

**ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY JULY 14, 2021, 10:02 A.M.**

The Alabama Community College System Board of Trustees (also referred to herein as the Board) held a meeting at 10:02 a.m. on Wednesday, July 14, 2021, 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. MILTON DAVIS
CHAIRMAN**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Davis.

The invocation was delivered by Pastor James Taylor of Camellia Baptist Church Prattville and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

On roll call, the following Board members were present:

Mr. Milton Davis
Mr. Matthew Woods
Mr. Blake McAnally
Ms. Valerie Gray
Mr. Goodrich Rogers
Mr. Jeb Shell
Mr. Lleveyn Rhone (by phone)
Dr. Yvette Richardson

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. McAnally made a motion to amend the agenda to include Lawson State Community College's action item VII.A.2 – Refinanced Bond Amendment. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Rogers, the amended Agenda was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Mr. Rogers, second by Mr. Rhone, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Minutes of the June 9, 2021 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

ADOPTED

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

ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM
Authorizing Resolution Bond Series 2021

On motion by Mr. Rogers, second by Mr. Shell, the Board unanimously approved an Authorizing Resolution for up to \$100,000,000 in 2021 ACCS Revenue Bonds to be used to fund various projects at multiple ACCS institutions. The proposed bonds will be funded with pledges from the \$10 ACCS Enhancements Fee revenues that was passed by the ACCS Board of Trustees on April 5, 2021. Annual debt service will be approximately \$5,000,000.

Fiscal Consideration: \$100,000,000 Annual debt service will be approximately \$5,000,000.

LAWSON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Refinanced Bond Amendment

On motion by Mr. McAnally, second by Ms. Gray, the Board unanimously approved the adoption of Lawson State Community College's amendment to the bond resolution adopted by the ACCS Board of Trustees on August 12, 2020 for the current Lawson State bond refinancing. This resolution will allow specific fees from Lawson to be released from future debt pledges and have consistency with other ACCS institutions.

J.F. DRAKE STATE COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE
Approval to Purchase Real Properties

On motion by Mr. Rogers, second by Mr. Woods, the Board unanimously authorized the President of J.F. Drake State Community & Technical to purchase three properties located on McDonnell Avenue, Huntsville, Alabama. The properties are adjacent to properties under contract for purchase by the College.

Fiscal Consideration: .

Property 1 (202 McDonnell Avenue)	Purchase Price \$69,000 plus closing costs
Property 2 (204 McDonnell Avenue)	Purchase Price \$90,000 plus closing costs
Property 3 (Bonner Property)	Purchase Price \$ 2,500 plus closing costs

SECTION VIII

ADOPTED

(EXECUTIVE, LEGAL AND PUBLIC INFORMATION)

SNEAD STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Upgrade of Network Infrastructure

On motion by Mr. Woods, second by Mr. Rogers the Board unanimously authorized Snead State Community College to expend \$983,155 for the purpose of updating/upgrading its Network Infrastructure and Wireless Network.

Fiscal Consideration: \$983,155

SECTION IX
PERSONNEL

Chancellor Baker advised that in preparation for moving ACCS construction management in-house, ACCS has retained Mark Salmon as Chief Facilities Officer. Not only will Mr. Salmon oversee construction and renovation projects, but he will also look at, evaluate and manage the appearance of the grounds and the overall impression made by the college campuses. Chancellor Baker stated that Mr. Salmon has spent most of his career working with Troy University and will be an asset to the ACCS.

Charlene Finkelstein introduced Mark Salmon as the new Chief Facilities Officer for ACCS beginning July 26, 2021. Mr. Salmon has 21 years of experience in facilities management with Sodexo Marriott International as Director of Buildings and Grounds and most recently as District Manager for the Alabama and Florida districts. Mr. Salmon has a Bachelors degree from the College of Engineering and Technology at Brigham Young University and an MBA from the Marriott School of Management at Brigham Young.

Mr. Salmon thanked Chancellor Baker and the Board for the privilege of joining the ACCS. Mr. Salmon commented that he is looking forward to the opportunity and the new responsibilities of being with ACCS. Mr. Salmon stated that he ascribes to Winston Churchill's belief that our buildings shape our people. Mr. Salmon desires for everyone that comes to an ACCS institution to feel pride in the facilities and he assured the Board that he will work toward that goal.

