

**ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2016, 10:06 A.M.**

The Alabama Community College System Board of Trustees (also referred to herein as the Board) held a meeting at 10:06 a.m. on Wednesday, May 11, 2016, in the Board Room of the Alabama Community College System building in Montgomery, Alabama. The meeting was called in accordance with Act No. 2015-125.

**PRESIDING: MR. AL THOMPSON
VICE PRESIDENT**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Thompson. The Pledge of Allegiance followed the invocation by Mr. Mike Broadway, Information Technology Division, Alabama Community College System Office.

On roll call, the following Board members were present:

Mr. Al Thompson
Mrs. Susan Foy
Mr. Frank Caldwell
Mrs. Crystal Brown
Mr. Milton Davis
Mr. Chuck Smith
Mr. Blake McAnally
Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter

Also present was Dr. Mark Heinrich, Chancellor of the Alabama Community College System. Mr. Ron Fantroy and Governor Robert Bentley did not attend the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion by Mr. Davis, second by Ms. Brown, the agenda was approved unanimously without discussion as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Ms. Brown, second by Mr. Caldwell, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Minutes of the April 13, 2016 meeting as presented without discussion.

**SECTION VI
PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no individuals registered to speak to the Board during the Public Hearing.

**SECTION VII
(INSTRUCTIONAL AND STUDENT SERVICES, FACILITIES, FISCAL, INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY, ADULT EDUCATION, AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT)**

ADOPTED

On a motion by Mr. Davis, second by Mr. McAnally, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following seven (7) items:

Mr. Thompson called for discussion and recognized Mr. Smith. Mr. Smith stated that the Facilities and Infrastructure Committee looked at the Snead State Community College's gymnasium safety issue caused by brick veneer coming off of the building. There are some

additional things they want to do to the facility. The Committee talked this through with the President and architect. They decided to first make the facility safe. Using the funds requested to get the exterior of the building in line, they will be coming back to us to ask for other financial obligations to be approved. This will get the building back in an operating order so that the College can continue to use the building until the design of their improvements are made. It was a good process to work through with the President, architect, and Committee. Mr. Smith commended the Committee, College, and architect for coming up with the best resolution that they could have to an unsafe situation. Mr. Thompson stated that he appreciated their diligence and attention to those safety issues.

Mr. Thompson asked if there were any further discussion on the motion. Ms. Brown spoke on the revision of dorm rates at Wallace - Hanceville. She mentioned that last month she made a comment on the dorm rate being raised 40 percent. In the future, Ms. Brown would like to see the Trustees raise rates, maybe, on an annual basis, rather than waiting four or five years at a time. She believes that would probably be more helpful to our customers that we serve. Chancellor Heinrich stated Dr. Karolewics has some additional information that might be helpful. He asked Dr. Karolewics to share with the Board. He said it might help clarify some of the changes.

Dr. Karolewics thanked the Trustees to allow her to speak to their concern. She said it is certainly a well-placed concern. She apologized for not making it clearer that the cost of the increase in the dorm rates would also include services that the students currently are responsible for providing for themselves such as Internet and TV. She said the College does not provide that currently at check in for the students. The increase in dorm rates for the semester includes \$110 for Internet, \$100 for TV, and \$190. The \$190 difference between the current rate, the two additions and the proposed rate is the only increase. That is about 20 percent increase in that period of time. All of the men's dorms have been rehabbed. They were in horrible shape before the rehab. The women's dorms have new roofs. She said she feels comfortable providing for a 20 percent increase in the residency rates. She thanked the Trustees for allowing us to improve their living environment and to charge a reasonable increase in the dorm rates.

Mr. Thompson asked if there were other questions. Ms. Hunter said that at one point Dr. Karolewics pointed out comparisons to the local economy. She asked, "Are you still below what it would cost to live off campus?" Dr. Karolewics said, "The rate was still very much below what it would cost to live off campus. The dorms are not apartment style dorms, they are bedrooms. For the women, they are a bedroom, closet and bathroom. They are allowed to have a small refrigerator in their rooms. They share common areas, like laundry and a kitchen. The rates for that kind of accommodations are less than what you might find at some of the other residence halls at other campuses. We are the lowest in the college system. We are still the lowest one with the increase."

