

**ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 11, 2023, 10:00 A.M.**

The Alabama Community College System Board of Trustees (also referred to herein as the Board) held a meeting at 10:01 a.m. on Wednesday, January 11, 2023, 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. BLAKE MCANALLY
CHAIRMAN**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman McAnally. Chairman McAnally introduced the Wallace State Community College – Hanceville’s Leadership Academy and thanked them for attending the meeting.

The invocation was delivered by Reverend Audrey Rodgers of First United Methodist Church of Montgomery and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

On roll call, the following Board members were present:

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

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Mr. Rogers, second by Mr. Davis, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Minutes of the December 14, 2022 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
COLLEGE SPOTLIGHT

BEVILL STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Bevill State Community College was chosen for January’s spotlight. Dr. Hagood expressed his pride in the efforts of the College to promote work force development in the area and the work the College is doing in the community. Dr. Hagood highlighted some of the programs at Bevill State Community College prior to introducing a video.

SECTION VIII
(EXECUTIVE, LEGAL, AND PUBLIC INFORMATION)

ADOPTED

CHATTAHOOCHEE VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NAMING OF THE COLLABORATION ROOM OF THE LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER

On motion by Mr. Davis, second by Ms. Gray, the Board unanimously authorized the President of Chattahoochee Valley Community College to rename the Collaboration Room on the ground floor of the CVCC Learning Resource Center in Owen Hall as the Dewilda “Dillie” Elliott Collaboration Room and to add appropriate signage.

Fiscal Consideration: \$100,000

SECTION IX
(INSTRUCTION, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, ADULT EDUCATION, FACILITIES, FISCAL, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT)

ADOPTED

DRAKE STATE COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE
APPROVAL OF INCREASE IN SPECIAL BUILDING FEE

On motion by Mr. Rogers, second by Mr. Davis, the Board unanimously authorized Drake State Community & Technical College to increase the Special Building Fee from \$9 to \$15 per credit hour. The fee will take effect Fall Semester 2023.

Fiscal Consideration: \$97,272 – Estimated additional revenue based on 16,212 credit hours projects in the FY 2023 Budget

DRAKE STATE COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE
CAPITAL PROJECT FINANCING

On motion by Mr. Rogers, second by Mr. Rhone, the Board unanimously authorized the Chancellor and President to structure the financing of an amount up to \$10,000,000 for approved critical capital improvements to campus facilities.

Fiscal Consideration: Up to \$10,000,000

COASTAL ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BAY MINETTE GYMNASIUM RENOVATION

On motion by Mr. Mitchell, second by Ms. Gray, the Board unanimously authorized Coastal Alabama Community College to proceed with accepting Bid Alternate No. 1 (new entrance addition) associated with the project named Bay Minette Gymnasium Renovation.

Fiscal consideration: \$580,000

TRENHOLM STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PURCHASE OF BLOUNT PROPERTY AT EXECUTIVE PARK

On motion by Mr. Davis, second by Mr. Rhone, the Board unanimously authorized a Resolution approving the purchase of real property from Executive Park 4520, LLC.

Fiscal consideration: 2,750,000.00, plus applicable closing costs and expenses

SECTION X
PERSONNEL

Charlene Finkelstein introduced the following new employees:

Matt Heaton – Workforce Coordinator – Innovation Center

Dr. Abigail Carter – Associate Director of Computer Information Technology Instructional Programs

Charlotte McLendon – Student Success Compliance Officer

Sandie Dutton – Workforce Coordinator – Innovation Center

SECTION XI
CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

Chancellor Baker requested a legislative update from Boone Kinard. Mr. Kinard advised that the Legislature began the 2023 organizational session on January 10, 2023. These sessions are held once every 4 years for the purpose of electing new leadership and officers as well as adopting new organizational rules for each chamber for the next 4 years. Mr. Kinard advised that the House will have mostly new leadership. Nathaniel Ledbetter was elected Speaker of the House, Chris Pringle was elected House Speaker Pro Tempore, John Treadwell was elected House Clerk, Scott Stadthagen will serve as the new House Majority Leader with Anthony Daniels serving as House Minority Leader. The Senate maintained basically the same leadership from the last quadrennium with Senator Greg Reed returning as Senate President Pro Tempore. Senator Pat Harris returns as the Secretary of the Senate. Senator Clay Scofield will continue to serve as Senate Majority Leader and Senator Bobby Singleton will continue as Senate Minority Leader. Mr. Kinard stated that no bills are allowed to be introduced during the organizational session. Mr. Kinard expects the pre-filing of bills to begin shortly after the end of the organizational session. The Legislature will begin their regular session in March.

Mr. Kinard commented that he and Chancellor Baker have met with various legislators and it was very apparent in those meetings that the hard work of the ACCS, Presidents and Colleges is being noticed.

