



**Board of Trustees Meeting
Minutes
Technology Center Conference Room
May 2, 2013
12:30 p.m.**

Members present: John R. Jackson, Jr., Sue Gibson, Dr. Paul Baltz, Ray Noel, Michael Dunn, Doug Cox, Leo Baltz and Dr. Wayne Hatcher. Guests present: Dr. Michael Sullens, Angie Caldwell, Dr. Jan Ziegler, Dr. Roger Johnson, Brenda Gillogly, Priscilla Stillwell, Donna Statler, Phillip Dickson, Betty White, Julie Edington, Ann Savage, Brandi Chester, Kimberly Bigger, Regina Moore, Billie Fry, Alan Haskins and Dalton Sullivan of the Pocahontas Star Herald. Vickie French was present to record the minutes of the meeting.

John Jackson welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Doug Cox to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2013 board meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Sue Gibson. Unanimous.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Legislative Updates

Dr. Wayne Hatcher stated that concerns expressed to legislators during the session help defeat bills that would have significantly affected Higher Education in a negative way.

The Board must make a decision regarding the Guns on Campus legislation that has passed before mid-August. More information regarding this legislation is expected by June 1.

Legislation was passed which will limit the amount of performance base funding an institution may be penalized if unable to meet the performance measures now in place. The legislation states that institutions may not lose more than 10% until formula funding levels for all institutions are at 75%. This delays the original maximum penalty of reducing an institution's funding by up to 25%.

BRTC's 2011-2016 Strategic Plan

Members received a copy of BRTC's 2011–2016 Strategic Plan. Dr. Hatcher stated that the faculty and staff have completed over 50% of the 125+ items listed and that many are linked to the PACE Grant.

DEVELOPMENT

Updates

Dr. Jan Ziegler shared information regarding the Celebration of Arkansas Heritage Month scheduled for May 16-18. Plans are progressing for **Showcasing Treasures: The Rice-Upshaw House and the William Looney Tavern**. Events include a presentation by Gerry Barker and Joan Gould regarding **Subscription Schools** which will be held at the Randolph County Heritage Museum Thursday, May 16, at 7:00 p.m. Tours of the Rice-Upshaw House and the William Looney Tavern sites will be held on Friday, May 17, and Saturday, May 18, from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Mr. Barker will return with his oxen and log craftsman Eric Sammons will be on site for demonstrations. There will also be a presentation by Mr. Barker regarding **Frontier Slavery** at the Eddie Mae Herron Center on Friday, May 17, at 7:00 p.m.

Fundraising Activities

Dr. Ziegler stated that the BRTC Foundation has had a record year for fundraising activities. The “2013 Growing Stronger Annual Campaign” runs through June 30, 2013. The 20th Annual IBERIABANK/BRTC Foundation Golf Tournament is scheduled for Friday, September 27, 2013 at Rolling Hills Country Club.

Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resource Council

Dr. Ziegler has submitted an ANCRC grant proposal for Phase III of Project REACH which includes a pavilion for the Looney Tavern and interpretative materials for both sites. Dr. Ziegler will attend the ANCRC meeting on Wednesday, May 8, 2013 to present the proposal.

Proposed Facility Construction

Dr. Ziegler presented a recap of the Rural Development of the USDA funding opportunity for building projects offering a fixed low interest rate for 30 years. Administration linked this opportunity with a longstanding identified facility need for a new Health Professions facility which was discussed in great detail two years ago. Brenda Gillogly prepared comparison data (USDA vs Bonds) with estimated costs of the project, estimated annual revenue and expenditures for the project, and projected tuition and fees revenue.

John Jackson appointed Doug Cox, Leo Baltz and himself to serve on a **Finance/Capital Projects Committee** to study the proposal in great detail. Sue Gibson will serve as ex officio.

Mr. Jackson also appointed Mike Dunn, Ray Noel and Dr. Paul Baltz to serve on a **Personnel/Compensation Committee**. Sue Gibson will serve as ex officio. Meetings will be called as needed .

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Cohort Default Rate

Dr. Michael Sullens reported that BRTC’s FY10 Cohort Default Rate is 28.1%. This is an increase from FY09’s rate of 26.6%. BRTC’s Cohort Default Rates have steadily increased over the past five years. From this point forward, institutions will be held accountable for the three year rates.

FY10 three-year's rate of 28.1% is calculated on borrowers who entered repayment in 2010 (412 students) and defaulted in 2010, 2011 and 2012 (116 students.) If an institution's Cohort Default Rate reaches and exceeds 30% for three consecutive years, the institution will be sanctioned and will face the loss of all Title IV funding – our PELL Grants and Federal Loan programs.

