

**ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY MAY 11, 2022, 10:00 A.M.**

The Alabama Community College System Board of Trustees (also referred to herein as the Board) held a meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 11, 2022, 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/MR. BLAKE MCANALLY  
CHAIRMAN**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Davis.

Mr. Davis recognized visiting guests Dr. Hayes and the Gadsden State Leadership Academy.

The invocation was delivered by Reverend Meghan Kelley of Clanton First United Methodist Church and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

On roll call, the following Board members were present:

Mr. Milton Davis  
Mr. Jeb Shell  
Mr. John Mitchell  
Ms. Valerie Gray  
Mr. Matthew Woods  
Mr. Goodrich Rogers  
Mr. Llevelyn Rhone  
Mr. Blake McAnally  
Dr. Yvette Richardson

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

On motion by Mr. Rogers, second by Mr. Rhone, the Agenda was approved unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion by Mr. Shell, second by Mr. Rogers, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Minutes of the April 13, 2022 meeting as presented without discussion.

**SECTION VI  
NEW BUSINESS**

ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS

Chairman

On motion by Mr. Woods, second by Mr. Rogers, the Board unanimously approved Blake McAnally as the new Chairman of the ACCS Board of Trustees.

Vice Chairman

On motion by Mr. Rogers, second by Ms. Gray, the Board unanimously approved Llevelyn Rhone as the new Vice Chairman of the ACCS Board of Trustees.

Mr. Woods thanked Mr. Davis for his service as Chairman, and stated that it had been a pleasure to serve under his leadership. He also commented that Mr. McAnally has served on the board since its inception in 2015. He stated that Mr. McAnally has been an instigator for many of the System's initiatives and has been a big reason for much of the financial stability of the System and many of the institutions. Mr. Davis also recognized Mr. McAnally for his great service and congratulated both Mr. McAnally and Mr. Rhone on their new positions.

Upon approval, Mr. McAnally took over as Presiding Officer and conducted the remainder of the meeting.

**SECTION VII**  
PUBLIC COMMENT

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

**SECTION VIII**  
(INSTRUCTIONAL, RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT, ADULT EDUCATION, FACILITIES,  
FISCAL, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT)

**ADOPTED**

**ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM**  
TUITION RATE INCREASE AND RESERVE FEE

On motion by Mr. Davis, second by Mr. Rhone, the Board unanimously the implementation of an annual increase of two dollars per credit hour for tuition beginning Fall 2022, collect the ACCS Enhancement Fee from Marion Military Institute and establish the Reserve Fee of \$1 per credit hour as a non-waivable fee.

**Fiscal Consideration:** The tuition adjustment would produce approximately \$2,755,000 in additional revenue. The collection of the ACCS Enhancement Fee from Marion Military Institute will result in approximately \$61,300 and the proposed non-waivable Reserve Fee will result in approximately \$153,000 in additional Reserve Fee revenues for 2022-2023.

**COASTAL ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**HVAC PROJECTS**

On motion by Mr. Shell, second by Mr. Woods, the Board unanimously approved Coastal Alabama Community College's request to proceed with construction of the project named HVAC Projects. The scope of work for the project is to upgrade the ventilation systems in buildings across the Coastal Alabama Community College footprint to increase fresh air intake and install Natural Catalytic Converters that emit hydrogen peroxide. Construction contracts shall be executed no later than October 31, 2022 or this authorization shall expire.

**Fiscal Consideration: \$3,460,413.00 Total Project Cost**

**SECTION IX**  
(EXECUTIVE, LEGAL AND PUBLIC INFORMATION)

**ADOPTED**

**MARION MILITARY INSTITUTE**  
**APPOINTMENT TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND ADVISORS**

On motion by Mr. Davis, second by Ms. Gray, the Board unanimously authorized the appointment of Mr. Donald Bennett, Mr. Logan Braxton Gray, MG W. Shane Lee, M.D., USAR (Ret), Dr. Eugene W. McCollum and Colonel Angelo Riddick, USA (Ret) to the Marion Military Institute Board of Trustees and Advisors as provided by state law.

**Fiscal consideration: None**

**JEFFERSON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**RESOLUTION FOR NAMING OF JOE MORRIS TECHNOLOGY CENTER**

On motion by Mr. Davis, second by Mr. Shell, the Board unanimously authorized the naming of the Technology Center at the Jefferson Campus of Jefferson State Community College for Dr. Joe Morris.

Chairman McAnally read aloud the resolution to officially name the Joe Morris Technology Center at the Jefferson Campus of Jefferson State Community College. President Keith Brown commented that he appreciated the passing of this resolution and mentioned that he enjoyed working with Dr. Morris for fifteen years. He stated that Dr. Morris was a quiet leader and that his fingerprints are still on many things at Jefferson State and throughout the system.

