

**ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY MAY 13, 2020, 10:03 A.M.**

The Alabama Community College System Board of Trustees (also referred to herein as the Board) held a meeting at 10:03 a.m. on Wednesday, May 13, 2020, via video/teleconference. The meeting was called in accordance with Act No. 2015-125 and conducted in accordance with Governor Ivey's Proclamation of March 18, 2020.

**PRESIDING: MR. AL THOMPSON
CHAIRMAN**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Thompson.

The invocation was delivered by Pastor Steve Walters of The Church at Pike Road and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

On roll call, the following Board members were present:

Mr. Al Thompson
Mr. Matthew Woods
Ms. Crystal Brown
Ms. Susan Foy
Mr. Blake McAnally
Mr. John Mitchell
Mr. Chuck Smith
Mr. Jeff Newman

Also present was Mr. Jimmy H. Baker, Chancellor of the Alabama Community College System. Absent were Governor Kay Ivey and Mr. Milton Davis.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion by Mr. McAnally, second by Mr. Woods the Agenda was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Ms. Brown, second by Ms. Foy, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Minutes of the April 8, 2020 meeting as presented without discussion.

**SECTION VI
PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no individuals registered to speak during the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

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

ADOPTED

ENTERPRISE STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
**AUTHORIZATION OF CHANGE ORDER NUMBER ONE FOR THE SESSIONS HALL
IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

On motion by Mr. Smith, second by Ms. Brown, the Board authorized the execution of Change Order # 1, modifying the Construction Contract between Enterprise State Community College and Bullard – Cook, Inc. for the Improvements to Sessions Hall at ESCC’s Main Campus. The Amount of Change Order # 1 is \$193,521.85.

Fiscal Consideration: \$193,521.85 Enterprise State Community College Funds

SECTION VIII
(EXECUTIVE, LEGAL AND PUBLIC INFORMATION)

ADOPTED

BISHOP STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY.

On motion by Mr. Smith, second by Mr. Woods, the Board unanimously authorized the Alabama Community College System to purchase for the benefit of Bishop State Community College (“Bishop State”), property located at 272 North Broad Street, Mobile, AL 36603. The property is located directly across from the main campus of Bishop State and is comprised of .58 acres of land and a building that is approximately 11,429 sf. The Building will house three future Allied Health Programs. This authorization is subject to the receipt and approval (by the Alabama Community College System Board of Trustees) of the following items: 1) a purchase agreement between the Alabama Community College System and the Mobile County Health Department for the subject property; 2) a current legal description of the property; 3) written confirmation that Bishop State’s access to the purchased property (inclusive of the Building and associated parking spaces) will not be limited or restricted by the Mobile County Health Department in the future, and 4) an estimate of the total cost of the renovations necessary to modify the building so that Bishop State may use it for the intended purpose.

Fiscal Consideration:

Cost of Property	\$250,000
Closing Costs, Appraisal and Structural	Not to exceed \$10,000 – to be split with Mobile
Engineer Evaluation and Other Required Assessments	County Health Department
Asbestos Abatement Cost	\$48,300
Funding	Unrestricted Plant Funds

This action item was previously presented to and approved by the Board of Trustees at its March 11, 2020 meeting. Subsequent to approval it was discovered that some of the supporting information submitted to the Board of Trustees had been inaccurate. The inaccurate information was corrected and this item was re-submitted to the Board of Trustees for consideration and approval.

SECTION IX
PERSONNEL

None.

SECTION X
ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES
COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

SECTION XI
(CHANCELLOR'S REPORT)

Chancellor Baker expressed his appreciation to the Alabama Community College System Colleges across the State for doing an exceptional job during these difficult times. He stated there were some issues with hands on courses, clinical courses, and CDL training in regard to the guidelines set forth regarding social distancing. Chancellor Baker stated that he had sent the Governor's office a letter addressing these concerns and asking for consideration.

Chancellor Baker asked Mr. Boone Kinard to provide a legislative update to the Board. Mr. Kinard stated the Legislature met last week to address several major items left to finish before

the legislative session ends on Monday, May 18. The legislative leadership limited the issues that were addressed to the state budgets, the Public School and College Authority (PSCA) Bond Issue, and local legislation. As a result, many bills were effectively killed for the remainder of the 2020 Legislative Session. Mr. Kinard discussed some of the highlights of the legislation impacting ACCS to include:(1) PSCA Bond Issue - Total amount = \$1.25 billion dollars; just over \$120 million dollars allotted for ACCS;(2) the Education Trust Fund (ETF budget) which totals a \$91 million year-over-year increase in overall budget for FY2020-21; \$11.2 million dollar increase for ACCS for the following:

- o \$6.7M for Community College Operations & Maintenance
- o \$1M for Prison Education
- o \$4.3M for Dual Enrollment

and (3) the Advancement and Technology Fund: - \$23.3 million dollars for ACCS. Mr. Kinard commented that given the circumstances, this was a very positive legislative session for ACCS.

