

**THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE STATE OF ALABAMA  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON  
THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2011, 10:00 AM  
AS BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
FOR THE POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS UNDER ITS CONTROL**

The State Board of Education of the State of Alabama (also referred to herein as the Board) met in official session to consider postsecondary education matters beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 28, 2011, in the Board Room of the Alabama Center for Postsecondary Education, Montgomery, Alabama. The meeting was called in accordance with Section 16-3-7, *Code of Alabama* 1975.

At 9:40 a.m. prior to convening the meeting, Mr. McKinney asked Dr. Joe Morton, State Superintendent of Education, to give the Board an update on damage to schools across Alabama caused by the tornadoes on April 27.

**PRESIDING: MR. RANDY MCKINNEY  
VICE PRESIDENT**

The postsecondary meeting was called to order by Mr. McKinney. The Pledge of Allegiance followed the invocation by Mr. McKinney.

On roll call, the following Board members were present:

Mrs. Ella Bell  
Mrs. Stephanie Bell  
Dr. Charles Elliott  
Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter  
Mr. Randy McKinney  
Mrs. Betty Peters  
Dr. Yvette Richardson

Also present was Dr. Freida Hill, Chancellor of the Department of Postsecondary Education. Absent were Mr. Gary Warren and Governor Bentley.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Dr. Hill asked that the Board add to the agenda items VII.A.8. Faulkner State Community College, Increase in Room and Board Fees; and VIII.A.4. Resolution in Support of Tenure and Fair Dismissal Reform. On motion by Mrs. Ella Bell, second by Dr. Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as amended.

**APPROVED**

MINUTES OF MARCH 24, 2011 MEETING

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, second by Mrs. Ella Bell, the minutes of the March 24, 2011 meeting were approved unanimously as presented.

**SECTION VI**

PUBLIC HEARING

There were no individuals registered to address the Board during the Public Hearing.

**SECTION VII**

(INSTRUCTIONAL AND STUDENT SERVICES, FACILITIES, FISCAL,  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT)

**ADOPTED**

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, second by Mrs. Ella Bell, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following seven (7) items:

**JOHN C. CALHOUN COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**PURCHASE OF INSTRUCTIONAL EQUIPMENT**

The Board authorized Calhoun Community College to purchase equipment for instructional purposes for the Applied Technology program. This purchase must be completed no later than October 28, 2011, or this authorization will expire. Fiscal consideration: \$222,000 (\$155,000 – Current Unrestricted Fund; and \$67,000 – Current Restricted Fund [Federal Vocational Funds])

**JEFFERSON DAVIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**REVISION OF STUDENT HOUSING RENTAL RATES**

The Board authorized Jefferson Davis Community College to increase student housing rental rates by approximately 7% per semester effective Fall Semester 2011. Fiscal consideration: The increase in rental rates would generate \$12,000 additional revenue annually for the College.

**GEORGE C. WALLACE COMMUNITY COLLEGE – DOTHAN**  
**PURCHASE OF INSTRUCTIONAL EQUIPMENT**

The Board authorized Wallace Community College – Dothan to purchase equipment for instructional purposes. This purchase must be completed no later than October 28, 2011, or this authorization will expire. Fiscal consideration: \$994,026 – Current Restricted Fund (U.S. Department of Labor Community Based Job Training Grant)

**WALLACE STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE – HANCEVILLE**  
**REVISION OF DORM RATES**

The Board authorized Wallace State Community College – Hanceville to increase dorm rates by \$75 per term effective Fall Semester 2011. Fiscal consideration: The increase in dorm rates would generate \$31,725 in additional revenue annually for the College.

**LURLEEN B. WALLACE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**ESTABLISHMENT OF A SPECIAL BUILDING FEE**

The Board authorized Lurleen B. Wallace Community College to collect a Special Building Fee of \$10 per credit hour beginning with the Fall 2011 term. Fiscal consideration: The College's current outstanding long-term debt is \$4,469,195 with annual debt service payments of approximately \$362,000.

**ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM**  
**REVISIONS TO POLICY 804.01: FEES: GENERAL**

The Board adopted the proposed changes and additions made to Board policy 804.01: Fees: General, and authorized the revised policy take effect immediately and declare null and void and supersede any prior versions of this policy. Fiscal consideration: None

**ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM**  
**REVISIONS TO POLICY 805.02: STUDENT AID PROGRAMS:**  
**INSTITUTIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS/WAIVERS**

The Board adopted the proposed changes made to Board policy 805.02: Student Aid Programs: Institutional Scholarships/Waivers, and authorized that, unless an alternative effective date is specified within the policy, the revised policy take effect immediately and declare null and void and supersede any prior versions of this policy. Fiscal consideration: None

**JAMES H. FAULKNER STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**INCREASE IN ROOM AND BOARD FEES**

On motion by Dr. Richardson, second by Mrs. Peters, the Board voted unanimously to authorize Faulkner State Community College to increase room and board fees effective Fall Semester 2011 for the Sun Chief Hall Residential Life and Learning Center from \$2,400 to \$2,700 and the

Thompson Residence Hall from \$2,400 to \$2,500. The Board also authorized the College to institute a Residence Hall Application Fee in the amount of \$50. The Board further authorized the increase in meal plan rates as follows: Commuting Students – from \$58.75 to \$61.75, an increase of \$3; and Faculty/Staff – from \$48.75 to \$51.25, an increase of \$5.50. Fiscal consideration: The College anticipates the increase in fees and meal ticket rates will generate approximately \$202,300 additional auxiliary revenue per year.