Dr. Brown introduced Joe Morris' children, David Morris, Chief Financial Officer, and Connie Morris Caskey, who serves as Department Chair of Communications at the Shelby/Hoover campus.

David Morris thanked the Board for the recognition of his father. He stated that his father knew the contribution that Jefferson State has made to the state along with the lives it has changed. He stated that it is more than a job, it is a mission and an honor. He thanked everyone who had a role in recognizing his father. Ms. Caskey concurred with his comments.

Mr. McAnally stated that it is a privilege to see the legacy that Dr. Morris left and thanked his family.

**Fiscal consideration: None**

**BISHOP STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**APPROVAL FOR NAMING THE HEALTH SCIENCES NURSING LAB #1**

On motion by Mr. Shell, second by Mr. Rhone, the Board unanimously authorized the President of Bishop State Community College to name the Health Sciences' Nursing Lab #1 in the Center for Health Sciences for the City of Mobile and to add appropriate signage.

**Fiscal consideration: \$75,000 gift from the City of Mobile**

**BISHOP STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**APPROVAL FOR NAMING THE HEALTH SCIENCES NURSING LAB #2**

On motion by Mr. Shell, second by Mr. Rhone, the Board unanimously authorized the President of Bishop State Community College to name the Health Sciences' Nursing Lab #2 in the Center for Health Sciences for the City of Mobile and to add appropriate signage.

**Fiscal consideration: \$60,000 gift from the City of Mobile**

**BISHOP STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**APPROVAL FOR NAMING THE CONFERENCE ROOM IN THE ADVANCED**  
**MANUFACTURING CENTER**

On motion by Mr. Shell, second by Mr. Davis, the Board unanimously authorized the President of Bishop State Community College to name the Conference Room in the Advanced Manufacturing Center for the City of Mobile and to add appropriate signage.

**Fiscal consideration: \$15,000 gift from the City of Mobile**

**BISHOP STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**APPROVAL FOR NAMING THE PROCESS TECHNOLOGY LAB MEZZANINE IN THE**  
**ADVANCED MANUFACTURING CENTER**

On motion by Mr. Shell, second by Mr. Rogers, the Board unanimously authorized the President of Bishop State Community College to name the Process Technology Lab Mezzanine (P-Tech Mezzanine) in the Advanced Manufacturing Center in Honor of the late City Council President, Levon C. Manzie and to add appropriate signage.

**Fiscal consideration: \$100,000 gift from the City of Mobile**

**CHATTAHOOCHEE VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**APPROVAL OF TEXTBOOK RENTAL FEE**

On motion by Mr. Davis, second by Ms. Gray, the Board unanimously authorized Chattahoochee Valley Community College to enter into a bookstore operation agreement with Barnes & Noble College, LLC and charge a \$26 per credit hour fee for textbook rental to take effect Fall Semester 2022.

**Fiscal consideration:** Barnes & Noble College, LLC agrees to spend up to \$43,000 for renovations to the bookstore and \$3,000 annually to support two tuition/book scholarships or five book-only scholarships per semester.

**SECTION X**  
**PERSONNEL**

Nikita Payne introduced ten new System Office employees:

**Kathi Carr** – Business Analyst for Elevate  
**Rachel Thomas** – Adult Education Specialist  
**Deanne Cleveland** – Administrative Assistant for Fiscal Services  
**Harun Biswas** – Regional Project / Facilities Director  
**Lemonte Prater** – Adult Education Accountant  
**Brandi Merrill** – Administrator of Learning Repository Architecture at the Innovation Center  
**Houston Blackwood** – Workforce Director at the Innovation Center  
**Brandon Froehlich** – Systems Administrator  
**Philip Green** – Assistant Director of Strategic Enrollment Management (Communication)  
**Devan Flowers** - Assistant Director of Strategic Enrollment Management (Non-Traditional Students)

Blake McAnally welcomed all the new employees on board.

**SECTION XI**  
**CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**

Chancellor Baker commented on the ASPIRE project, which involves \$300 million to be used for working toward the expansion and improvement of facilities around the state. Each school went through a significant process as part of the project. In addition, the ACCS has created an organization internally to evaluate facilities, their condition, and what it would take to improve them and provide expansion. Chancellor Baker further stated that construction costs are rising and that it was not uncommon for costs to be 30% higher than originally expected.

Chancellor Baker added that we have started developing workforce centers and that many schools were requesting to be part of the expansion program. An agreement has been reached with one architectural firm to design the centers. Per Chancellor Baker, at least five or six centers are planned around the state, and work has already been completed to the point of advertising to begin construction. One of the planned locations will be at Snead Community College in Boaz. After a review of the need in that service area, it was realized that the population center was not necessarily in Boaz.

