

**MINUTES
KANSAS POSTSECONDARY
TECHNICAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY
MEETING**

The August 26, 2010 meeting of the Kansas Postsecondary Technical Education Authority was called to order by Chairman Joe Glassman at 10:05 a.m. The meeting was held at Washburn Institute of Technology, 5724 SW Huntoon Street, Topeka, Kansas.

Members Present:

Joseph Glassman, Chairman
Clark Coco
Diane DeBacker
Eddie Estes
Sheila Frahm

Jim Grier
Kathy Howell
William Thornton
Jack Wempe

Members Absent:

Wayne Carter
Jim Garner
William Quattlebaum, Vice Chairman

Others Present via Conference Call:

Jarold Boettcher

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Member Grier moved to approve the minutes of July 28-29, 2010. Following a second by Member Frahm, the motion carried.

REPORTS

Chairman Report

Chairman Glassman, Member Wempe and Member Estes attended the Barton County Community College dedication and open house Aug. 12, 2010 to recognize the completion of recent building renovations on its campus. The improvements were showcased during the Renovation Celebration. Following the dedication, the College provided guided tours to the public through the new and renovated spaces. In the evening, Barton hosted an open house for the public, with tours beginning at the Technical Building. Chairman Glassman extended his congratulations to Dr. Heilman on the accomplishments at BCCC.

Member Liaison Reports

Member Estes reported that he attended the Kansas Council for Career and Technical Education which met Wednesday, August 25, 2010. He shared that the Career Cluster Guidance Handbook created by KSDE for secondary career and technical education programs has been completed and that he felt the involvement of representatives from business and industry in the development of the handbook was excellent.

Member Estes also shared that the five sub-committees of the Kansas Education Commission will meet Monday, August 30, 2010. Member Estes currently serves on the Career and College Ready committee. Additional information regarding the committees and the five priorities can be found at www.kansaseducationcommission.com.

Member Estes reported that he and Chairman Glassman will be on a conference call Friday, August 27, 2010 regarding the new look for the Kansas Career Pipeline for the state.

Vice President for Workforce Development Report

Vice President Flanders shared copies of the Kansas Department of Labor “Labor Market Trends” report that was presented to the KansasWORKS State Board as previously requested. A presentation from the Department regarding this report will be made at a future meeting.

Vice President Flanders congratulated North Central Kansas Technical College (NCKTC) on its partnership with Ditch Witch. The focus of this partnership will be to provide instruction on directional drilling, locator training and fluid mixing.

He also shared a publication entitled “Biotech in Kansas” developed by Johnson County Community College (JCCC). He commended JCCC on the progress it is making to inform high school students of available career opportunities and educational pathways in Biotech areas in Kansas.

He congratulated Dr. Heilman, Barton County Community College (BCCC) and Duane Dunn, Seward County Community College on their colleges being included on the list of America’s 50 best community colleges by the Washington Monthly Magazine.

Vice President Flanders invited Authority Members to attend the Governor’s Forum being held at the National Center for Aviation Training in Wichita on September 17, 2010. The forum is being held to initiate discussion regarding the development of initiatives to increase the number of individuals in Kansas with postsecondary credentials and to inform Kansans about higher education.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Chuck Kater presented the Railroad Signal Career Certificate program submitted by Johnson County Community College for approval.

Railroad Signal Career Certificate (CIP 49.0208) as a Technical Certificate (16 credits).

The proposed program will prepare current and prospective employees to meet the needs mandated by the Rail Safety Improvement Act (RSIA) of 2008. RSIA has mandated that Positive Train Control (PTC) be installed by December of 2015. There are currently 11 different PTC projects in various stages of development and implementation. All of these projects and more to follow will require employees to have completed the proposed signal training. Signalmen must be proficient at designing, installing, maintaining and troubleshooting mechanical, electrical and electronic equipment as well as the computerized signal systems.

Estimated starting wages for the craft are \$17.50 to \$20.50 per hour. Based on projected retirements, the demand for signalmen in the industry will remain strong for the next five years. The college anticipates a minimum of 30 enrollments a year and will establish throughput capacity to handle up to 250 enrollments a year to meet the needs of the industry.

JCCC has worked with Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway (BNSF) and the National Academy of Railroad Sciences (NARS) since 1988. The college has developed a “distinctive competency” in its ability to deliver occupational training in railroad operations as an institution with the railroad industry and the proposed program represents an extension of a long standing pre-existing business and industry partnership with the college.

