

MINUTES
STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES
BOARD MEETING
Friday, November 20, 2009

The regular meeting of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges (SBCJC) was held at 9:00 a.m. at the offices of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges, 3825 Ridgewood Road, Room 507, of the Education and Research Center in Jackson, Mississippi, on Friday, November 20, 2009.

Members present: Mr. George Walker, Chairman; Mr. Bubba Hudspeth, Vice-Chairman; Mr. Ed Perry, Mr. Max Huey, Mrs. Patricia Dickens, Mr. Bobby Steinriede, Mr. Bruce Martin and Mr. Napoleon Moore. Member not present: *Mr. Chip Crane.*

SBCJC Staff in attendance: Dr. Eric Clark, Dr. Fiona Qualls, Mrs. Deborah Gilbert, Dr. Debra West, Mr. Ray Smith, Mr. Kell Smith, and Mrs. Missy Saxton.

Guests in attendance: Mr. Chuck Rubisoff, Office of the Attorney General; Dr. Reginald Sykes, Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL); Dr. Willis Lott, MS Gulf Coast Community College; and Mr. John Adcock representing MS Delta Community College.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman George Walker called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and provided the meeting notice for the December 18, 2009, SBCJC Board Meeting. The State Board for Community & Junior Colleges Committee of the Whole meeting will be held December 17, 2009, at Huntington's Grille in Jackson, Mississippi at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will reconvene in the Hilton Hotel Hattiesburg Room at 7:30 p.m. The Board Meeting will be held on December 18, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. in Room 507 of the Education & Research Building, 3825 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, Mississippi.

PRELIMINARIES

Mrs. Patricia Dickens provided the Invocation.

Approval of October 15 and 16, 2009 Meeting Minutes

In a motion made by Mr. Max Huey and seconded by Mrs. Patricia Dickens, the SBCJC Board **voted unanimously** to approve the minutes of the October 15 and 16, 2009, SBCJC Board Meetings.

Approval of Agenda

In a motion made by Mr. Bubba Hudspeth and seconded by Mr. Max Huey, the SBCJC Board **voted unanimously** for approval of the day's agenda.

REPORTS/ACTION

Executive Director's Report

Dr. Clark began his report by welcoming all Board Members to the meeting and expressing his hopes that all have a happy Thanksgiving holiday.

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He updated board members on the progress of bringing SBCJC policies and procedures up to date. Information regarding board meeting times will be ready to present for approval at the December meeting.

Dr. Clark reported that Governor Haley Barbour released his executive budget recommendations on Monday, November 16. The Governor is proposing many things, one of which is the changing the governing structure of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges. Dr. Clark feels that the current structure is suitable for meeting the needs of the community college system.

Regarding appropriations and funding, Dr. Clark reported that CJC system statistics are clear in showing the dramatic increase in enrollment, up 44 percent over the past decade. Given this information, our funding per student has decreased dramatically over the past decade. He thinks that we should make the case that our numbers are growing, we teach job skills, we are affordable and close to home. He thinks we should examine everything we can do to save money, but we should also not be shy about explaining where we fit into moving our state forward economically.

Dr. Clark referred to **Exhibit A1**, the current SBCJC Organizational Chart, **Exhibit A2**, the proposed SBCJC Organizational Chart and **Exhibit A3**, the SBCJC Salary Schedule. He requested approval from the board to change the title of Deputy Director to Deputy Executive Director and to reorganize the SBCJC organizational chart utilizing this title.

In a motion made by Mr. Ed Perry and seconded by Mrs. Patricia Dickens, the SBCJC **voted unanimously** to approve the reorganization recommendations by the Executive Director.

Dr. Clark mentioned the Graduation Rate Task Force and commended Dr. Fiona Qualls and Dr. Reginald Sykes of IHL for their hard work and efforts to make the transition from a community college to a four-year college, as seamless as possible. The Articulation Subcommittee is studying the State of North Carolina model which states when someone obtains an associate's degree, all of those credits transfer as freshman and sophomore years to a four-year college. This encourages students to finish their degree at a two-year college.

