

PEARL RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

May 12, 2020

The Board of Trustees of Pearl River Community College met Tuesday, May 12, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. for their monthly meeting. Due to the continuing requirement of social distancing brought on by the pandemic of Coronavirus (Covid-19) crisis, the meeting was again held electronically by call-in/on-line portal in the President's Office located in the Alexander Administration Building on the Pearl River Community College Campus in Poplarville, Mississippi.

TRUSTEES IN ATTENDANCE/ABSENT:

Ms. Tess Smith, Chair
Mr. Tony Waits, Vice Chairman
Mr. M. L. "Sonny" Knight, Secretary
Mr. Alan Lumpkin
Mr. Dale Purvis
Ms. Teenia Perry
Mr. Don Welsh
Mr. Alan Dedeaux

Mr. Frank Ladner
Mr. Michael T. Waits
Ms. Wendy Bracey
Mr. Donnie Williamson
Mr. Brian Freeman
Dr. Gale Harris
Ms. Teresa Lynn Stafford
Mr. Dexter Jordan

PRCC STAFF: President Dr. Adam Breerwood, Senior Vice President for College Operations Mr. Roger Knight, Senior Vice President for Instruction/Provost Dr. Martha Smith, Vice President for Poplarville Campus and Student Services Mr. Jeff Long, Vice President for Forrest County Center, Allied Health, and Nursing Programs Dr. Jana Causey, Vice President for Institutional Research Dr. Jennifer Seal, Executive Director of the Development Foundation/Alumni Association Mr. Ernie Lovell, Ellucian Technology Management CEO Mr. Matt Logan, Board Attorney Mr. Josh Mars, and President's Assistant Ms. Marilyn Dillard

Invocation and Pledge

Board Chair Tess Smith opened the meeting by welcoming all attendees to today's meeting. Dale Purvis provided the Invocation. Following the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, the following business was transacted.

Guests

None.

Presentations

None.

Approval of Minutes

Board Chair Tess Smith requested approval of the **April 14, 2020 board meeting minutes**. A motion was made by Frank Ladner, seconded by Sonny Knight, to approve the April 14, 2020, board meeting minutes as presented. The motion was unanimous.

Departmental Reports

None.

Financial Reports

Mr. Knight presented and reviewed the **Reconciled Bank Balances and Unrestricted Current Fund Statement of Expenditures ending April 30, 2020**. No action was necessary.

Mr. Knight presented for review and approval the **April 2020 Disbursement Register (Claim Docket) in the amount of \$1,511,997.23**. A motion was made by Tony Waits, seconded by Alan Lumpkin, to approve the April 2020 Disbursement Register as presented herein. The motion was unanimous. The original Disbursement Register is on file in the Business Office.

Personnel Matters - Resignation

Dr. Breerwood presented for acceptance the **resignation** of **Ms. Kimberly Ellis** from the position of Instructional Design Coordinator effective May 29, 2020. A motion was made by Teresa Stafford, seconded by Donnie Williamson, to accept the resignation of Ms. Ellis as stated herein. The motion was unanimous.

Personnel Matters - Retirement

Dr. Breerwood presented for acceptance the **retirement** of **Mr. Horace Dale Miller** from the position of Instructor of Instrumentation Technology effective May 31, 2020. A motion was made by Tony Waits, seconded by Sonny Knight, to accept the retirement of Mr. Miller as stated herein. The motion was unanimous.

Personnel Matters - Recommendation

Dr. Breerwood presented for approval the **employment recommendation** of **Mr. Markus Tanner Peavey** for the position of Instructor of HVAC & Refrigeration Technology (FCC) effective August 10, 2020. A motion was made by Frank Ladner, seconded by Sonny Knight, to approve the employment recommendation of Mr. Peavey as stated and defined herein. The motion was unanimous.

Legal Matters

None.

Other Business

None.

President's Report

- Summer enrollment is up slightly and Fall enrollment is close to even as compared to last year's enrollment. This is great news considering we were in the middle of the Covid-19 pandemic when registration began on April 1.
- Communication with students continues to be extremely important. While email is the primary source of communication, Chat Boxes have been implemented on the College's website. This communication method has been very effective to send and receive feedback from our students. Other communication methods include the College's updated website and social media videos and instructions.

- Regarding budget issues, the College can expect severe cuts to its funding. These cuts can range from 5 to 10 percent. These cuts will come as the result of the state's decreased revenue from the impact of Covid-19. The Mississippi Community College presidents have remained in contact with the state's legislature and governmental officials. While we are preparing for the worst and hoping for the best, we will know more when the state appropriations are finalized, hopefully by June 1.
- Regarding the CARES ACT, PRCC received \$4.4 million. This funding is provided to the colleges based on financial needs of students. The allocation for student relief is \$2.2 million but come with certain guidelines that change daily. Funds are also designated for technology improvement to serve students on-line and for Covid-19 related expenses. This money cannot be used to offset revenue losses or to supplement next year's budget deficiency.
- Although the College has been closed to the public since March 23, many employees have been and continue working on campus daily. A target date of July 6 has been established to re-open the College to the public and allow students to slowly return to campus. Guidelines and appropriate protocols will be in place for the opening. This opening date may change, but we want all safety measures and preparations complete by the target date.
- Graduation is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, July 29, 2020, for the Career-Technical Ceremony and Thursday, July 30, 2020, for the Academic Ceremony. Time and location for both ceremonies will be the Dobie Holden Stadium at 7:00 p.m. Students will be notified as soon as these dates are confirmed.
- Campus Projects (two new dorms, Science Building Annex, and renovation projects in Hattiesburg) are progressing. The new dorms are impressive and the Science Building Annex is nearing completion. Covid-19 has not created any construction issues with these projects.
- Tentative plans for the June 9 meeting will be to meet face-to-face. Those who do not wish to meet face-to-face can attend by dialing in via Webex.
- Even though we have numerous challenges on the horizon, we had significant enrollment growth and progress prior to Covid-19. We will move forward and will not allow this situation to stifle that progress.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board of Trustees, the meeting was called for adjournment. A motion was made by Dr. Harris, seconded by Tony Waits, to adjourn. The motion was unanimous.

The next meeting of the PRCC Board of Trustees will be held **Tuesday, June 9, 2020** at 1:00 p.m. on the Pearl River Community College Campus in Poplarville, Mississippi. The specific meeting/building location will be in the Olivia Bender Cafeteria.

Tess Smith, Board Chair

M. L. "Sonny" Knight, Board Secretary

The official signed minutes and Exhibit Item(s) (if applicable) are on file in the PRCC President's Office and are available for viewing upon request.