that we are serving. Educational technology requests to help all of our businesses and economy. The Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan was also included as well as the Dropout Recovery Program.

Mr. Walker recognized Mr. Gaillard to address the Board. He detailed the Construction Engineering Technology program at Northeast Mississippi Community College and his concerns about recruiting outside of his district. Currently, there are only two (2) other community colleges in Mississippi that are offering this particular program. They are Pearl River Community College and Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. He and the supporters of his program spoke of the benefits the CET program had to offer students and employers. Dr. Cole was invited to respond to Mr. Gaillard's request.

Mr. Walker thanked Mr. Gaillard and all of his guests for the information, but stated that the State Board is not in a position to vote on this matter.

Career and Technical Report

Dr. Jason Pugh referred to the Prison Report (Exhibit A) that was discussed in detail at the Thursday evening meeting. Additional prisons will be visited over the course of the next month.

Dr. Pugh stated that the three (3) main goals for this next month are to visit the other two (2) prisons, try to schedule a meeting with the State Superintendent of Education and the Commissioner of Corrections, and also to schedule a meeting with the three (3) presidents of the community colleges that are located in the districts of those prisons.

Workforce Report

Dr. Pugh referred to the Workforce Report which is Exhibit B. Mr. Walker asked if the information contained in this report would become the basis for the State Board's Report to the Budget Committee. Dr. Pugh added that it would be a component of the report as well as the work that Dr. Day has done on the Legislative Accountability Reports.

Dr. Pugh referred to the policy that was approved for the Executive Director or his designee to make exceptions to Workforce policies in specialized cases. This was done very successfully last year and was retained in the policies that the State Board passed this year. It was requested by the State Board for these exceptions to be brought before the State Board for informational purposes. Most of the projects should be in by the next Board meeting, and a list of exception requests will be presented. Four hundred seventy (470) project applications have been written and approved. Out of the 470, there have only been nine (9) requests for a policy exception. Two (2) of these requests are pending, two (2) have been denied, and five (5) have been allowed at this present moment.

Dr. Pugh referred to the insert detailing Grant Activities. Our Mississippi AHEAD Grant which funds professional development activities at all of our colleges was a one (1) year renewal grant based on performance. Our performance last year was sufficient, and we have been notified that we may now proceed with awarding the second year.

Two (2) grants are still on the list as pending, because acceptance was received after the Board material was printed. These two (2) grants for \$300,000 each are funded through the Governor's Discretionary Funds. These are funds that Governor Barbour is allotted of the Workforce Enhancement Act that he dispenses at his discretion. We received a letter this week that the Governor's Discretionary Funds in the amount of \$600,000 has been approved. \$300,000 of this amount will be dispensed to the colleges for utilization of the accountability performance system, and \$300,000 will be devoted to career readiness projects.

Accountability and Technology Report

Dr. Day started his report by referring to the Proposed Changes to the Attendance Policy which is Exhibit C. It is being presented to the Board for final approval. The policy can not become effective until thirty (30) days after this point based on current laws. Upon a motion by Mrs. Pat Dickens and a second by Mr. Napoleon Moore, the Board **unanimously approved** these changes to the Attendance Policy.

Dr. Day also referred the Board to the section that pertains to the location of classes for Fall of 2007. Upon a motion by Mrs. Pat Dickens and a second by Mr. Napoleon Moore, the Board **unanimously approved** the location of classes for the Fall of 2007.

Dr. Day continued with an update on EDNET. EDNET has entered into a contract arrangement with the Mississippi Technology Alliance. He passed out a copy of that contract that would start July 1, 2007 and continue through December 31, 2007 for \$180,000.

Mr. Bruce Martin expressed concerns about EDNET. He received the proposed contract a month ago, and he responded with many concerns. Mr. Martin said that he has had many conversations with Ms. Marie Antoon about the State Board being involved with EDNET and how the money would be sent back to the license holders. Ms. Antoon agreed that they needed to look in a new direction. There is a lot of money involved and no staff to oversee it. Mr. Martin was concerned on how decisions are being made. He suggested that the State Board take some action in order to protect their interests.

Mr. Walker recognized Dr. Pugh, who is on the Board of the Mississippi Public Broadcasting. Dr. Pugh also agreed with Mr. Martin's concerns. He stated the Board for the Mississippi Public Broadcasting will have to have the same discussions. At this point, there is no existing plan to meet the FCC requirements as license holders on the part that can not be leased.

Mr. Walker suggested that no action be taken right now due to concerns. Upon a motion by Mrs. Pat Dickens and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board **unanimously voted** to hold off on support at this particular time.