Brandi Chester stated that she has spoken to other Financial Aid Directors to learn of default management options they have undertaken or are considering in an effort to address their increase in cohort default rates. After further study, Dr. Sullens and Mrs. Chester recommended hiring an agency (at nominal fee) which would analyze BRTC's borrower population and identify which are at the greatest risk, provide outreach by contacting at-risk borrowers during the grace period up to 150 days. The agency would also provide repayment outreach for those in default. Dr. Sullens and Mrs. Chester also recommended adding a new position in the Financial Aid Office to be solely responsible for Default Management. The consensus of the Board was to proceed with both options.

Unofficial Financial Aid Disbursement

Dr. Sullens' report also shared an unofficial comparison of financial aid disbursed for 2009-10 – 2012-13 to date which showed a decrease from last year.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Updates

Angie Caldwell notified members that a Certificate of Proficiency and a Technical Certificate would be added to the Entrepreneurship Option providing two more exit points for students. A letter of notification is required by ADHE.

A reduction of AAS General Technology from 63 to 60 hours will be implemented per Act 747. A letter of notification is required by ADHE.

A reduction of AAS Industrial Maintenance from 63 to 59 hours will be implemented per Act 747. A letter of notification is required by ADHE.

Mrs. Caldwell also stated that the replacement of Intermediate Algebra with College Algebra or equivalent for all AAS Options per Act 1197.

Dr. Roger Johnson stated that a Success Strategies class will be offered beginning with the summer sessions for first time entering students with two or more remedial class requirements. John Jackson reinforced the Board's support of Academic Affairs. They also expressed their desire to maintain academic rigor and quality despite such changes, including performance funding. The Vice Presidents expressed their appreciation for the support.

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Policies and Procedures Updates

Motion by Ray Noel to approved the Policies and Procedures updates as presented. Motion seconded by Dr. Paul Baltz. Unanimous.

FY14 Operating Budget

Brenda Gillogly shared a Statement of Proposed Summary Budget for Fiscal Year July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014. Projected revenues and expenses total \$15,083,393. Motion by Doug Cox to approve the summary budget for FY14 as presented by the College Administration for adoption with adjustments to be made as needed during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2014. Should the State authorize salary increases for State employees, the Board of Trustees authorizes a 2% increase for all employees approved for employment as of July 1, 2013. Motion seconded by Sue Gibson. Unanimous.

Provisional Positions

Motion by Sue Gibson to approve the 44 provisional positions authorized for the college in AC~6-63-305 for the fiscal year 2013-2014. The College administration will only establish and use positions when funding for such positions are received from outside sources. Motion seconded by Dr. Paul Baltz. Unanimous.

Employment of Personnel

Motion by Dr. Paul Baltz to adjourn into executive session. Motion seconded by Doug Cox. Unanimous.

Motion by Leo Baltz to resume regular session. Motion seconded by Ray Noel. Unanimous.

Motion by Sue Gibson to employ the classified and nonclassified personnel whose names were submitted for fiscal year 2013-2014. Motion seconded by Mike Dunn. Unanimous.

OTHER BUSINESS

New Officers

As previously adopted, the two-year rotation of officers will begin July 1, 2013. Sue Gibson will become the Chair of the Board of Trustees. Dr. Paul Baltz will become the Vice Chair and Doug Cox was nominated by Dr. Baltz as the Secretary. Motion by Leo Baltz to adopt the new slate of officers effective July 1, 2013 for two-year terms. Motion seconded by Mike Dunn. Unanimous.

Retirement Reception

A retirement reception for Dr. Michael Sullens, Vernon Cates, Peggy Weir, David Bowlin and Linda Stacy will be held this afternoon from 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. in the RCDC. The Board expressed their appreciation to Dr. Sullens for his years of dedicated service.

PN Pinning and Graduation Ceremony

The pinning and graduation ceremony for the PN students will be held May 7, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the RCDC.

Milestone Awards/Semester-end Potluck

The annual Milestones Award and semester-end potluck is scheduled for May 8, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. in the RCDC.

BRTC Graduation

BRTC Graduation is scheduled for May 9, 2013 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the RCDC. Interim Director Shane Broadway of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is the commencement speaker.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Friday, June 7, 2013, at 12:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 4:10 p.m. by Mike Dunn. Motion seconded by Sue Gibson. Unanimous.

Dr. Paul Baltz

May 13, 2013