Dr. Clark has been speaking at some MS Economic Council Road Show events. He recorded a video which is being shown at meetings he is unable to attend. He provided a copy of his script to board members and encouraged them to use the information as talking points when communicating our message to their local legislators and supporters of the community college system.

Dr. Clark has attended the Legislative Meetings for MS Delta Community College and Coahoma Community College, which hold their legislative meeting together. Dr. Clyde Muse and Ms. Colleen Hartfield of Hinds Community College spoke to this legislative group, as well as Dr. Clark. They also spoke at the Itawamba Community College legislative meeting. Dr. Clark has been invited to speak at the Copiah-Lincoln Legislative Meeting later in the month.

Dr. Clark continues to communicate with staff from United States Senator Thad Cochran's office regarding funding of the construction of the SBCJC headquarters building by way of federal monies. Senator Cochran's staff is helpful but is not encouraging about the likelihood of obtaining federal funds for our building.

Mrs. Diane Day, the widow of Dr. Larry Day, called Dr. Clark and expressed her thanks for the resolution that was passed in memory of Dr. Day.

Dr. Clark has been invited to tape a commercial at MS Public Broadcasting about Mississippi's community colleges. This commercial will be played before and during the Mississippi high school football playoff games, which MPB airs live. Dr. Clark distributed Dr. Eddie Smith's

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October report of MPB board activities.

Dr. Clark yielded the floor to Board Member Bruce Martin, who provided an update on the activities of the EdNet Board, of which Mr. Martin is a member. Mr. Martin reported that there has been a push among some EdNet board members to give the broadband spectrum away to various companies and organizations. After requesting an opinion from the Attorney General's office and receiving that opinion, it was determined that the broadband spectrum could not be given away, as it is state property. Mr. Martin reported that the broadband spectrum has been valued at \$6.5 million. In order to keep the spectrum licenses, the FCC states there has to be a demonstration of public good with the licenses. Dr. Judy Lewis, the MPB Executive Director, is proposing two projects that would cost \$50,000 to implement and would demonstrate public good. The first proposed project is a pilot program with MPB providing programming to daycare centers and Head Start centers. The second proposed project would be a public/private venture in an area of the Delta that currently doesn't have broadband. It will allow a for-profit entity to become established using the spectrum. Mr. Martin feels that legislation is needed to insure that the SBCJC can receive the revenue from the leasing of its channels.

Dr. Clark thanked Mr. Martin for his hard work and efforts representing the agency on the EdNet Board.

Dr. Clark concluded his report.

MACJC Report

Dr. Willis Lott provided the MACJC report. The Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges (MACJC) has approved the leasing of Softedge software, a legislative advocacy software. This will allow all colleges and SBCJC to keep in close communication with senators and representatives, both state and federal. This agreement will provide sixteen licenses, fifteen for each respective college and one to SBCJC. The University of Southern Mississippi (USM) has indicated they would like to provide online courses to their freshman and sophomore students utilizing the Mississippi Virtual Community College (MSVCC). This could be a pilot project for other state universities. The Graduation Rate Task Force (GRTF) has benefitted from the hard work of Dr. Reginald Sykes of IHL and Dr. Fiona Qualls of SBCJC. There have been discussions regarding a common core curriculum for all eight state universities. This will allow the CJC system to go to one common core system. The Governor's EBR recommended a cut of twelve percent for most agencies. Dr. Lott referred to the Governor's proposal to change the current governing structure that the MS CJC system has and said it is proven to be one of the best in the nation. He feels it would be unwise to change the current structure. He maintained that the CJC system will continue to do more with less and remain one of the best in the nation. There was a lengthy discussion of this matter by the Board.

Dr. Lott said the CJC enrollment is growing and will continue to grow. He expects enrollment to be high in the Spring and Fall semesters of 2010. Dr. Lott has conducted his own research regarding community colleges students not receiving their diplomas. He said many students complete their college coursework, but do not participate in graduation exercises due to graduation fees, which could be \$40 to \$50. It is known that high school students who complete their course work will receive their diploma. In three years time, the CJC system has had 16,000 students who meet graduation requirements, but did not graduate because they did not apply for graduation. This does affect the graduation rate. Dr. Lott concluded his report.