Chancellor Baker thanked Ed Whatley and Nathan Terrell for their work on ACCS facilities projects as outside contractors for ACCS. Chancellor Baker advised that the projects that are nearing completion will continue to be managed through the Department of Construction Management. Chancellor Baker advised that neither K-12 or the four year colleges were able to come out from under the Department of Construction Management and wants ACCS to become the model for how systems can handle their own construction management.

Chancellor Baker announced that after 11 years with the ACCS Dr. Reginald Sykes is resigning as President of Bishop State Community College effective July 14, 2021. Dr. Sykes will continue to work with Bishop State through the transition period.

Dr. Sykes addressed the Board of Trustees by stating that after 40 years in education it was time for him to retire and spend time with his family. Dr. Sykes expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to serve as President for five years at Alabama Southern, now Coastal Alabama Community College, and six years at Bishop State Community College. Dr. Sykes advised that there wasn't one day in the last 11 years that he has not wanted to come to work. Dr. Sykes loved his job with ACCS and has enjoyed working with the faculty and staff at both institutions and in both communities. Dr. Sykes thanked the system office for the support during his tenure as President and stated that he will miss the camaraderie and fellowship with the fellow Presidents who have come to be more than just colleagues, but very good friends. Dr. Sykes thanked Gloria Sterling for her support, loyalty, work ethic, overall historical knowledge and for keeping him on track during his tenure at Bishop State. Dr. Sykes recalled that his time at Bishop State was both challenging and rewarding and he feels privileged to have been part of a team which achieved much success at Bishop State. Dr. Sykes stated that while there is still a lot of work to be done, he feels confident in the talented leadership team, faculty, and staff that he is leaving behind. Dr. Sykes feels good retiring and with the knowledge that an experienced, hardworking and student-friendly leadership team is in place, is confident that Bishop State will continue to grow and prosper. Dr. Sykes advised that he plans to provide support and assistance to the new administration to ensure a smooth transition.

Dr. Sykes is looking forward to having the time and the freedom to pursue his hobbies and interests, including travel, golf, hunting and fishing. He imagines the joy of traveling without worrying about the college, a nice lunch without the worry of getting sleepy in the afternoon and no phone calls from security while playing a round of golf on Saturday. Dr. Sykes thanked Chancellor Baker for the opportunity to make his retirement remarks and for his support over the past 11 years. Dr. Sykes did not say goodbye, but that he would see everyone around.

On motion by Mr. Shell, second by Mr. Woods the Board unanimously accepted the resignation of Dr. Reginald Sykes as President of Bishop State Community College.

Mr. Davis, Mr. Woods, and Mr. McAnally thanked Dr. Sykes for his work with the ACCS and congratulated him on his retirement.

Chancellor Baker asked that David Campbell, President at Northeast Alabama Community College, be remembered in prayer as he recently had hip surgery.

Chancellor Baker also acknowledged the attendance of Mr. Matt Rogers, President at Enterprise State Community College, who is also currently undergoing medical treatment.

Chancellor Baker next announced Dr. Lawrence Brandyburg as the new Interim President at Bishop State Community College.

Susan Price addressed the Board to give Dr. Brandyburg's background. Dr. Brandyburg is currently serving as Executive Vice President of the college. Prior to joining Bishop State, Dr. Brandyburg worked at the Lone Star Community College System in Houston, Texas where he served in multiple positions including Vice President of Instruction and Student Success of Lone Star College. Dr. Brandyburg has also served in an international capacity as CEO of Lone Star College- Jakarta, Indonesia. Lone star Jakarta was a SACSCOC certified community college that was the first of its kind in the country of Indonesia. During his tenure there, Dr. Brandyburg was instrumental in helping more than 300 Indonesian students complete the Associate of Arts degree program at that college. Dr. Brandyburg has been passionate in the area of student success his entire career while serving as Dean of Instruction for Math and Teacher Education at Lone Star College. Dr. Brandyburg supervised a math division that implemented the system's first module math program to help expedite the success and completion of three developmental math courses in one semester. Dr. Brandyburg's advocacy for student success resulted in the creation of math success labs at two Lone Star College locations. Dr. Brandyburg is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin. He enjoys reading books about Abraham Lincoln and Ulysses S. Grant. Dr. Brandyburg lives in Mobile Alabama with his wife of 36 years and has three adult children.

