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., May 6, 2026, on the Rankin Campus. The following members were present:

Mr. Jimmy Morton, President, in-person
Dr. Kevin Abraham, Vice President, in-person
Mr. Rickey Clopton, in-person
Mr. Jeff Brunson in-person
Dr. Homer Burns in person
Mr. Mark Buys in-person
Mrs. Jackie Granberry in-person
Dr. Sandra Nash-in-person
Ms. Jamie Rasberry in-person
Mr. Shane Sanders in-person
Mrs. Dana Stringer in-person
Mr. Larry Swales in-person
Dr. Bendalonne Thompson-Griffith in-person
Mr. Calvin Williams via Zoom
Mr. Johnny Young in-person

Others present were Dr. Stephen Vacik, President of Hinds Community College; John Hooks, Esq. Board Attorney; Bill Campbell & Laura Taylor, District Project Architects; Emiko Hemleben, Esq., In House Counsel; 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. Ginger Robbins, Executive Director of Governmental Affairs; Dr. Keri Cole, Vice President of Planning, Effectiveness, and Technology; Renee Cotton, Chief of Staff; Dr. Jennifer Scott-Gilmore, Vice President of Student Services; Dr. Thomas Ware, Vice President of Instruction & Academic Transfer Programs; and Matt Jones, Vice President of Advancement. Also present was Addie Green.

Call to Order

Board President Mr. Jimmy Morton called the meeting to order and asked Dr. Kevin Abraham to open in prayer.

Upon motion by Mrs. Stringer, seconded by Dr. Abraham, the Board voted unanimously to amend the agenda for this meeting to include the tuition increase recommendation from the finance committee. A copy is on file and included in the minutes of the meeting.

The Bower Foundation

Amy Swales and Teresa Lindsey from The Bowers Foundation were present to share their $1.3 million philanthropic commitment to provide state-of-the-art equipment for the ADN/PN Nursing and Allied Health labs in the new Health Sciences Complex. The investment will increase clinical readiness, expand program capacity, shorten time-to-credential, and place more work-ready nurses and allied health professionals into Mississippi's health system—directly advancing Bower's mission to strengthen Mississippi's health and education infrastructure while addressing persistent workforce shortages.

Approve Agenda

Upon motion by Dr. Burns, seconded by Mr. Buys, 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 April 1, 2026, Minutes.

Upon motion by Mr. Brunson, seconded by Mr. Swales, the Board voted unanimously to approve the April 1, 2026, minutes. A copy is on file and included in the minutes of the meeting.

Approval of Consent Agenda

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

Matters of Special Order

a. Board Attorney John Hooks provided an update regarding the New Horizon lawsuit filed against the college in 2023. He reported that the court granted the College's motion for summary judgment and dismissed all claims with prejudice; Mr. Hooks also informed the Board that New Horizon filed a notice of appeal with the Mississippi Supreme Court.

b. Board Bylaws Update

Upon motion by Mr. Clopton, seconded by Mrs. Granberry, the Board voted unanimously to approve the proposed Board Bylaws update. A copy is on file and included in the minutes of the meeting.

a. Officer Nomination- Per the by-laws, officer nominations were solicited in April. The current Executive Committee members—Jimmy Morton (President), Dr. Kevin Abraham (Vice President), and Rickey Clopton (Secretary)—were nominated for continued service. Because no additional nominations were made, the current slate of officers was presented for consideration.

Upon motion by Mrs. Stringer, seconded by Mr. Buys, the Board voted unanimously to approve the current Executive Committee to continue to serve for the upcoming year.

d. Review and Approve the Tuition Increase and Annual Budget

The finance committee presented an additional tuition increase for consideration as detailed in the proposed FY27 budget. **Upon motion by Dr. Burns, seconded by Mr. Buys, the Board voted unanimously to approve the proposed tuition increase.** A copy is on file and included in the minutes of the meeting.