Dr. Day called on Mr. Ray Smith to give the technology report. He reported that the redesigned data center was proceeding well. Our new computer room is a full scale data system. It will have backup services and offsite backup services for the colleges that may want to not only keep their information on their site, but may want to store their information at the SBCJC office. This new center will support the colleges as well as the agency.

Program Report

Dr. Bradberry called on Mrs. Eloise Richardson to give the ABE/GED report. A trainer from the Oklahoma Scoring Service is coming to the State Board to train individuals from the admissions or registrar's office of each of the community and junior colleges. The result will be that each college will be able to print their own copy of a student's GED scores. This will help them expedite the registration process.

There will be two (2) new features added to the GED program before January 1, 2008. It currently takes seven (7) to ten (10) days to receive your score in the mail after taking the test. The two (2) new features will expedite this process. East Central Community College and Copiah – Lincoln Community College have been piloting a new scanning program that Oklahoma Scoring is trying. Instead of mailing the answer sheets to Oklahoma Scoring, they can be scanned onsite. Hopefully, after the first of the year, all of our testing centers will be established. The testing centers should be able to check the scores on the four (4) tests, except for the essay on the day after the individual has taken the test. The essay should be scored by the following day. Another new feature is the availability for the individual to access their scores from a website with a password. They will be given this website address and password at orientation and registration. Not only will they be able to access their scores, but they will be able to print out their test history, also.

The National Guard will begin working with the local testing centers. They will be sending letters, to those individuals that have passed the GED, explaining the opportunities within the National Guard.

Mr. Danny Seal has been training 40 – 42 new teachers within the ABE program for the new school year. Most of our centers now have classes available all year.

Dr. Stonecypher asked Mrs. Richardson to address the security situation regarding a bogus GED transcript. Dr. Bradberry, the Attorney General's Office, and the District Attorney in Rankin County are involved in investigating this matter.

Dr. Bradberry discussed the creation of a narrative history of the SBCJC State Board showing the chronological order and district representation of all previous and current Board members.

Dr. Bradberry recognized Mrs. Audra Kimble to give an update on eLearning and introduction of new SBCJC staff member.

Mrs. Kimble introduced Mr. Terry Pollard. He is the new eLearning Specialist. He is coming to the State Board from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College.

The Blackboard mega project was named Maximizing Electronic Educational Gateways for All. All fifteen (15) colleges have been involved. Seven (7) of our colleges will go live this month, and seven (7) will go live in January. This is with our academic suite which is the core site of Blackboard. Our outcomes system is a new product that we are using Blackboard to track student outcomes. It will be a three (3) year phased in project, and five schools will be going up each year.

Mrs. Kimble and Mr. Pollard attended the Blackboard World Conference in Boston, MA. Seven (7) key clients from around the world were highlighted at this conference, and Mississippi was one of the clients that they highlighted. They stated that Mississippi was becoming a national model for distance education and eLearning solutions.

Dr. Bradberry showed a copy of the new district map of Mississippi. It is the latest version of the Mississippi Community and Junior Colleges, and it shows all 43 locations including the three workforce centers that stand alone. This is the first time that the map has been updated since 2001, and our system has grown a great deal since then. The heavy blue lines on the map show the district lines.

Legislative Report

Dr. Bradberry and Dr. Stonecypher visited the Neshoba County Fair in July to hear the politicians speak. Dr. Bradberry spoke about the importance of this year's election for the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges.

Finance Report

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

Upon a motion by Mr. Ed Perry and a second by Mr. Max Huey, the Board **unanimously approved** the **Educational Enhancement Fund Disbursements** for August 2007 in the amount of \$3,066,095.00.

Upon a motion by Mr. Ed Perry and a second by Mr. Napoleon Moore, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the contract between SBCJC and Jobs for Mississippi Graduates (JMG) for the purpose of dropout prevention and employability skills training, not to exceed \$250,000.00 from Workforce funds.

Upon a motion by Mr. Ed Perry and a second by Mrs. Pat Dickens, the Board **unanimously approved** the contract between SBCJC and Copiah – Lincoln Community College for support of Mississippi Electronic Libraries On-Line (MELO) in the amount of \$65,000.00 from MSVCC fees assessed the colleges.

Mrs. Gilbert reviewed the financial statements for **Fund 2291** and **Special Funds** as of July 31, 2007 (FY2007) –Lapse Period- and the financial statements for **Fund 2291** and **Special Funds** as of July 31, 2007 (FY2008). No action was required.

