



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

**Paragould Campus**

**March 06, 2025**

**12:30 p.m.**

Members present: Carolyn Collins, Bob Olvey, Danny Moore, Sue McGowan, Danny Coker, Jeremy Baltz, Stephanie Sutton, and Dr. Martin Eggensperger. Cabinet Members and Executive Directors attending: Dr. Brad Baine, Rhonda Stone, CPA, Jason Smith, J.D., Julie Edington, Priscilla Stillwell, Karen Liebhaber. Others present: Travis Harris, Phillip Dickson, Jason Linam. Cami Alexander and Emily Owens were present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Carolyn Collins, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m., welcoming all attending.

### **Approval of the December 14, 2023 Minutes**

Secretary Bob Olvey made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 19, 2024 meeting; seconded by member Jeremy Baltz. All approved. Motion carried.

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

#### **Institutional Updates**

President Eggensperger welcomed those in attendance. In summary, he noted a partnership with EACC, an increase in Adult Education students, the hiring of 2 new welding instructors, the approval of a DRA Grant to remodel the old welding lab in Pocaahontas to a lab for robotics with assistance from Tate Industries. He also noted the progress on the LETA Barracks and the walking trail. In closing, he thanked Vice President of Institutional Advancement Karen Liebhaber for her hard work during the legislative session that is in full swing.

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

Vice President Baine briefly summarized his report, then took time to read a letter recognizing BAT Instructor Ashley Boles for a national safety award. He highlighted events like the Draft Day and ACT Bootcamp. He also recognized recent hires in the Academics department, and discussed Academic Integrity. Regarding recent Curriculum Proposals, he allowed Deans Linam & Dickson to speak to those in their departments.

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

Vice President Stone announced to the Board that a passenger bus had been purchased, a wrap had been applied, and it has already been in use and a benefit to the college. She then reviewed the auxillary reports, personnel changes in her department, gave project updates, discussed the DOL and HIRED grants, and noted that the legislative audit was ongoing.

### **Student Affairs – Jason Smith, J.D**

Vice President Smith announced that enrollment was up 16 %, with most of that being due to the increase of Concurrent/CTC students. He then summarized his report noting that admissions were working to enroll students for Fall, gave an update on the SGA Legacy Project on the Paragould Campus, and noted that Shane Copeland had been busy helping students in The Bridge.

**Institutional Advancement – Dr. Karen Liebhaber**

Vice President Liebhaber announced the hiring of Emily Owens, Administrative Assistant to the President and IA. She reminded the board of the Donor Appreciation Event that will be held March 08, 2025. Dr. Liebhaber then went over the ACCESS Bill, recently introduced by Governor Sanders.

**Human Resources – Julie Edington**

Executive Director Edington advised the board that her department was working on year end processes, and went over new hires, and positions open.

**Institutional Effectiveness**

Travis Harris attended on behalf of Executive Director Sissy Gray, who was absent. Dr. Eggensperger announced to the board that Sissy would be moving to part-time soon, as requested by her. Some of her duties will be spread out to other cabinet members. Mr. Harris then briefly went over the FY26 Annual Plan.

**Corporate Education/Workforce Training – Priscilla Stillwell**

Executive Director Stillwell noted the implantation of ed2go for her department. She also went over current and upcoming classes.

**Action Items**

The following slate of resolutions were presented to the Board:

III.1 – Expense Reimbursement for Board of Trustees members – Member Jeremy Baltz made a motion to accept; Vice Chair David Coker seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

III.2 – Tuition & Fees Recommendations for FY26 – Vice Chair David Coker made a motion to accept; member Sue McGowan seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

III.3 – Revisions to Policy & Procedure Manual – Member Sue McGowan made a motion to accept; member Stephanie Sutton seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

III.4 – Resolution to recognize the FY26 Annual Plan – Member Danny Moore made a motion to accept; member Sue McGowan seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

**New Business**

None

**Other Business**

None

**Executive Session**

Member Stephanie Sutton made a motion to enter into Executive Session; Member Danny Moore seconded. All approved.

Member Stephanie Sutton made a motion to exit Executive session; Member Danny Moore seconded. All approved.

**Adjournment**

With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by member Danny Moore; seconded by Secretary Bob Olvey. Motion carried.

Chair Carolyn Collins announced the next quarterly meeting of the BRTC Board of Trustees will be held on May 15, 2025, at 4:30pm on the Pocahontas campus.

*Board of Trustees Meeting*  
*March 06, 2025*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert G. Olvey", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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Robert G. Olvey, Secretary