Chairman Walker recognized Mr. John Adcock, representing Mississippi Delta Community College (MDCC). Mr. Adcock is a former staff member of the SBCJC and was attending the Board meeting in support of the three programs being requested by MDCC.

Career and Technical Education Report

Dr. Debra West, presented all information pertaining to Workforce, Career and Technical Education and Grants & related activities.

Dr. West presented three New Program Requests on behalf of MDCC. They are found in **Exhibits B1, B2 and B3**. Exhibit B1 is the request for a Surgical Technology program, Exhibit B2 is the request for a Physical Therapist Assistant program and Exhibit B3 is the request for a Respiratory Care Practitioner program.

In a motion made by Mr. Bobby Steinriede and seconded by Mr. Bubba Hudspeth, the SBCJC Board **voted unanimously** to approve the New Program Requests in Surgical Technology, Physical Therapist Assistant and Respiratory Care Practitioner at MDCC.

Workforce Report

Dr. West provided the standard workforce report, **Exhibit C1**. The WET Fund report, **Exhibit C2**, shows to-date transfers received. Dr. West presented a new report with data reported by staff at the National Strategic Planning and Assessment Research Center (NSPARc), located at Mississippi State University (MSU). This is for information only.

Grants and Related Activities Report

Dr. West presented **Exhibit D1**, the report for Grants currently being administered by personnel at the SBCJC. **Exhibit D2** reports the number of Career Readiness Certificates (CRC) issued to-date. Dr. West presented a new report regarding CRC's with data presented by NSPARc. This is for information only. Dr. West concluded her report.

Chairman Walker called for a recess at 10:15 and reconvened the meeting at 10:30.

Academic Affairs Report

Dr. Fiona Qualls greeted all Board Members and referred them to **Exhibit E**, the standard bi-monthly report for the Commission on Proprietary Schools and College Registration (CPSCR). This is for informational purposes only. She said there is an interest in looking at the appropriation bill for the proprietary schools and possibly increasing fees for applications.

In the Monitoring/Audit division, staff is wrapping up Summer 2009 audits and should be finished by Thanksgiving. Fall 2009 audits should begin in January 2010. Dr. Qualls and her staff continue to look for efficiencies in the auditing process.

On the ABE/GED front, there are two major events that have occurred this month. Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) has a new accountability system where every school is ranked based on a points system. If a school graduates a student, the school receives 300 points. If the student drops out, the school loses 300 points. If a student who drops out and then obtains a GED in a certain amount of time, the school earns 150 points. SBCJC has talked to MDE about not breaking any GED testing services rules that will allow this share of information, with respect to the privacy of the students. MDE is working on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). There have been issues with students who have taken the GED test in other states and coming to MS and not being able to transfer their test results in order to complete the test. This is because some states require a Constitution-related part of the test that Mississippi doesn't require. If a student doesn't take their state's Constitution part of the test, then that state doesn't grant a GED. We would like to grant the GED certificate to that person and in talking with the GED Testing Service in Oklahoma, they have agreed to award GED diplomas in certain instances.

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There have been discussions on curriculum content alignment between community colleges and universities. This will allow for a uniform description to be used in all community colleges and university catalogs.

Dr. Qualls said she would be attending and helping to conduct the Mississippi Community College Foundation Leadership Academy this weekend at Holmes Community College in Ridgeland. Although she is not a participant, she has found the information presented very informative and is learning all that she can.

She reported that Jim Southward's daughter has had surgery and is recovering well. She concluded her report.

Technology Report

Mr. Ray Smith of the Information Technology Division presented his report. He has been working with Chief Technical Officers and IT Directors at the community colleges regarding the very rapid growth of internet usage on our campuses. The utilization rates are running very high right now and there is concern about adequate bandwidth for our internet usage. There is a cost associated with upgrading internet access utilization and the group is lobbying the MACJC for additional funds.

He concluded his report.

Legislative Report

There was no report.

Mrs. Deborah Gilbert provided the Bi-Monthly Capital Improvement Report. The SBCJC headquarters building is listed on this report. This is for informational purposes only.

