# 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., March 6, 2024, at the Raymond Campus. The following members were present either by zoom or in person:

Mr. Paul Breazeale, President in person

Mr. Jimmy Morton, Vice President in person

Dr. Maria Chapman, Secretary in person

Dr. Kevin Abraham, in person

Dr. Homer Burns via zoom

Mr. Mark Buys, in person

Mr. Ricky Clopton in person

Dr. Scott Rimes 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. Keri Cole, Vice President of Planning, Effectiveness and Technology; Renee Cotton, Chief of Staff; Dr. Ginger Robbins, Vice President of Workforce Development and Governmental Affairs; Dr. Thomas Ware, Vice President of Instruction & Academic Transfer Programs; and Matt Jones, Executive Director of the Foundation.

#### Call to Order.

The Board President called the meeting to order and asked Mr. Morton to open the meeting in prayer.

## Recognize Student-Athletes.

Nathan Werremeyer introduced two student-athletes and Coach Reginald Dillon and their accomplishments.

- La'Nica Locker, National Champion in 200m
- Kareem Nazim, National Champion in pole vault

These student-athletes are currently at the top of their events in Outdoor Track and Field as well and will compete in the NJCAA 2023-2024 Outdoor National Championship on May 16-18, 2024 in Monroe, Louisiana.

## Approve March 6, 2024 Minutes.

Upon motion by Mr. Swales seconded by Dr. Abraham, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of March 6, 2024. A copy is on file and made a part of the minutes of the meeting.

## **Budget Summary.**

The Board Vice President called on Dr. Parker to present the Budget Summary update. Dr. Parker reported the college is projected to burn 8.33% monthly. HCC should be at 33.34% after the month of February. The college currently has 35.61% available, which is +2.27% ahead of the year-to-date spending range. Dr. Parker reported the ending balance at the end of February 2024 is \$6,980,304.50 in cash. The ending balance in the money market is \$500,009.93 and \$7,632,542.07 in the Raymond James investment account. The total net position is \$15,112,856.50.

## **Approve Claims Docket.**

The monthly expenses for February 2024 totaled \$2,233,293. The Fund 1 Unrestricted Funds expense total is \$556,013; Fund 2, Grants/Partnerships expense total is \$895,095; Fund 3, Auxiliaries expense total is \$567,729; and Fund 7, Capital Improvement expense total is \$178,569. Following discussion of the Claims Docket and upon motion by Mr. Morton seconded by Mrs. Stringer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Claims Docket.

## Approve the Disposal of Surplus Property.

Following discussion, and upon motion by Mr. Clopton, seconded by Dr. Williams, the Board voted unanimously to allow the College President to dispose of the property by any legal means. Copies of this property are on file and made a part of the minutes of the meeting.

## President's Report.

- FY25 Budget Planning is in progress.
- We had about a quarter of our employees volunteer to participate in Hinds CARES Day last week at a number of various nonprofits, this is our fourth year to participate.
- You have a flyer for the Home Depot Re-tool Your School program that supports HBCU schools. Please vote often for our Utica campus. The top ten schools will be awarded a campus grant. Your support is greatly appreciated.
- We have been invited to the world headquarters for Amazon. Later this month Dr. Ginger Robbins, VP Jonathan Townes, and I will fly to Washington for a site visit to find out how we need to be prepared to provide the workforce for the Amazon projects here in our area.
- We have been asked to participate in the Great College Survey. VP Andrea Janoush shared that Hinds was selected to participate in the Great College Survey. The survey will be sent out to random faculty and staff. We will gain data from the survey for participating.
- I encourage you to read the attached Executive Leadership Team reports.
- The college will be closed March 11-15, 2024 for Spring Break.
- MCity Complex's Grand Opening will be on March 28, 2024.
- The College will be closed on March 29, 2024 for Good Friday.
- Hinds Employee Appreciation Day will be April 12 at the Muse Center.
- The MACC Trustees Conference will be June 26-28, 2024, I encourage you to plan to attend if you are able.

- Hinds will be hosting the Association of Community College Trustees Global Leadership
  Institute August 8-9, 2024 at the Muse Center, I encourage you to plan to attend if you
  are able.
- Dr. Robbins will provide a legislative update.

## Legislative Update from Dr. Robbins:

#### State level:

- Our two overarching priorities:
  - General Support increase of \$35 million across the 15 colleges would include a 5% increase in salaries.
  - o Facilities, Equipment, and Technology asking for \$100 million for each of the next three years across the 15 colleges \$85 million for capital improvements, and \$15 million for technology to address cybersecurity and Al.
  - TREMENDOUS support for these from the House Universities and Colleges chair. He
    has let the House Appropriations Committee know that these two requests are his top
    two requests out of everything else coming out of his committee.
- Big deadline on March 5, 2024 went from 2,748 bills to 1,037
  - o Some we are watching:
    - SB 2724- Mississippi Resident Tuition Assistance and Promise Grant Program; created to provide financial assistance to students.
      - Proposed changes to MTAG as suggested by Financial Aid Redesign Task Force.
      - Also creates the Promise Grant Program as a last-dollar scholarship for community college students.
      - HB 1311- Community and junior colleges; authorize the board of trustees to reduce or waive out-of-state tuition for certain students.
        - The board of trustees of any community college located in a municipality or county that borders another state may develop and implement a policy reducing or waiving out-of-state tuition for residents who reside in counties or parishes therein that border the respective community college district for which such tuition policy is adopted. The policy may include minimum criteria for student eligibility for the out-of-state tuition waiver.
- The legislature is also discussing avenues to cover the increase in PERS for employers.

#### Federal:

- We have \$8.63 million in requests
- The first deadline to pass a budget is Friday, March 8. Our \$4 million request for renovations to the Jackson Campus is still included.
- The next deadline is Friday, March 22. Our other four requests would be in this minibus bill includes funding to digitize Utica Museum archives, launch a substance abuse prevention program at the college, and stand up two new programs a STEM academy and an Information Technology transition program.

#### Old Business.

There was no old business for discussion.

#### Other Business.

Mr. Hooks discussed proposed revisions to policies regarding contracts due to increases in contract abandonment. Faculty or Athletic Coaches will be fined for abandonment of contract unless approved for release by President Vacik. Faculty or Athletic Coaches who abandon their contract will be designated as ineligible for rehire.

The Bylaws committee comprises one member from each county and will meet immediately following this meeting. Members are Chair Dr. Kevin Abraham, Mr. Calvin Williams, Mr. Ricky Clopton, Mrs. Dana Stringer, and Mrs. Sandra Nash. Anyone who would like to attend is invited to.

There was no other business for discussion and the meeting adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

Mr. Paul Breazeale, President

Dr. Maria Chapman, Secretary