

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., October 2, 2024, at the Raymond Campus. The following members were present:

Mr. Jimmy Morton, President in-person
Dr. Kevin Abraham, Vice President in-person
Dr. Homer Burns in-person
Mr. Mark Buys in-person
Mr. Rickey Clopton in-person
Dr. Benalonne Thompson-Griffith in person
Dr. Sandra Nash via Zoom
Dr. Scott Rimes via Zoom
Dr. Robert Sanders in-person
Mrs. Dana Stringer in-person
Mr. Larry Swales in-person
Dr. Cardell Williams in-person
Mr. Calvin Williams in-person
Mr. Johnny Young via Zoom

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. 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, Executive Director of the Foundation.

Call to Order.

Board President Mr. Jimmy Morton called the meeting to order and opened it in prayer.

Amend Agenda.

Board President Jimmy Morton requested that the agenda be amended to add, for informational purposes, 5b. Resolution for Dr. Chad Stocks. The Board has already approved naming the

Maritime Center in honor of Dr. Stocks. This resolution is for presentation to Dr. Stocks' family at the Ribbon cutting on November 6, 2024.

Upon motion by Mrs. Stringer, seconded by Dr. Sanders, the Board voted unanimously to amend the agenda to add the resolution for Dr. Stocks. A copy is on file and included in the minutes of the meeting.

Approve Agenda

Upon motion by Dr. Sanders seconded by Dr. Burns, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as amended for the meeting. A copy is on file and included in the minutes of the meeting.

Approve September 4, 2024 Minutes.

Upon motion by Mr. Clopton, seconded by Dr. Abraham, the Board voted unanimously to approve the September 4, 2024, minutes. A copy is on file and included in the minutes of the meeting.

Approval of Consent Agenda.

- a. Disposal of Surplus Property by any legal means.
- b. Change Order # Three- Bid # 3275-HEERF- New Residences Hall-Utica- Increase of \$132,492.94 and Contract Time Increase by fifteen days.

Upon motion by Mr. Buys, seconded by Dr. Williams, 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. Board President Mr. Jimmy Morton shared that Dr. Maria Chapman has resigned from the Hinds Community College Board of Trustees due to relocation for her job. The election was held by secret ballot, with Dr. Robert Sanders and Mr. Rickey Clopton on the Ballot. Mr. Rickey Clopton was elected the Hinds Community College Board of Trustees Secretary.

Budget Summary.

The Board Vice President, Dr. Kevin Abraham, 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 75.01 % after the month of September. The college currently has 75.62% available, which is +0.61 % ahead of the year-to-date spending range. The ending balance at the end of September 2024 is \$3,815,252.08 in cash. The ending balance in the money market is \$500,000.00, and \$10,866,054.04 is in the Raymond James investment account. The total net position is \$15,181,306.12.

Approve Claims Docket.

The monthly expenses for September 2024 totaled \$1,083,772. The Fund 1 Unrestricted Funds expense total is \$497,356; Fund 2, Grants/Partnerships expense total is \$174,637; Fund 3, Auxiliaries expense total is \$379,191; and Fund 7, Capital Improvement expense total is \$32,588. **Following discussion of the Claims Docket and upon motion by Mr. Clopton seconded by Dr. Williams 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.

- **MeKiyla Brown**, Radio and Television Broadcast Instructor, Utica Campus, Salary-\$38,110.71, effective date of employment September 4, 2024, replacing Timothy Crisler.
- **Shamitre Crudup**, Associate Degree Nursing Instructor, Salary-\$60,355.35, effective date of employment September 16, 2024.
- **Randy Morris**, Secondary Instructor, Rankin Campus, Salary \$ 44,385.00, effective date of employment September 4, 2024, replacing Jerry Cox.

Upon motion by Mr. Swales seconded by Dr. Griffith, the Board voted unanimously to approve three new faculty.

President's Report.

- We recently met with the Architect regarding the Health Science Complex because the Health Science project came in under budget. We have \$20-\$24 million available to us through the bonding paid by Rankin County. We have looked at a project that I hope to be able to bring to you next month when we have plans to show you.
- The Health Science showcase recently held at Nursing Allied Health was the largest ever.
- We had a hype day at the correctional facility to encourage inmates to participate in our classes, and it went very well.
- We plan to celebrate Dr. Muse's 95th birthday on December 13th at 10:00. We want to celebrate this milestone with him and also use it as a fundraiser to support the Muse Legacy Fund.
- About a year ago, we had a visit from an investigator with the Department of Education. An issue had arisen at another community college, and the investigator came to us for help and support because those students came to us after they left Holmes. That led to a complete financial Aid Audit for us. We were very transparent. We recently received the findings. The report was 32 pages long and contained several different findings. Many students used a Cornerstone Christian Academy diploma for admittance to the college, and the Department of Education has now determined that it was a diploma mill; therefore, they are questioning the admission of those students and the provisions of Financial aid to those students. Our practice, as most institutions of higher Ed, has been that if the individual went to another institution first and then transferred to us, we would admit them on that transcript; the Department of Education now says we had to verify their high school transcript as well, as if the initial institution. Therefore, we will have to go back and pull files on that. There were also some dates that were incorrect regarding Title IV funds. It will be a lot of work to respond to the Department of Education, and I appreciate Dr. Parker and our entire team. We will do our best to pull all of that together.
- You have a list of special events. A few that I would like to mention are:
 - October 9 -Clyde Donnell & Othel Menndrop Golf Tournament
 - October 10 -Vicksburg Scholarship Reception

- October 10 -Home Football Game
 - October 14-18- Utica Institute Heritage Week
 - October 24- Homecoming
 - October 28 -Building dedication for Irl Dean Rhodes
 - November 6-Maritime Training Center ribbon cutting with lunch to follow at noon at George Oakes Building and our board meeting at 1:00 pm. We will coordinate transportation from the Raymond campus if anyone wants to ride together.
- ELT Reports are enclosed.

Dr. Vacik called on Dr. Cole to share that 3 years ago, we opened our Student Success Center, and there is now one on every campus. These are our academic recovery programs, tutoring services, supplemental instruction, and Response to Intervention program. We received word this week that Hinds Community College is one of three schools to receive the first certification for the Center of Excellence designation.


Executive Session

Board President Jimmy Morton called for a motion to discuss going into a Closed Session to discuss the need for an executive session to discuss the settlement of a disputed claim in a Title IX matter. **Upon motion by Mr. Swales, seconded by Dr. Burns, the Board voted unanimously to enter into executive session** for the purpose of discussing potential settlement of a claim for monetary damages under Title IX where discussion of the matter in open session would undermine the litigating position of the College. After considering the recommendation of Attorney Hooks, Mr. Swales moved to settle the matter for \$20,000.00. Ms. Stringer seconded the motion and all Board members voted unanimously in favor of the motion. A copy of the Settlement Agreement is on file in the office of the President.

Upon motion by Dr. Sanders, seconded by Dr. Abraham the Board voted unanimously to exit executive session.

There was no other business for discussion, and the meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Upon motion by Dr. Sanders seconded by Dr. Williams, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 1:38 p.m. as declared by Board President Morton.



Mr. Jimmy Morton, President



Mr. Rickey Clopton, Secretary