T. A. LAWSON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Time Extension on Construction/Renovation Project

The Board granted T. A. Lawson State Community College a twelve month extension on the previously approved project for construction on the Academic Success Center on the Birmingham Campus and the Automotive Training Center on the Bessemer Campus. Planning must be completed and construction contracts executed no later than May 31, 2017, or this authorization will expire. Fiscal consideration: None

T. A. LAWSON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Renovation Project – One-Stop Center

The Board authorized T. A. Lawson State Community College to renovate the One-Stop Center on the Birmingham Campus and return it to its original use as a residential center. Planning must be completed and construction contracts executed no later than May 31, 2017. Fiscal consideration: \$2,500,000 (\$1,500,000.00 – U. S. Department of Education's Historically Black

Colleges and Universities Capital Financing Program and \$1,000,000.00 – Renewal and Replacement Plant Funds)

SNEAD STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
RENOVATION PROJECT--PLUNKETT-WALLACE GYMNASIUM

The Board authorized Snead State Community College to remove the brick veneer and repair all four exterior walls of the gymnasium due to significant life-safety issues. Fiscal consideration: \$500,000.00 – College Plant Fund (Renewal/Replacement)

WALLACE STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE - HANCEVILLE
CONSTRUCTION PROJECT-PAVING PROJECT NURSING/CENTER FOR SCIENCE
PARKING LOT

The Board authorized Wallace State Community College - Hanceville to complete the second phase of paving the parking lot of the Nursing/Center for Science Building. Planning must be completed and construction contracts executed no later than May 31, 2017. Fiscal consideration: \$275,000.00 – Unexpended College Plant Fund.

GEORGE C. WALLACE COMMUNITY COLLEGE - DOTHAN
PURCHASE OF COMPUTERS AND RELATED EQUIPMENT

The Board authorized George C. Wallace Community College - Dothan to purchase computers and related equipment for classrooms, laboratories and offices. Planning must be completed and contracts executed no later than November 30, 2016, or this authorization will expire. Fiscal consideration: \$139,327.00 – Current Unrestricted Fund.

WALLACE STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE - HANCEVILLE
REVISION OF DORM RATES

The Board authorized Wallace State Community College - Hanceville to increase the rental fee for dorms from \$900 to \$1,300 per term in the fall and spring semesters and from \$675 to \$975 per term in the summer semester effective Fall Semester 2016. Fiscal Consideration: The College anticipates the increase in dorm fees would generate approximately \$165,000 in additional auxiliary revenue annually.

ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM
ALLOCATION OF 2015-2016 INDUSTRY CERTIFICATION INITIATIVES FUNDS

The Board authorized the allocation of a portion of the 2015-2016 Industry Certification Initiatives Funds to Snead State Community College for opening enrollment training for Ammonia Operator II and III training for five existing industries in the region through Existing Industry Training Program. The industries participating in the training are Americold Logistics, Koch Foods, Pilgrims, Keystone Foods and Wayne Farms. Fiscal Consideration: \$44,555 - 2015-2016 Education Trust Fund Industry Certification Initiatives Funds (Existing Business & Industry).

The Chancellor asked Dr. Lynn Bell, Business Manager of George C. Wallace Community College – Dothan, on behalf of President Linda Young who could not be present due to graduation, to address the Board on the College's need for the parking and paving project. Dr. Bell's PowerPoint presentation focused on the need for the additional parking and renovation to existing infrastructure. He addressed the expected outcomes, facilities master plan, project

concept and financial analysis (cost estimate) for the parking facility and repairs to existing infrastructure.

ADOPTED

On a motion by Mr. Davis, second by Mr. Smith, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following item:

GEORGE C. WALLACE COMMUNITY COLLEGE - DOTHAN
CONSTRUCTION OF PARKING FACILITY AND RENOVATION OF
EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE

The Board authorized the re-designation of \$956,380 of an unencumbered balance from the Health Science Building construction to cover the cost of constructing a new parking facility, make needed repairs to a portion of the College's road damaged by construction traffic and construct additional parking spaces in an adjacent parking lot. Planning must be completed and construction contracts executed no later than May 31, 2017. Fiscal consideration: \$956,380.00 – Unexpended Plant Funds.