Mr. Kinard also updated the Board on a new partnership between the ACCS and the Alabama Association of Resource Conservation & Development Councils. The partnership will provide active military, National Guardsmen and veterans with an opportunity to learn more about the education and workforce development programs offered through ACCS, as well information regarding state and federal financial benefits that are available to assist them or their dependents in paying for college. Thirty resource workshops will be held across ACCS institutions in January and February. The workshops were made possible by a \$50,000 sponsorship given to the ACCS from the Alabama Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils.

Chancellor Baker advised that Karen Becker and David Walters had been tasked with developing a strategic plan for the ACCS. Ms. Becker advised the Board that the first 90 days of the plan will be broken into 3 phases. Phase 1 of the plan will involve developing a strategic framework, which will include a master list of ideas, projects and initiatives. Phase 2 will involve meetings to start putting the ideas to paper and will be inclusive of senior leadership at ACCS, ACCS Board Members, College Presidents and business leaders from the community. Phase 3 will be the establishment of governance groups. Another aspect of the strategic plan will be to focus on professional development for ACCS employees.

Next David Walters and Ebony Horton gave an update on plans for the ACCS' 60th Anniversary. Ms. Horton advised that there will be four main events to celebrate the anniversary. First is the College showcase which will be comprised of 24 events that show the best aspects of each of the ACCS institutions and will be held monthly through the end of 2024. Second will be the community service events hosted by each college. Third is a Gala to celebrate all of the Alabama Community College System employees. The last even will be a golf scramble. Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail will close each of its courses in the state for this ACCS event. The goal of the Jubilee is to raise \$600,000 and will require participation from the staff at the system office and all of colleges. There will be 8 committees created to oversee the events. The Steering Committee will oversee the other 7 committees which are fundraising, marketing, media, scholarship, gala, community service and college showcase.

David Walters next advised that the proceeds from Jubilee celebration will benefit the Paths for Success Foundation. Mr. Walters introduced George Clark, Paths for Success Foundation Board Member, who attended the meeting.

Chancellor Baker asked Dr. Vicky Ohlson to give an update from the Division of Instruction, Research and Development. Dr. Ohlson spoke about the Transfer Pathway and the Future of Associate of Arts and Associate of Science Degrees. Both degrees prepare students to transfer to a four year college and earn a bachelor's degree. Dr. Ohlson advised that enrollment in the Associate of Arts degree has been outpaced by the Associate of Science degree over the last few years. Dr. Ohlson explained that Alabama developed the STAR program which provides students a guide to completing their associates degree for transfer to a four year college. Recently, more students have been transferring early from a community college to a four year college and not completing their associate degree. Some four colleges are incentivizing early transfer by making transfer requirements more stringent and narrowing the number of credits that are transferable. Dr. Ohlson's division is reviewing the curriculum for associate degrees to make sure that the ACCS' AA and AS degrees have enhanced relevance to the workforce and value beyond transferability. Dr. Ohlson will also be working with the Student Success Division to strengthen advising of students and to educate students on the importance of degree completion at the community college level.

Next, Chancellor Baker asked Dr. Neil Scott for an update on enrollment. Dr. Scott advised that the final Fall 2022 headcount and credit hour production is up over Fall 2021, which is in stark contrast to what is happening across the country. The increases in enrollment came with first time students, dual enrollment students, Pell and non-Pell grant recipient students and traditional aged. Enrollment was down for non-traditional students.

Dr. Scott reported that Spring semester 2023 to date had exceeded 100% of where the system was last term. Year to date, enrollment is up nearly 8% from the same time in 2022. Applications for Summer 2023 are up by 9% and 26% for Fall 2023. Dr. Scott is optimistic about Fall 2023 enrollment and the initiatives the ACCS has in place. Dr. Scott commended

Taylor Hilyer for her work with the colleges financial aid departments to ensure that awards are made quickly. Dr. Scott also commended Tessa Brown for her work with dual enrollment programs.

SECTION XII
COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Milton Davis reported that the Personnel Committee had performed Chancellor Baker's annual evaluation in accordance with Section 6 of the Chancellor's employment agreement. The Chancellor is rated on several categories including, 1- embracement, Promotion, and Advancement of the vision and mission of the ACCS; 2- efforts to secure necessary capital legislative appropriations and other resources for the proper management and operation of ACCS; 3- leadership and direction and 4- building a culture of integrity and excellence throughout the ACCS. The Board's collective evaluation of the Chancellor was exceptional with a 4.9 out of 5 composite score. Mr. Davis advised that the Board has complete confidence in the Chancellor's abilities to lead the ACCS.

Chairman McAnally gave an update from Audit Finance Committee and advised that the audits were progressing well.

SECTION XIII
(DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING)

The next Board meeting will be held at Bishop State Community College at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 8, 2023. A work session will follow at 10:20 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Mr. Davis, second by Mr. Rogers, the Board meeting was adjourned at 11:14 a.m.

Chairman

Chancellor