BNSF provides the instructors for the program and compensates them for providing the instruction. In addition, BNSF has agreed to assume all expenses with the proposed program. Letters of support from the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association and Rail America, Inc. strongly support the development of the program within NARS.

The college has identified four potential adjunct faculty for the program (employed by BNSF) with extensive experience in railroad signal systems. In addition to the requisite academic credentials, the pool of potential adjunct faculty has completed the BNSF certification program as “Master Instructors”.

No letters of comment were received regarding the proposed program.

The proposed certificate program has been carefully reviewed by staff utilizing the above stated standards and criteria. Copies of the detailed program proposals are available for inspection.

Motion: Member Grier moved to recommend approval of the Railroad Signal Career Certificate program submitted by Johnson County Community College. Following a second by Member Estes, the motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF DISCUSSION AGENDA

Approval of Aligned Respiratory Therapy Program

Vice President Howell introduced Dennis Rittle who gave a brief overview of the proposed alignment for Respiratory Therapy Program via a Letter of Guidance.

Motion: Member Frahm moved to recommend approval of the aligned Respiratory Therapy program. Following a second by Chairman Glassman, the motion carried.

Excellence in Technical Education Awards Program

Chuck Kater gave a PowerPoint presentation on “Excellence in Technical Education Awards Program.” Members of the Authority were impressed with the presentation. Chairman Glassman recommended including an additional category for business involvement in the future. The presentation is filed with the original minutes.

OPEN COMMENT PERIOD

No comments received.

Budget Finance Committee Report

Funding Policy Scenarios

Chairman Grier shared the Budget Finance Committee met Tuesday, August 24, 2010 to discuss and review policy recommendations and funding scenarios as well as the materials being presented. Diane Duffy reviewed with members a one-page summary explanation of the cost model and explained the rationale for splitting in the Support Cost component into two separate areas—Instructional Support and Institutional Support. Member Grier asked staff to adjust the columns in the funding spreadsheets to depict this change in the future. He also suggested including a definition of tiered and non-tiered as well as the method used to calculate the non-tiered cost amounts in future documentation related to the cost model.

Ms. Duffy then explained a summary document depicting the total tiered course cost calculations based on each of the student eligibility policy questions currently being discussed. She also noted the packets members received included a document containing excerpts from previous TEA Budget and Finance Committee meetings, Process Management Committee meetings, and CEO Briefings held over the summer months regarding student eligibility policy questions (Resident/Non-Resident; Secondary) and credit hours eligible for funding purposes. In response to questions from members, Ms. Duffy explained that the costs depicted were calculated using 2009 enrollment data and stressed that each of the institutions is working diligently with KBOR staff to ensure accuracy of the 2010 data which ultimately will be used in making recommendations going forward.

Members Frahm and Grier suggested that key terms such as resident, non-resident, in-district, tiered course, non-tiered course, etc. be defined to assist in explaining and/or analyzing funding charts and scenarios as well as to ensure consistency in the reporting of data. Members also requested that a fiscal

note (noting the current funding eligibility status for resident, non-resident, and secondary credit hours) be added for each option presented on this summary document in the future.

Members discussed the various eligible credit hour options, received feedback from the institutions and agreed the underlying guideline should be that the credit hours eligible for funding be consistent for all institutions within the sectors.

As requested, staff prepared scenario worksheets depicting the 80%, 75% and 70% “state share” calculation options and Ms. Duffy explained the assumptions, policy questions, and the funding columns for each of the funding scenario worksheets presented for discussion. Member Grier asked members and members of the audience if there were any questions or comments regarding the scenarios. No questions or comments were raised.

Member Wempe stressed that as implementation options move forward the fact that at some point in the future additional credit hour growth must be funded to keep from creating funding distortions within the system should be noted. Members discussed at length the policy and funding issues to be included in the funding plan to be recommended to the Regents and to the Legislature. Member Frahm reminded members that this process started under the premise that all institutions would be treated the same, growth would be funded, critical industries recognized and access would be taken into consideration. Members discussed sending forward scenarios that put all institutions on the same footing noting that given the economic environment future discussions may lean to finding middle ground with regard to funding amounts. Member Frahm stressed that during these discussions, it is the responsibility of the TEA and the colleges to answer questions that arise and to be sure decision makers are aware of how particular decisions will impact all institutions within the system.

Funding Implementation Options

Vice President Flanders shared conceptual steps for two potential implementation options: 1) with “No New Money” being added, and 2) with “Some New Money” added. Both options include maintaining base allocations (2010) to both the operating grant and tiered technical education funding pools with any new money being distributed only to those institutions with a gap between the current level of base state funding and the new approach. During the discussion it was noted that although the actual amount attributed to individual institutions will vary from the dollar amounts as presented but the options would move forward and establish a new funding structure and consistent handling of the policy questions for institutions among the different sectors.