SECTION VIII
(EXECUTIVE, LEGAL AND PUBLIC INFORMATION)

ADOPTED

On a motion by Mr. Davis, second by Mr. McAnally, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following two (2) items:

Mr. Thompson called for discussion and recognized Mrs. Hunter. Mrs. Hunter said, "Mission statements really matter. She said she loved the word 'affordable' which was front and center on Gadsden State Community College's revised mission statement. She was impressed that the College would see fit to put 'affordable' as the first describer is so important and so reflective of what our K-12 graduates need. She stated, "In the fourth line of the mission statement, they have the words 'lifelong learners' which is also a great marriage with what we are doing on the community college side and the K-12 side." She mentioned a portion of the last sentence of the mission statement that said "develop skills that empower them to contribute to the social, culture, and economic life." She said, "I know that we need on the community college side, students that are graduating with more of the soft skills. You know, Dr. Heinrich, how many jobs are lost not to the domain expertise, but to the soft skills? On the K-12 side there is a strong push to get students that are at the jumping off point to continue to develop that knowledge and skill that they need to be successful. There were important words in the mission statement that spoke to what K-12 is doing and what we are doing on this side." She said she wanted "to draw attention to that and wanted to congratulate Gadsden State on their mission statement."

Chancellor Heinrich mentioned that in a recent credible journal article that they are predicting by 2030 the average four year degree would cost \$300,000. Mrs. Hunter said that is "just not affordable for our citizens." She hopes one day 'affordable' might be dropped from the mission statement because we would no longer have to think of that as much. "But for now, putting that front and center was important."

GADSDEN STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
LEASE AGREEMENT

The Board authorized the President of Gadsden State Community College to execute a lease agreement, to include a scheduling and maintenance agreement, with the Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce effective the date the lease agreement is executed by the parties, until five years after the first day of the first full month following the commencement date. Fiscal Consideration: The lease will generate \$18,000.00 annually.

GADSDEN STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
REVISED MISSION STATEMENT

The Board approved the revised mission statement for Gadsden State Community College.
Fiscal Consideration: None.

SECTION IX
(CHANCELLOR'S REPORT)

The Chancellor introduced new ACCS System Office employees: Linda Jones-James and Pamela Watkins – both accountants for the Fiscal Division and Noah DuBose – Operations Technician, Information Technology Division.

Chancellor Heinrich stated that as the result of the Alabama Community College Systems' change in governance from a State Board of Education to a Board of Trustees, Members of the SACSCOC Substantive Change Committee will conduct an on-site review at the System Office beginning today, May 10th through May 12, 2016 for the purpose of evaluating the System's compliance with the *Principles of Accreditation*.

Dr. Heinrich announced that the Alabama Community College System's college and campus consolidation plan implementation is being delayed for the near term. His comments were "As you know, we are working diligently with the three organizations or agencies responsible for overseeing educational consolidation to be certain that we are crossing all of our 'T's and dotting all of our 'I's with reference to the implementation of our consolidation plan in an effort to avoid any disruption. Those three entities are United States Department of Education (DOE), the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges (SACSCOC) and the Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE). Due to unforeseen legislative and departmental delays, coupled with some key timing issues necessary to ensure students' financial aid packages are not compromised, it's been my decision to push back the implementation of this consolidation plan. We will, in fact, we have begun working with these regulatory bodies and accreditors to establish an agreed upon schedule to accomplish the consolidations in 2017."

The Chancellor stated, "This new timeline will allow us to work with ACHE to satisfy their requirements, and continue our work with the legislature to pass board legislation essential to the success of our full consolidation plan. The new timeline will allow us to make this process as smooth as possible for those whom we serve. We ought never to forget this. We serve our students. That is front and center." Dr. Heinrich said, "I am confident that all involved entities can make this timeline work, and that we can continue to deliver excellent education in the three areas that make up our mission of the Alabama Community College System: Academic Transfer, Workforce Development and Adult Education."

Chancellor Heinrich said, "On a personal note, I don't think I can express strongly enough, I have great gratitude to our lead presidents, their teams and my staff here at the System Office for the hundreds and even thousands of hours they have already invested in this process today. We are looking forward to many exciting things in 2017 when it comes to consolidation."

Mr. Thompson thanked the Chancellor for his leadership and the Staff for their work thus far on consolidation plans.

SECTION X
(DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING)

The next Board meeting will be held in Montgomery at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 8, 2016, in the Board Room of the Alabama Community College System building in Montgomery, Alabama. A work session will follow at 1:00 p.m. in the Presidents Conference Room.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Mr. Davis, second by Ms. Brown, the Board meeting was adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

Vice President

Chancellor