Dr. Brandyburg thanked the Board of Trustees and Chancellor Baker for the opportunity to serve as Interim President at Bishop State Community College. Dr. Brandyburg plans to call on his many years of community college leadership to transform Bishop State Community College into the college that the citizens and businesses of Mobile and surrounding areas look to for an affordable quality education. Dr. Brandyburg recalls that he met Dr. Sykes as an undergraduate student when Dr. Sykes was his kinesiology professor at Prairie View A&M University. Dr. Brandyburg feels fortunate to have had the opportunity to see the start of Dr. Sykes' amazing career in education and also see the fruits of his labor more than 38 years later. Dr. Brandyburg thanked Dr. Sykes for his mentorship and looks forward to his advisement as Dr. Brandyburg starts his new role at Bishop State Community College. Dr. Brandyburg advised that he, along with the assistance of system office, has assembled an exceptional staff with many years of educational experience. Accompanying Dr. Brandyburg at the meeting, were Dr. Dolly Horton, Dean of Health Sciences, Dr. Kathryne Pavey, Chief Student Affairs Officer and Jessica Davis, Chief Financial Officer. Additional members of the staff that were not present are Frazier Payne,

Special Assistant to the President, Gloria Sterling, Administrative Assistant to the President, Roger McSwain, Dean of Instruction and David Felton, Dean of Workforce Education. Dr. Brandyburg advised that in the next couple of months the college would be producing a strategic plan that will consist of input from industry, community, K-12, and local government and will be the College's guideline to the transformation of Bishop State Community College. One of the highlights of the plan is the Advanced Manufacturing Center which will be the gold standard in quality education. The center will transform Bishop State's relationship with business and industry by offering certificates and associate degrees in Advanced Manufacturing, Engineering Technology and Advanced Manufacturing. The degrees that will be offered with that program are Process Operation Technology and Industrial Maintenance Technology. The Advanced Manufacturing Center will prepare individuals to apply basic engineering principles and technical skills to identify and resolve production problems in the manufacturing of products including instruction in machine operations, production line operations, engineer analysis system, analysis instrumentation, physical controls automation, computer-aided manufacturing and quality control and informational infrastructure. In addition to the Advanced Manufacturing Center, the college is in the process of completing the Health Sciences Center in the Bishop State College of Allied Health. The programs to be offered under the Health Science Center are an Associate degree in Nursing, Practical Nursing, Physical Therapist Assistant, Health Information Technology, Respiratory Therapy Assistant, Mental Health Technician, and Emergency Medicine. The transformation of the Student Services Division will make a significant contribution in recruiting, outreach, and customer relations. Dr. Brandyburg plans to make students the number one effort at Bishop State Community College. Dr. Brandyburg introduced a video.

SECTION X **CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**

Boone Kinard provided an update on the ACCS efforts to ensure that ACCS colleges are compliant with the Federal Clery Act and other safety and security reporting requirements. Significant progress has been made toward the goal of full compliance for every college by October 1, which is when the annual safety reports must be submitted to the U.S. Department of Education. To date, 16 colleges have been confirmed to meet all compliance standards as required by the Clery Act and are ready for submission to the U.S. Department of Education. Ingram State, which serves a 100% incarcerated population, is working on an exemption to the reporting as the reports are already provided by the Alabama Department of Corrections. The seven remaining colleges are in different stages of coming into compliance but are expected to be in full compliance well ahead of the October 1 deadline. Mr. Kinard thanked Chief Mark Bailey for his assistance to the college's and thanked the staff at each of the colleges. Mr. Kinard advised that U.S. Department of Education has been aware of ACCS' efforts from the very beginning and has provided valuable guidance through this process. ACCS has worked closely with Mr. James Moore, Senior Advisor for Clery Compliance and Campus Safety Operations for the U.S. Department of Education. Mr. Kinard advised that ACCS is in process

of trying to schedule statewide training opportunities with Mr. Moore for ACCS colleges. Mr. Kinard stated that once this initiative is complete, the ACCS will be used as a model for how a college system should approach and implement federal reporting compliance for safety and security.

Next, Karen Becker presented an IT update. In addition to making sure that the data and integrity of the College's IT infrastructure is secure, IT is also implementing Canvas learning management software program and Target X software for enrollment and recruitment management. These programs along with the ERP initiative will allow the Colleges to monitor student progress, enrollment, financial aid, and other information. These IT updates will provide a new way for the Colleges to communicate with the students. Another project in the works is Elevate, which will be used for Workforce Development initiatives. The new enrollment management program will begin being used at select Colleges to register students for the 2021 Fall semester.