Vice President Flanders also stated that the separation of funding amounts for non-tiered and tiered course credit hours would occur only during the first year of implementation to designate funding amounts for the four designated funding streams—community college operating grant, technical college operating grant, an operating grant for Washburn Institute of Technology, and the tiered technical education funding pool. The first year implementation options also recommends the appropriated funds be allocated to support the non-tiered course credit hours within the various operating grants be funded first. Members discussed the benefits and consequences of separating appropriated funds into the four line items, the rationale for initially funding the operating grants first, and which funding scenario the TEA should recommend carrying forward.

Members then asked for any comments from the colleges. Clayton Tatro, Fort Scott Community College, suggested the implementation plan should address identified funding gaps for institutions even if no new money is appropriated. John Masterson, Allen County Community College expressed concerns that if institutions go to the Legislature and settle for a small amount they could be walking away from a one time opportunity. He stated the Council of Presidents (COP) are in agreement with the funding formula but agree it needs to be implemented when new dollars become available. Rob Edleston, Manhattan Area Technical College shared that the technical college presidents agree with the community colleges in not wanting to see harm to either sector and stressed the need for seeking new funding options in order to provide adequate and equitable funding for technical education for all colleges in the system.

Motion: After considerable discussion Member Estes moved to recommend approval of the funding scenario with the assumption the credit hours of secondary students earning postsecondary credit and the credit hours for non-resident students (Yes/Yes scenario) would be eligible for state funding. Following a second by Member Frahm, the motion carried.

Motion: Chairman Glassman moved to recommend approval of the Yes/Yes scenario worksheet with following policy questions: 1) state share of 80% for technical college and non-taxing district credit hours for community colleges (20% tuition/other sources); and 2) a state share of 50% for in-taxing district credit hours for colleges with taxing authority (recognizing local effort at 30% and 20% tuition/other sources) with the caveat that the actual amount of local funding represented by the 30% be noted. Following a second by Member Howell, the motion carried.

Consolidation of Vocational Capital Outlay, Technology Grant, and Innovative Technology/Internship Program

Diane Duffy explained the preliminary recommendation of the Budget/Finance Committee and the Process Management Committee to consolidate the Vocational Capital Outlay, the Technology Grant, and Technology Innovation/Internship grant funds into a new Technical Innovation Fund that (1) would be maintained as a line item separate from the tiered technical education funding line item; and (2) allow participation by all community colleges, technical colleges, and Washburn Institute of Technology. Tom Burke, Kansas City Kansas Community College provided the TEA with background information regarding the purposes for which the original Vocational Education Capital Outlay fund and the State Technology Grants were established.

Motion: Chairman Glassman made a motion that the Vocational Education Capital Outlay fund, the State Technology Grant fund and the Kansas Innovation/Internship Program remain as separate funding line items as they currently exist. Following a second by Member Frahm with the caveat to have the option to review the decision at a later date, the motion carried with a vote of 4 to 2.

Draft Legislation

Julene Miller presented two sets of documents related to the statutes previously outlined on Statute Charts A (potential substantive changes) and B (non-substantive changes). The first set of documents could potentially serve as a draft for a new Postsecondary Tiered Technical Education State Aid Act and included relevant definitions, establishment of the new funding structure and the Postsecondary Technical Education Fund and an operating grant for technical colleges. The second set of documents addressed those statutes previously identified as needing statutory clean-up of terms and/or potential repeal of obsolete sections and statutes. Ms. Miller also indicated that she recently received a more comprehensive list of statutes containing obsolete terms from the Revisor's office, which staff is currently reviewing for potential additions to this group of recommended changes.

Marketing Update

Vanessa Lamoreaux gave an update from the PR Marketing Committee. During the last meeting the Chairman challenged the committee to develop a plan to help build support for the final agreed upon legislative initiatives and the committee is working on that plan. Two initial activities discussed by the committee include: 1) the possibility of conducting regional meetings that would be open to college personnel and constituents as well as business partners and other interested individuals to provide a brief explanation of what we are trying to do, why it is important and asking for support, and 2) the development of a common action plan for all supporters to use when meeting with legislators so that the message is consistent. Additional information will be presented at the September 8, 2010 TEA meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Glassman adjourned the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by
Janice Haberman, Executive Assistant