

## **MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING OF THE HINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT**

The Board of Trustees of the Hinds Community College District met at 1:00 p.m., April 2, 2025, on the Rankin Campus. The following members were present:

Mr. Jimmy Morton, President in-person  
Dr. Kevin Abraham, Vice President in-person  
Mr. Jeff Brunson in-person  
Dr. Homer Burns in-person  
Mrs. Jackie Granberry in-person  
Dr. Sandra Nash via Zoom  
Ms. Jamie Rasberry in-person  
Dr. Robert Sanders in-person  
Mr. Larry Swales via Zoom  
Mr. Calvin Williams in-person  
Mr. Johnny Young in-person

Others present were Dr. Stephen Vacik, President of Hinds Community College; John Hooks, Board Attorney; Bill Campbell, District Project Architect; members of the Executive Leadership Team: Dr. Vic Parker, Vice President of Finance; Andrea Janoush, Vice President of Human Resources; Marvin Moak, Vice President of Auxiliary Services & Facilities Management; Jonathan Townes, Vice President of Career and Technical, Sponsored Grants and HBCU Initiatives; Dr. Keri Cole, Vice President of Planning, Effectiveness, and Technology; Renee Cotton, Chief of Staff; Dr. Jennifer Scott-Gilmore, Vice President of Instruction & Academic Transfer Programs; Dr. Thomas Ware, Vice President of Instruction & Academic Transfer Programs; and Matt Jones, Vice President of Advancement.

### **Call to Order**

Board President Mr. Jimmy Morton called the meeting to order and opened it in prayer. The board president also recognized the culinary students and instructor, Randy Boyd, for the excellent meal they prepared.

### **Recognize Student-Athletes.**

Board President Mr. Jimmy Morton called on Nathan Werremeyer, the athletic director, to introduce the Head Track Coach, Reginald Dillon, and the Hinds Community College 2025 Indoor Track National Champions.

### **Approve Agenda**

**Upon motion by Mr. Williams seconded by Dr. Sanders, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda for this meeting.** A copy is on file and included in the minutes of the meeting.

### **Approve March 5, 2025 Minutes.**

**Upon motion by Dr. Burns seconded by Dr. Sanders the Board voted unanimously to approve the March 5, 2025 minutes.** A copy is on file and included in the minutes of the meeting.

### **Approval of Consent Agenda**

- a. Approve Property Recommended Surplus to the Needs of the College
- b. Approve Change Order #01-Bid # 3302 DA #24018, Davis Hall roof Replacement- Raymond Campus, an increase of \$3,977.20

**Upon motion by Dr. Burns seconded by Mr. Young the Board voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda.** A copy is on file and included in the minutes of the meeting.

### **Matters of Special Order**

- a. Resolution of Board Authorizing the Purchase of Real Estate

**Upon motion by Dr. Burns seconded by Dr. Sanders, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Resolution related to the Purchase of Real Estate. This item requires a roll-call vote.** A copy is on file and included in the minutes of the meeting.

- b. Officer Nominations

You recently received an email from Chief of Staff, Renee Cotton, on behalf of Board President, Jimmy Morton. Our bylaws state that Officer nominations shall be made at the April board meeting. Persons nominated should be consulted and agree to serve in their nominated office before their name is accepted into nomination.

Do we have any nominations from the floor for President, Vice President, or Secretary? Jackie Granberry received a nomination for secretary. The Board President asked Mrs. Granberry if she was willing to serve, and she respectfully declined, citing that she had not served on the board for long, but was open to serving in the future once she learned more and could serve effectively.

All three members of the Executive Committee—Jimmy Morton as President, Dr. Kevin Abraham as Vice President, and Rickey Clopton as Secretary—have expressed a willingness and desire to continue to serve if the Board wills.

The Board will vote for the officers at our May Board meeting.

c. SACSCOC Policy Review

The board has three things that need to be addressed for our upcoming SACS review.

- Policy related to conflict of interest.
- Written policy regarding board member dismissal.
- Annual Self-Evaluation.

Due to her background and knowledge, the Board President asked Mrs. Jackie Granberry if she would chair the committee to put these policies together. Mrs. Granberry agreed and requested 3-4 additional volunteers to help with this committee. Additional volunteers will be Mr. Jeff Brunson, Ms. Jamie Rasberry, Mr. Calvin Williams, and Dr. Homer Burns.

### **Budget Summary**

The Board President, Mr. Jimmy Morton, called on Dr. Parker to present the Budget Summary update. Dr. Parker reported that the college is projected to spend 8.33% monthly. HCC should be at 25% after the month of March. The college currently has 26.85% available, which is +1.85% ahead of the year-to-date spending range. The ending balance at the end of March 2025 is \$13,269,876.29 in cash. The ending balance in the money market is \$100,000.00, and \$8,119,343.03 is in the Raymond James investment account. The total net position is \$21,489,219.32

### **Approve Claims Docket**

The monthly expenses for March 2025 totaled \$3,780,689. The Fund 1 Unrestricted Funds expense total is \$538,023; Fund 2, Grants/Partnerships expense total is \$225,920; Fund 3, Auxiliaries expense total is \$685,065; and Fund 7, Capital Improvement expense total is \$2,331,681.