Chancellor Baker asked Dr. Joe Whitmore, Snead President, to speak on an event which occurred at Snead State on Friday, May 6, 2022. Dr. Whitmore began by stating that the workforce center planned for Marshall County has excited the county for a very long time, and

they have had complete community buy-in from the time it started. Per Dr. Whitmore, almost fifty people from business and industry, and different municipalities and chambers of commerce attended the Friday event. He stated that they are all excited about the programs planned for the new center. Hard data from the Department of Labor was analyzed to see what main job demands are expected for the next ten years. Visits were made to business and industry, mayors, and superintendents to ask what jobs and programs they need. Per Dr. Whitmore, the information meshed perfectly and they know the exact programs needed at the facility. Dr. Whitmore further stated that he has received tremendous community support. Every mayor in Marshall county except one, every superintendent, the Chairman of the Marshall County Commission and three commissioners, the Governor, the Lt. Governor's office, local legislative delegates, the Chancellor, two Board of Trustee members, and several ACCS staff members attended the event. Per Dr. Whitmore, he is still receiving phone calls of support. The community is seeing results from the effort they have put in and is very confident in what Snead is doing. Dr. Whitmore thanked the Chancellor for the opportunity to host this event.

Mr. Woods thanked Dr. Whitmore for an invitation to the event and commented that he thought the event was tremendous and showed a great outpouring of community support from K-12, business and industry, mayors, etc. He also stated that multiple representatives from the legislature were there, including Senator Scofield, and all enjoyed seeing Gov. Ivey. Mr. Woods stated he left feeling very good that this will change lives and create opportunities in Marshall County. Per Mr. Woods, it was evident that the whole community is buying in to Snead's plans.

Mr. Rogers commented that he appreciated the invitation to the event and commended Ms. Whitmore for her participation in the event as well. He stated that it was "Who's Who" in Marshall County and that it was wonderful to see all the representation at the event and the enthusiasm and leadership of Dr. Whitmore which made this a successful event.

Mr. Baker stated that this demonstrates the advantage of cooperation between the local K-12 system and the community college system. Dr. Whitmore explained that the Marshall County Technical School is located in the geographical center of Marshall County, while Snead's campus is near the southern end of the county. The ASPIRE investigation revealed that the Snead campus is not convenient to everyone, and business and industry and some K-12 representatives requested a location that was more visible and accessible. This began a search for a building that would be feasible. The Marshall County Technical School sits on 42 acres of land and a parcel of land near the Technical School was available. Because of the close relationship between the school and Snead State, the school gave Snead the property for their new center. This is approximately a \$2 million tract of land. Per Dr. Whitmore, four city schools also use the Technical School's property and all the superintendents are on board with this agreement.

Mr. Baker emphasized that this is a great example of a community college working together with all the governmental agencies they serve.

Mr. Baker asked Boone Kinard to give an update on legislative issues. Per Mr. Kinard, the legislative session closed last month on April 7, 2022. Since the April Board meeting, the Governor has signed into law the education budget package. Per Mr. Kinard's summary, the ACCS received a total increase of over \$45 million, year-over-year, representing a 9.7% increase. The largest portion went to college O&M. The 4% pay raise will be fully funded with additional dollars for inflation and other needs. Also included were increases for college-specific earmarks. Prison education, which is a priority of the Governor, received a \$4 million increase. Marion Military Institute received a \$725,000 increase for pay raises and for funding the operation of the Military Hall of Honor, which is on their campus by state law. Per Mr. Kinard, this is the first time money has been secured for this. Adult Education and the Alabama Technology Network received smaller increases to fund the 4% pay raises. Dual enrollment also received a \$5 million increase for scholarships.

Mr. Kinard further stated that some new appropriations in the budget were \$5 million for Career Technical equipment upgrades and \$2 million to expand LPN programs in the healthcare field. The legislature also provided a \$5 million increase for the Innovation Center, which brings the total amount funded moving into next year to \$15 million. Mr. Kinard further stated that a couple of other pieces of legislation for one-time improvements and projects were approved, including a \$25 million one-time supplemental appropriation for twelve different college projects. Also approved was \$25 million in the advancement in technology fund which will help fund ASPIRE projects. Overall, the total is \$96 million new year-over-year dollars. Mr. Kinard thanked the Board members and Presidents for their efforts in contacting their legislators.

Mr. Kinard added that this is an election year and there will be a brand new legislature next year. It is expected that there may be a special session later this year to appropriate the second half of the federal ARPA funds. In January, 2023, an organizational session will take place to formally adopt new leadership and operational rules for the next quadrennium. The 2023 regular session will start in March 2023.

Mr. McAnally conveyed his appreciation for the work that goes on behind the scenes with the staff.

## **SECTION XII** **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None.



**SECTION XIII**

(DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING)

The next Board meeting will be held at Shelton State Community College's Martin Campus in the Bean-Brown Theater at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 8, 2022. A work session will follow at 10:20 a.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion by Mr. Rogers, second by Mr. Davis, the Board meeting was adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

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Chairman

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Chancellor