The finance committee presented a comprehensive FY27 budget proposal for consideration. **Upon motion by Dr. Burns, seconded by Mr. Young, the Board voted unanimously to approve the proposed budget for the FY27 budget year.** A copy is on file and included in the minutes of the meeting.

e. Faculty Contracts

A list of faculty contracts for FY27 was presented to the Board for consideration. **Upon motion by Mr. Brunson, seconded by Mrs. Stringer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the proposed FY27 Faculty Contracts.** A copy is on file and included in the minutes of the meeting.

f. Board members were provided a packet that included the President's evaluation form and a self-addressed envelope for return to Vice President Andrea Janoush. Due to an oversight, Dr. Vacik's job description was not included in the packet and was subsequently distributed to Board members via email on May 7, 2026.

g. Legal Committee Report

Mr. Jeff Brunson presented a recommendation from the legal committee to hire Steve Brandon, Esq., to serve as Board Attorney for the Hinds Community College Board of Trustees in an interim capacity effective July 1, 2026. As interim counsel, he will represent the board and assist the committee with developing a scope of services to be used in conducting an RFP process for legal representation. Following the discussion, the motion passed with one nay vote cast by Rickey Clopton.

Pursuant to the pending change in legal counsel, an additional recommendation was made to transfer two specific cases involving active litigation from Adams & Reese to Butler Snow.

Motion to accept was made by Mr. Swales and seconded by Mr. Brunson. A copy is on file and included in the minutes of the meeting.

Discussion ensued. The Board moved to closed session.

Upon motion by Dr. Abraham, seconded by Dr. Bendalonne Thompson-Griffith, the Board voted unanimously to enter into executive session to discuss litigation.

The Board exited Executive session and reported that no action was taken.

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. Hinds Community College should be at 16.67 % after the month of April. The college currently has 18.34% available. Current Net Position 1.67% = 1,519,700 ahead of the average monthly projected rate.

Approve Claims Docket

The ending balance at the end of April 2026 is $10,899,715.49 in cash. The ending balance in the money market is $1,000.00, and $ 11,021,704.14 is in the Raymond James investment account. The total net position is $ 22,921,419.63.

The monthly expenses for April 2026 totaled $3,448,558. The Fund 1 Unrestricted Funds expense total is $980,465; Fund 2, Grants/Partnerships expense total is $308,293; Fund 3, Auxiliaries expense total is $522,058; and Fund 7, Capital Improvement expense total is $ 1,637,742.

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

President's Report

I. Project Updates

a. Completed Spring Campus Conversations
b. Completed FY27 Budget

II. Key Accomplishments

a. AACC Conference
b. Mayor's Prayer Breakfast – Pearl Chamber of Commerce
c. Good Things Radio Program – SuperTalk Mississippi
d. Dr. Muse Celebration of Life
e. MSU Honors Program Signing
f. Retiree Brunch
g. Employee Appreciation
h. Sports Hall of Fame Inductees – Gene & Dot Murphy
i. Dr. Vanda Brumfield and Lee Douglas graduated from the Mississippi Community College Leadership Academy

III. Upcoming Opportunities

a. May 13 & 14 – Commencement @ Muse Center; 10 am & 2pm
b. May 15 – Commencement @ Utica Campus; 10 am
c. May 18 – Summer Work Schedule Begins
d. June 1-3 – MACC Trustees Conference – Biloxi

Executive Leadership Team Reports

Executive Leadership Team Board Reports are included.

Announcements

The June board meeting will be held in conjunction with the annual Trustees Conference in Biloxi, MS, on Tuesday, June 2. We will have 14 board members in attendance. We will have a Zoom link for those who are not at the conference. Once we have the location and time secured, we will send out a notice.

Adjournment

There was no further business to discuss, and the meeting adjourned at 3:08 p.m.

Upon motion by Dr. Burns, seconded by Mr. Swales, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 3:08 p.m. as declared by Board President Mr. Morton.

Jimmy Morton

Mr. Jimmy Morton, President

Rickey Clopton

Mr. Rickey Clopton, Secretary