**Following discussion of the Claims Docket and upon motion by Dr. Sanders seconded by Mr. Young, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Claims Docket.** A copy is on file and included in the minutes of the meeting.

### **Recommend Personnel**

The College President brought three new faculty members before the Board for approval. A copy is on file and included in the minutes of the meeting.

**Upon motion by Mr. Williams seconded by Dr. Sanders, the Board voted unanimously to approve three new faculty members.** A copy is on file and included in the minutes of the meeting.

### **President's Report**

#### **Project Updates**

- a. Budget Update – We have been diligently working on preparing the budget. We start from scratch and build the budget based on needs. The Executive Leadership Team has met and reviewed it three times. We will present it to the Finance Committee on April 16 at 11:00 am in the President's Conference Room. Once the Finance Committee has reviewed it, we will send it to the full Board.
- b. Legislative Update—I had Dr. Ginger Robbins provide me with an update to share; as of this morning, this is what we know.
  - There is no consensus on appropriation bills, so as a result, they are dead at this time. Both chambers must agree to extend the session, but the motion must begin in the House. There may perhaps be an extension of the session. If not, the session will be over, and the Governor is the only one to call a special session.

- It is unlikely there will be a project bill this year, and we are unlikely to receive capital expense funds.
  - House Bill 1063 for the Mississippi State employees' parental leave passed.
  - House Bill 1193 for diversity, equity, and inclusion prohibition; it is still alive, but has not made it out of Congress.
  - House Bill 13 exempting community and junior colleges from specific construction and maintenance contracts and DFA oversight passed.
  - Senate Bill 2290 appointing a task force to evaluate the reauthorization of the WIOA Policy was passed and approved by the Governor.
  - Senate Bill 2518 passed, allowing us to transfer 3 million dollars of available bond money.
- c. Hinds CARES Day—We had approximately 250 employees volunteer at 15 agencies in our community.

### Key Accomplishments

- a. Maritime Partners Investment—We recently had a meeting and were able to secure about \$200,000 in commitments to complete the shower/bathroom area to finish up Phase III.
- b. Aviation Press Conference with Cindy Hyde-Smith—We unveiled the aircraft for which she helped secure the funds for the purchase.
- c. Stribling/Empire Partner Meeting—We recently met with them, and they are pleased with the product we provide. They financially support our diesel academy, and we want to continue to move that partnership forward.
- d. Pathway Event—We hosted a recruiting event for the public high schools in Rankin County to showcase our career technical programs.
- e. Financial Ratio Improvements- Dr. Parker shared the following:  
Cash flows provide a way to assess the College's financial health in reviewing the ability to generate future net cash flows and to meet short-term obligations. The ability to meet short-term obligations is measured by the current ratio or liquidity ratio, defined as current assets divided by current liabilities. An adequate current ratio indicates there are sufficient funds to shelter current assets. Hinds Community College has made continued significant progress in strengthening its current ratio from 0.4 in FY20 to 3.79 in FY23.  
Additionally, the cash ratio compares cash and cash equivalents to current liabilities as an indicator to be able to pay on-demand and defined by cash + cash equivalents divided by current liabilities. Hinds Community College has made continued significant progress in strengthening its cash ratio from 0.4 in FY20 to 1.57 in FY23.  
In reviewing those ratios below, Hinds Community College has made continued significant progress in strengthening its liquid position in both cash reserves and monitoring short-term liabilities.

- f. Career Tech Raymond- Phase II is going out to bid soon.

#### Upcoming Opportunities

- a. Employee Appreciation- April 11 @ 9:30 am at Muse Center
- b. Hosting the Mississippi Community College Board of Trustees Meeting – April 25 at Fountain Hall
- c. Retiree Brunch – April 25 @ 9:30 am at the Band Hall

Executive Leadership Team Board Reports are included.


Vice President Jonathan Townes shared that, in continuation of the cybersecurity training that took place in December with Congressman Benny Thompson's visit, a Cyber Security Summit will be held at Jackson State, sponsored by the Engineer Research and Development Center. We have around 20 students signed up to attend.

Mr. Bill Campbell provided an update on the Nursing Allied Health Building. We have expended 25% of the total project. The contractor is planning a Topping-Out Ceremony for May 13.

The New dorm at Utica is on track for us to take possession of either the end of August or the first of September. We will need three months to furnish, landscape, and equip security for it to be occupied in Spring 2026.

There was no other business for discussion, and the meeting adjourned at 1:58 p.m.

**Upon motion by Mr. Williams seconded by Mr. Young the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 1:59 p.m. as declared by Board President Morton.**

  
for Mr. Jimmy Morton, President

  
Mr. Rickey Clopton, Secretary