Keith Phillips next gave an update on the Line Worker Training Program at Trenholm State. This program launched at Trenholm on July 12, 2021 with approximately 100 people in attendance at the signing ceremony, including representatives from Alabama Power, Alabama Rural Electric Association, Central Alabama Electric Cooperative and Dixie Electric Cooperative. To date, there have been 4 graduating classes from the previously existing programs at Lawson State, Jefferson State and Bishop State. Out of the 80 individuals graduating, 62 were hired by Alabama Power. From Bishop State's last graduating class, all 19 students had job offers and some with multiple offers upon completion of the program. The program at Trenholm State has tremendous support from local elected officials and the community. After the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding, the representative companies held demonstrations of the training that would be delivered in the program. The program is 9 weeks long with a cost of \$4,150 per student. Trenholm State's first Line Worker class will begin on January 10, 2022. The median salary for a line worker is \$84 thousand dollars annually. Mr. Phillips commented that the signing program felt like a family reunion due to all the support the program is receiving.

Chris Cox and Mara Harrison gave an update on the Innovation Center. The Innovation Center is the product of a 2019 Legislative Act which dealt with aligning education to workforce needs. Mara Harrison will serve as the Interim Executive Director for the Innovation Center. Ms. Harrison advised that Alabama has been leading workforce efforts in the nation with many of its initiatives. Renovations on the center started on July 14, 2021. During the renovation period, plans are moving forward for the ACCS credentialing initiative. The Innovation Center plans to meet the needs of students and industry by providing students with straight paths to higher wages and better jobs and by providing Alabama companies with the workers they need at all levels. Credentialed training will be offered in various locations throughout the state at varied times of the year but will allow every Alabamian an opportunity to progress in employment regardless of where they live. Enrollment in the training will be tied to the participants' local ACCS college

and skills mastered will be recorded by the college, thereby ensuring the student is able to earn college credits when and if they are ready to progress to a degree. The Innovation Center will ensure that the training offered meets the criteria developed by the National Skills Coalition. The five criteria that a program must meet are : (1) the program must have occupation relevancy; (2) the program must partner with industry associations or bigger consortiums of businesses that represent the same population of employees; (3) the program must have published skills that are trained within those programs; (4) jobs must be attained after the completion of the program and (5) the program must lead a student to the next level of employment that comes with more skill and higher wages. This initiative by the ACCS is the first in the nation and Alabama will be leading the efforts. Elevate is the program that will be used to track student credentials and will allow students to register at their home college when and if they progress to credit training. The plan is to have 25 programs that qualify for credentialing for the first year. Ms. Harrison advised that they have received nothing but positive responses from the community and industry, especially from the Associated Grocers Association and Alabama Restaurant and Hospitality Association. Ms. Harrison believes that this initiative will expand the footprint of ACCS colleges and will reach a student population that might not otherwise consider college.

Roger Bates gave an update on the transition from the Department of Construction Management. Mr. Bates recognized Bryan Helms, Sara Calhoun, Boone Kinard, John Rollins, Tracy Davis, and Ed Whatley for their work on the implementation team. Mr. Bates thanked Milton Davis and Blake McAnally for their input as the team began compiling the manual for handling construction projects in house. The foremost goal of the team is to make absolutely certain that the ACCS is code compliant and ensures the safety of all ACCS buildings. The team is working with IT at the possibility of developing an online submission process. Currently there are 96 DCM projects ongoing across ACCS institutions, which will continue to be managed through DCM until completion. The Innovation Center will be the first project undertaken by ACCS' construction management department.

Milton Davis thanked Mr. Bates for his efforts and is looking forward to seeing the new procedures that Mr. Bates and the implementation team develop.

Blake McAnally thanked the committee for their hard work and stated he is excited about the first project with the Innovation Center.

Boone Kinard updated the Board on the progress of the implementation team for the construction management project. Mr. Kinard has been holding meetings with the Alabama Department of Finance and with construction related trade associations to get their input and hear their concerns regarding this transition. Mr. Kinard feels that the meetings have served to alleviate many concerns and misunderstandings about how ACCS was going to proceed with its construction projects.

SECTION XI
COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

SECTION XII
(DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING)

The next Board meeting will be held in Montgomery at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 11, 2021, in the Board Room of the Alabama Community College System building in Montgomery, Alabama. A work session will follow at 10:20 a.m. and will also be held in the Board Room.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

Chairman

Chancellor