



## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR QUARTERLY MEETING**

**Richard Gaines Technology Building – Pocahontas Room**

**December 19, 2024**

**4:30 p.m.**

Members present: Carolyn Collins, Bob Olvey, David Coker, Danny Moore, Sue McGowan, Jeremy Baltz, Stephanie Sutton, & Dr. Martin Eggensperger. Cabinet members present: Dr. Brad Baine, Rhonda Stone, Jason Smith, Dr. Karen Liebhaber, Julie Edington, Sissy Gray and Priscilla Stillwell. Cami Alexander was present to record minutes.

Public guests attending were Tim Scott and Scott Siler from the East Arkansas Broadcasters.

Carolyn Collins, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:30pm, welcoming all in attendance.

### **Approval of the September 05, 2024 Minutes**

Bob Olvey made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 05, 2024 meeting; seconded by Jeremy Baltz. Motion carried.

### **President's Report – Dr. Martin Eggensperger**

President Dr. Eggensperger voiced his appreciation to the cabinet, faculty, and staff for the success of another semester. He noted an increase in enrollment, the LETA Barracks dedication, and multiple grants.

### **Dr. Brad Baine – Academic Affairs**

Vice President Dr. Baine announced recently updated numbers for tonight's commencement of 342 students receiving a total of 477 credentials. As of the time of the board meeting, around 80 graduates were expected to walk in tonight's commencement. He expressed his thanks for the board members for attending the graduations and also gave a brief update on curriculum changes.

### **Rhonda Stone – Finance & Administration**

Vice President Stone provided an update on last year and this year's audit, which had no findings and will be reviewed as an action item. She noted that we had increased investments and CD's. She provided and explained the Annual Student Accounts Receivables information noting that non-credit receivables were not reflected. She also advised that the Cash on Hand had increased due to AARPA funds with explanation on that as well.

### **Jason Smith – Student Affairs**

Vice President Smith announced the hiring of Drake McGrew as an Academic Counselor on the Paragould Campus, which puts them at fully staffed there. He gave updates on the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Bucks & Ducks, the relocation of Paragould E-Sports, and the SGA Legacy Project of an outdoor seating area on the Paragould Campus. He made mention of The Bridge as a new and exciting addition to the Pocahontas Campus with 554 students benefiting from it this semester. He also announced that Spring enrollment looked great so far.

**Dr. Karen Liebhaber – Institutional Advancement**

Vice President Dr. Liebhaber announced that the BRTC Foundation is transforming the annual gala into a donor appreciation event. It will remain on the same date and there will be a minimum donor amount. She reminded the board of the Google calendar she created to help them with college events. She also noted the Board Appreciation event will be January 28 at Riverbank at 6:30pm.

**Julie Edington – Executive Director of Human Resources**

Director Edington gave an update on the most recent hires, positions advertised, and those retiring. She noted that Open Enrollment had been completed and her office had gotten all changes entered.

**Sissy Gray – Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness**

Director Gray noted it was business as usual in her department. She advised the board that she had included the 2023-2024 Assessment Progress Report in her packet for them to review if they like. She noted that this starts a new multi-year process for Strategic Planning. Director Gray then gave an update on the Title III grant.

**Priscilla Stillwell – Executive Director of Workforce Training**

Director Stillwell advised the board that her department is getting set-up for Colleague to be able to post grades for credit and non-credit courses. She announced the hiring of Jody Callahan as Workforce Education Development Coordinator. She also noted they will be adding more online classes as they grow and move forward.

**Action Items**

- 1) Resolution to Recognize the FY23 Audit

Rhonda Stone presented information needed for the FY23 audit to be recognized as reviewed. Jeremy Baltz read the resolution and made a motion to approve; seconded by Sue McGowan. Motion carried.

- 2) Revisions to the Policy & Procedure Manual

Julie Edington presented updates and changes to the Policy & Procedure Manual to be approved. Sue McGowan read the resolution and made a motion to approve; seconded by Stephanie Sutton. Motion carried.

**New Business**

Tim Scott and Scott Siler from East Arkansas Broadcasters presented information to the board regarding their desire for BRTC to purchase the local radio station(s). No further discussion was had.

**Other Business & Announcements**

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be held on March 6, 2025 on the Paragould campus at 12:30pm.

**Executive Session**

Stephanie Sutton made a motion that the board go into executive session. Danny Moore seconded. Motion carried.

**Adjournment**

With no further business, at 5:52pm, Danny Moore made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Bob Olvey. Motion carried.



---

Robert G. Olvey, Secretary

December 19, 2024

*Meeting Dates: March 6, 2025 (Paragould); May 15, 2025 (Pocahontas); September 04, 2025 (Paragould); December 18, 2025 (Pocahontas)*