Finance Report

Mrs. Deborah Gilbert presented the Finance report and referred SBCJC members to the Finance agenda tab.

Attachment 1 is the approval request for the General Fund Disbursement out of Fund 2298 in the amount of \$10,706,893.00, for December 2009.

In a motion made by Mr. Ed Perry and seconded by Mr. Napoleon Moore, the SBCJC Board **voted unanimously** to approve the General Fund Disbursement out of Fund 2298 in the amount of \$10,706,893.00, for December 2009.

Attachment 2 is the approval request for the Education Enhancement Fund Disbursements out of Fund 4080 in the amount of \$2,783,465.00 and Fund 4110 in the amount of \$82,112.00, totaling \$2,865,577.00, effective November 30, 2009.

In a motion made by Mr. Max Huey and seconded by Mr. Bobby Steinriede, the SBCJC Board **voted unanimously** to approve the Education Enhancement Fund Disbursements out of Fund 4080 in the amount of \$2,783,465.00 and Fund 4110 in the amount of \$82,112.00, totaling \$2,865,577.00, effective November 30, 2009.

Attachment 3 is the Report on Cumulative Reductions in Education Enhancement Funds. This is for informational purposes only and does not require approval.

Attachments 4a and 4b are Financial Statements for General Fund 2291 and Special Funds as

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of October 31, 2009. These are for informational purposes only and do not require approval.

Attachment 5 is the Z-1 Budget Revision request to move \$250,000 of expenditure authority in Fund 3294 from 2nd Allotment period to 1st Allotment period. The Board of Nursing is in need of all funds.

In a motion made by Mr. Ed Perry and seconded by Mrs. Patricia Dickens, the SBCJC Board **voted unanimously** to approve the Z-1 Budget Revision request to move \$250,000 of expenditure authority in Fund 3294 from 2nd Allotment period to 1st Allotment period for the Board of Nursing.

Attachment 6 is the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) State Fiscal Stabilization Fund Update. This is for informational purposes only.

Attachment 7 is the FY 2010 Funding Formula update with Spring 2009 Enrollments included. This is for informational purposes only.

Attachment 8 is the Governor's FY 2011 Budget Recommendations for Community and Junior Colleges. This is for informational purposes only.

Attachment 9 is the bi-monthly Capital Improvement Report, which is also Exhibit F on the Friday morning meeting agenda.

Other business is regarding the Hilton Room Rate proposal for 2010. The room rates have been reduced from \$5.00 per night to \$114.00. Mrs. Saxton presented information on the current room rates at the Hilton Jackson and will provide comparison rates for the Hampton Inn located in Flowood. This will be brought before the Board in December for a vote.

Mrs. Gilbert concluded her report.

Travel Authorizations

Chairman Walker asked for requests to authorize travel reimbursements for events other than regularly scheduled Board Meetings.

Mr. Hudspeth attended the Aerospace event on October 19, 2009 at the Mayhew campus of East Mississippi Community College, but did not incur any meal or travel costs as he rode with Dr. Clark to this meeting. Mr. Walker said he had attended a meeting at Coahoma Community College on November 11, 2009.

In a motion made by Mr. Bubba Hudspeth and seconded by Mr. Max Huey, the SBCJC Board **voted unanimously** to approve the travel request of Mr. Hudspeth who attended a meeting at EMCC on October 19, 2009, and for Chairman Walker who attended a meeting at Coahoma Community College on November 11, 2009.

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

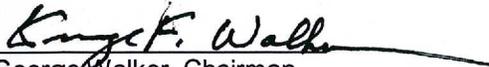
There being no other business, Chairman Walker adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Recorded by:

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Missy Saxton, Executive Assistant

Approved by:


Mr. George Walker, Chairman


Dr. Eric Clark, Executive Director

Exhibits:

Executive Director
Career & Technical Education
Workforce
Grants
Academic Affairs
Technology
Research & Planning
Finance Report
Dr. Clark's Handouts & News Articles

Exhibits A1, A2 & A3
Exhibits B1, B2 & B3
Exhibits C1, C2 & C3
Exhibits D1, D2 & D3
Exhibit E
No Exhibit
No Exhibit
Separate Agenda