**SECTION VIII**  
**(EXECUTIVE AND LEGAL)**

**ADOPTED**

**ATHENS STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**LEASE AGREEMENT**

On motion by Dr. Elliott, second by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the President of Athens State University, subject to review by the Chancellor and the Chancellor's legal office, to continue the existing lease of property located on 1115 Highway 31 South to Jackie W. Moran for the purpose of operating a carpet/flooring store. Fiscal consideration: None

**CHATTAHOOCHEE VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF PRESIDENT**

On motion by Mrs. Peters, second by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Dr. Donald Glen Cannon as President of Chattahoochee Valley Community College, effective at a date mutually agreeable between the Chancellor and Dr. Cannon. Fiscal consideration: Dr. Cannon will receive annual compensation and other benefits as provided for in State Board of Education Salary Schedule A.

**GADSDEN STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF PRESIDENT**

On motion by Mrs. Hunter, second by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, and with Mrs. Ella Bell abstaining, the Board appointed Dr. Raymond Staats as President of Gadsden State Community College, effective at a date mutually agreeable between the Chancellor and Dr. Staats. Fiscal consideration: Dr. Staats will receive annual compensation and other benefits as provided for in State Board of Education Salary Schedule A.

**RESOLUTION OF THE**  
**ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**IN SUPPORT OF TENURE AND FAIR DISMISSAL ACT REFORM**

Motion was made by Mrs. Hunter, seconded by Dr. Elliott, to adopt the resolution. Dr. Richardson asked that the resolution be amended in the first sentence which reads "...seeks to always put students first,..." to read "...seeks to always put students at the forefront of education,...". After some discussion, the amendment was approved unanimously.

Motion was made by Mrs. Ella Bell, seconded by Dr. Richardson, to amend the resolution in paragraph three which reads "Whereas, Alabama Tenure and Fair Dismissal laws now tend to over-reach their original purpose and intent and make it difficult or impossible to effect reasonable personnel decision that promote teacher quality..." to read "Whereas, Alabama Tenure and Fair Dismissal laws must promote teacher quality...". On a vote of two for and five against, the motion failed.

On call for a vote on the resolution with the approved amendment, the motion passed with one no vote from Mrs. Ella Bell. Following is the resolution as approved:

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education seeks to always put students at the forefront of education, and continually seeks ways to improve education and promote student success in life and in the workplace; and

WHEREAS, tenure was originally a protection for college professors; in Alabama, Tenure and Fair Dismissal were adapted to be a basic protection for education employees and extended to professionals (professors, teachers, administrators) as well as non-professionals (lunch room workers, maintenance workers, bus drivers, etc); and

WHEREAS, Alabama Tenure and Fair Dismissal laws now tend to over-reach their original purpose and intent and make it difficult or impossible to effect reasonable personnel decisions that promote teacher quality and quality education; current Alabama Tenure and Fair Dismissal laws make effective personnel management prohibitively expensive and further limit our state's education resources; and

WHEREAS, a change to the law is, therefore, in order; and

WHEREAS, the Board lauds the professionalism and dedication of educators generally, but recognizes that every profession has its lowest performers; education administrators and local boards should never target an employee for personal or political reasons but should have the legal authority to reasonably discipline and terminate without prohibitive cost; and

WHEREAS, in a time when it has never been more important that only effective educators be allowed the privilege of teaching Alabama students, Tenure Reform and Fair Dismissal Act Reform should be taken up by the legislature and improvements made that address the limitations of current law:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alabama State Board of Education is in favor of Tenure Reform and Fair Dismissal Act Reform.

#### **SECTION X** (CHANCELLOR'S REPORT)

The Chancellor gave an update on her activities since the last meeting including the All Alabama Academic Team Recognition program where she was impressed by what the students have accomplished. She attended a press conference at the Alabama Aviation Center in Albertville, where the community has risen to the occasion and raised money allowing the Aviation Center to remain there. She attended a Trenholm Tech Foundation fundraiser, which had a great turnout and she heard great comments about the value of that college to the community. She visited Reid State and was very impressed with faculty and staff commitment to students. She met with Congresswoman Roby, Tom Surtees, Jim Byard and Matthew Hughes where they discussed the workforce development needs of the state. Congresswoman Roby was very receptive and commented that she didn't really know what the community colleges did until she walked on some of the campuses and saw the value. Dr. Hill also spoke at the Alabama Community College Leadership Academy graduation.

The Chancellor presented to the Board a chart showing the organization of the new Alabama Workforce Training System, part of a larger plan that Governor Bentley asked the Director of the Alabama Development Office, Seth Hammett, and Economic Development Partnership of Alabama CEO, Bill Taylor, to develop for the state. It is a three-pronged approach for the state – recruitment, retention, and renewal. Dr. Hill emphasized that the realignment in no way diminishes nor eliminates any control on the college campuses or at the ATN centers, but enhances what the system is already doing. The ultimate goal of the Workforce Training System is to successfully train, retain and expand businesses in Alabama, by: increasing efficiencies; having a more focused approach to helping businesses be more successful, effective and productive; telling them about available resources and how to access them; and hopefully, eliminate any duplication of services. The Chancellor said her vision is to create a database for all to access, companies and individual citizens. This plan would be a continuum of success for businesses, positive exposure of the community college system and growth of the economy in this state.

**DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETINGS**

A Board work session for postsecondary matters was held at 11:35 a.m. today in Room P-103 of the Gordon Persons Building. The next regularly scheduled Board meeting for postsecondary matters will be held on Thursday, April 28, 2011, in the Board Room of the Alabama Center for Postsecondary Education, followed by a work session for the May 26 meeting agenda.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion by Mrs. Hunter, second by Mr. Warren, the Postsecondary Education meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 9:41 a.m.

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Vice President

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Chancellor