Chancellor Baker asked Ms. Sara Calhoun to address the Board concerning the CARES Act. Ms. Sara Calhoun addressed the Board. Ms. Calhoun discussed the CARES Act which includes significant funding from the U.S. Department of Education as a result of COVID-19 pandemic. The majority of these funds are student based. The first half of the initial allocation to the Colleges are moving out to the students presently. Many of the Colleges have submitted their student plans and are beginning to issue awards to the students. Currently, a total of 27 million dollars of these funds going directly to the students that were impacted by COVID-19. The balance from the first award are institutional dollars which total 27.7 million dollars . Currently, we are in the process of releasing guidance to the Colleges on spending these institutional funds which details the specific uses of these funds. Again, the U.S. Department of Education issued these funds for student support purposes and the institutional funds from this can go toward students as did the first half of the award, but can be used for other institutional improvements that could be of direct benefit to the students to include distance learning.

Ms. Calhoun stated that the Chancellor is interested in using a portion of these funds systemwide for distance learning initiatives that include systemwide learning management software, proctoring and tutoring software which would be a direct benefit to the students at a distance learning level moving from this point forward. Ms. Calhoun stated guidelines to the Colleges will start today. In addition, the implementation of RFP's will begin expeditiously.

Ms. Calhoun stated that the next set of funding were the HBCU funds awarded by the U.S. Department of Education. These funds total 21 million dollars. In addition, there is 2 million dollars awarded to a portion of these institutions for strengthening supplemental programs. There are no direct guidelines from the U.S. Department of Education on these particular funds as of the present.

Chancellor Baker commented he believes the Colleges are in a good place to take advantage of these funds and use it in good places.

Chancellor Baker asked Mr. Chris Alexander to update the Board on the Distance Learning Project. Mr. Alexander gave an overview of the Distance Learning Project which included initiatives for systemwide management software, online proctoring, and tutoring. The Alabama Community College System recently partnered with Quality Matters to begin looking at reviewing the Alabama Community College System's online offered courses in terms of quality and delivery. Next, Mr. Alexander discussed the initiative of creating Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC). He expressed he is excited about this initiative because the ACCS can create this initiative for students and others throughout the State.

Mr. Blake McAnally commented this is the time for the Colleges to perfect the delivery mode for online classes.

Ms. Susan Price addressed the Board. Ms. Price gave an update on where the institutions stand in college operations. Ms. Price discussed recent guidance from the Governor's office issued last week which extended the Safer At Home directives through May 22nd. Ms. Price stated in regard to the Colleges' instructional operations there were no changes. There is no in-person instruction provided at the Colleges at least through the 22nd of May and the Colleges remain closed to the public. At the same time, the Colleges have been transitioning some of their personnel to their physical offices while observing social distancing and following the guidelines issued by the Alabama Department of Health. The Colleges have been flexible with work schedules and telework schedules wherever feasible. The Colleges have developed online education plans for use into the Summer semester. Ms. Price stated for general education courses, the Colleges have managed to transition well. Unfortunately, as mentioned earlier by Chancellor Baker, the requirements for students who need to complete lab work, clinicals and practicums which includes most of the CTE and workforce development training courses like welding, aviation and health programs have been difficult to provide.

Recently, the ACCS received some promising news that the Board of Nursing will allow nursing programs to maximize flexibility while meeting accreditation standards, which means Colleges will be able to meet clinical objectives through a combination of live encounters to include virtual encounters or on campus simulations. Ms. Price stated that Mr. Kenneth Kirkland, the Director of Health Programs at the System office worked closely and very hard with the Board of Nursing to bring about these changes.

Ms. Price stated for those Colleges who do not have the ability to complete CTE courses online, Colleges have developed contingency plans for CTE and workforce students with most plans anticipating late May through July as the time period where they can bring students back to campuses to complete those labs and practicums. For many students, the labs and practicums are the last courses that they need to complete a program and enter the workforce.

Ms. Price advised that the ACCS is moving forward with online summer classes. As for the Fall semester, the ACCS is moving forward with plans to open doors at the Colleges subject to guidelines and directives issued by the Governor. In addition, Ms. Price shared with the Board the Colleges' stories of human kindness, selflessness, giving, professionalism, and heroism that has occurred at every College on all levels. Every College has been touched personally by this pandemic. Ms. Price stated we were saddened to hear the news of the death of a part-time employee who had contracted the COVID-19 virus which sobered and humbled us and drove home the seriousness of these circumstances.

Chairman Thompson thanked Ms. Price for her concise and detailed overview.

SECTION XII

(DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING)

The next Board meeting will be held in Montgomery at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 10, 2020, via Zoom video/teleconference. A work session will follow at 10:30 a.m. and will also be held via Zoom.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board meeting was adjourned at 11.26 a.m.

Chairman

Chancellor