Dr. Day prepared the Quarterly Capital Improvement Report. **Attachment 4** is a list of all active capital improvement projects as of June 30, 2007. This report is for informational purposes. No action was required.

Mrs. Gilbert discussed the budget requests for FY 2009. These requests are available to each Board Member. These requests are sent to the Legislative Budget Office as well as the Governor's Office. No action was required.

Dr. Stonecypher and Mrs. Gilbert visited Southwest Mississippi Community College and Copiah – Lincoln Community College with our budget analyst. Visits to East Central Community College, Meridian Community College, and Holmes Community College are scheduled.

Travel Authorizations

There were no travel authorizations.

Out-of-Town Meetings

A possible visit to Pearl River Community College was discussed for the January 2008 Board Meeting.

Discussion of Executive Director Search Committee

Mr. Walker called the Board to discuss the selection of the new Executive Director, and he requested participation from all Board Members.

Mr. Walker recommended that the Board begin advertising the position in early September 2007, receive applications by the third week of September, and begin interviewing applicants in late September or early October.

Mr. Perry suggested that the application process last at least 30 days.

Mrs. Dickens stated that maybe the Board should begin advertising in August.

Mr. Perry asked where the Board had advertised during the previous selection of the Executive Director.

Mr. Walker said that the position was advertised in the Clarion-Ledger, and newspapers in Alabama, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Tennessee.

Mrs. Dickens commented that she had been contacted by the Governor's Office. A nation-wide search for the new Executive Director was suggested.

Mr. Walker stated that The New York Times has a section on education that could be utilized.

Mr. Perry also stated that the Board could advertise in the Chronicles of Higher

Education.

Mr. Hudspeth said that Community College Association would also be a good avenue to pursue.

It was decided that the position would be advertised in The New York Times and the Community College Association during the last of August or the first of September.

Mr. Walker asked if travel expenses of the applicants would be paid by the SBCJC Board. The consensus was that they would not be paid. The applicants would travel at their own expense.

Mr. Walker suggested that the salary range not be included in the advertisement of the position.

Mr. Walker will discuss with Dr. Stonecypher the requirements that should be included in the job description. It was discussed that the applicant should have his/her doctorate or the equivalent. Dr. Stonecypher has his doctorate degrees in both education and law.

Mrs. Dickens stated that it would be great if his successor also had both degrees.

Mr. Walker asked if the Board would like for him to name a five (5) person committee to interview possible candidates or if the entire Board would like to be a part of the process.

Mr. Martin suggested that a committee be named.

Mr. Walker recommended that the following Board members serve on the selection committee: Mrs. Pat Dickens, Mr. Bubba Hudspeth, Mr. George Walker, Mr. Ed Perry, and Mr. Napoleon Moore.

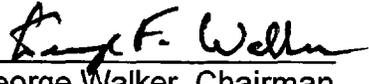
The motion was made by Mrs. Brenda Yonge and seconded by Mr. Bruce Martin. The Board **unanimously approved** the selection committee.

Mr. Walker asked that the minutes of this meeting be sent to all committee members within the next ten days.

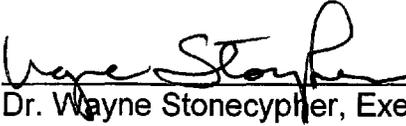
As the meeting ended, Mr. Walker stated that the committee will be receiving numerous questions, comments, and suggestions from the public regarding this selection process. The best response to questions would be to state that we have a search committee, each application will receive every consideration, and the final decision will be made by the SBCJC Board.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.



Mr. George Walker, Chairman



Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Executive Director

Exhibits and Finance Attachments

Career Technical Division Report -----	A
Workforce Division Report -----	B
Proposed Changes to the Attendance Policy-----	C
Location of Classes-----	D
Newspaper Article on New Board Members-----	E
Attorney General's Opinion -----	F
Construction Engineering Report by Mr. Ray Gaillard-----	G
EdNet Report-----	H
Education Enhancement fund Disbursements – August 2007 -----	Finance Attachment 1
Purchasing Approval – Contract between SBCJC and Jobs for Mississippi Graduates-----	Finance Attachment 2a
Purchasing Approval – Contract between SBCJC and Copiah – Lincoln Community College for Support of Mississippi Libraries on Line (MELO)-----	Finance Attachment 2b
Financial Statements for Funds 2291 and Special Funds as of July 31, 2007 (FY2007) Lapse Period-----	Finance Attachment 3a and 3b
Quarterly Capital Improvement Report-----	Finance Attachment 4