

**APPROVED MINUTES  
KANSAS POSTSECONDARY  
TECHNICAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY  
MEETING**

The March 31, 2016 meeting of the Kansas Postsecondary Technical Education Authority (TEA) was held at the Kansas Board of Regents, 1000 SW Jackson Street, Suite 520, Topeka, Kansas.

**Members Present**

Ray Frederick Jr., Chair  
Eddie Estes  
Thomas Burke  
Linda Fund

Kathy Howell  
Lana Gordon  
Debbie Gann

**Members Absent**

Randy Watson  
Steve Kearney  
Bruce Akin  
Antonio Suave  
Joseph Glassman

**Others Represented**

Coffeyville Community College  
Dodge City Community College  
Fort Scott Community College  
Kansas City Kansas Community College  
North Central Kansas Technical College  
Wichita Area Technical College

Cowley Community College  
Flint Hills Technical College  
Johnson County Community College  
Neosho County Community College  
Northwest Kansas Technical College

**Kansas Board of Regents Staff Present**

Rita Johnson  
Charmine Chambers  
Elaine Frisbee  
Pam Greene

Zoe Gruber  
Connie Beene  
Laura Leite  
Susan Henry

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Frederick at 10:08 AM.

**Approval of Minutes**

**Motion:** Member Burke moved to approve the minutes of February 25, 2016. Following a second by Member Fund, the motion carried.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Frederick recognized Associate Director Eric Tincher for his service in the Kansas Air National Guard, and for his upcoming deployment to the Middle East. Chair Frederick then introduced Mr. Greg Sims, who is the Capital City Area Chair of the Kansas Employer Support of the Guard and Reserves (ESGR). Mr. Sims presented Director Connie Beene with the Patriot Award, in response to Associate Director Tincher's nomination, in recognition for her support.

Chair Frederick recognized Chris Cannon, Department Chair of Health & Human Services at Cowley Community College, to introduce Chief Tim Hay, Wellington Fire/EMS, Captain Chad Mayberry,

Winfield Fire/EMS and Chief Alan Stoll, Winfield Fire/EMS as industry partners for the proposed Fire Science Certificate Program on the TEA Consent Agenda for today's meeting.

## **REPORTS**

### **Chair Report**

Chair Frederick informed the members of the TEA that last week he participated in the Talent Pipeline Management National Conference in Washington D.C.; a great event highlighting Kansas and the good work that Workforce AID is doing in the State. Chair Frederick met recently with representatives from Cowley Community College in Wichita to discuss training for meeting the needs of business and industry. Chair Frederick also met by conference call with representatives from Hutchinson Community College to discuss how the community colleges and technical colleges can continue to meet the needs of businesses and industry not only through curriculum but with targeted training as well.

### **Member Liaison Report**

Chair Frederick recognized Member Estes, who shared that October 13, 2016 is the date for the 3i Show, and it will include an Agribusiness Career Day for high schools students statewide. Member Estes also shared that in mid-March, the National Association of Workforce Boards met in Washington D.C. There was increased interest in career education and a number of community colleges and technical schools were in attendance.

Member Burke informed members of the passing of long-time Kansas City Kansas Community College Trustee Mary Ann Flunder, with funeral services April 1, 2016. Member Burke added that she was with Kansas City Community College for 25 years and she will be missed.

### **Vice President for Workforce Development Report**

Vice President Johnson reported that the Midwest Governor's Association (MGA) has convened a multi-state work group comprised of state level staff and industry representatives to address the shortage of truck drivers in our region. March 17, 2016 was the first of a series of conference calls, to gain a better understanding of the industry need, review the research by the American Transportation Research Institute and to discuss issues and challenges of the industry. Follow-up calls have been scheduled through May 10<sup>th</sup>, after which the MGA will host a day-long meeting to share best practices and to discuss potential solutions to the problems of recruiting and retaining truck drivers in our region.

Vice President Johnson shared with members that Director Gruber has been working with the Kansas Insurance Commissioner, Washburn University and several university partners to develop the Kansas Insurance Certificate Program. This is a collaborative effort among the universities, with a focus on providing students with a career path in the insurance industry. Students will be offered a variety of courses leading to a 12 credit hour certificate. This is in direct response to business demand and the group has been working with several different companies in support of this initiative including Security Benefit and Farmers Insurance.

## **CONSIDERATION OF DISCUSSION AGENDA**

### **Technical Program & Curriculum Committee**

Chair Frederick recognized Committee Chair Howell, who informed members that the Technical Program and Curriculum Committee met on March 17, 2016 and unanimously recommended approval of the following:

Cowley Community College

- Fire Science (43.0302)—Technical Certificate A/25 credit hours

- Milling (01.0401)—Technical Certificate B/35 credit hours

**Motion:** Member Estes moved to recommend approval of the Fire Science Technical Certificate A/25 credit hour and the Milling Technical Certificate B/35 credit hour programs as recommended by the Technical Program and Curriculum Committee. Following a second by Member Gann, the motion carried.

## **Budget & Finance Committee**

### **Legislative/Budget Update**

Chair Frederick recognized Vice President for Finance and Administration, Elaine Frisbie, to present an update on the legislative session and the State budget.

Vice President Frisbie began with the budget issues confronting the Legislature. The State's economists and revenue staffers will meet on April 20, 2016 to revise the consensus revenue estimates for the State budget. Expectations are that they will be lower. The House Appropriations Committee will be back in session on April 21, 2016 and will develop plans to balance the budget for FY 16 and FY 17 in line with those new revenues. Typically, the Governor will also offer a proposal. For the year to date, the Governor and the Legislature have reduced our state universities by \$25 million, in the current year, from the State General Fund dollars, K-State has also contributed \$1 million and the Kansas Board of Regents Office has contributed over \$1.5 million.

Regarding the budget for K-12 schools, the Legislature passed a bill at the end of the last session, which essentially reorganizes the funding among the school districts, but doesn't add any significant amount of money. The Legislature considers it as a possible solution to the recent court ruling, addressing equity. The court has yet to rule on the issue of funding adequacy. The Legislature authorized the Governor to delay the quarterly payment to the KPERS trust fund, which would reduce spending in the current year by about a \$95 million, to be paid with an 8% penalty in FY 17. Last year, the Legislature authorized a \$1 billion dollar pension obligation bond for KPERS, so starting in the next year, the State will be making a large debt service payment on the bonds. The Legislature returns April 27, 2016.

Vice President Frisbie then provided members with an update on the status of a number of bills Board staff is currently monitoring.

Member Howell asked for clarification on the budget cuts and how they affect community colleges and technical colleges. Vice President Frisbie responded that the cuts thus far have only impacted State universities and that funding for community and technical colleges has remained the same. She also noted that as it stands now there is an appropriation in place for FY 2017 that mirrors FY 2016.

Member Estes added that there are a number of bills being considered with content that the panel should review, including SB451, which is now more than a merger bill. Vice President Frisbie added that there are a number of bills coming from the Legislature's Efficiency Commission, including one of the larger savings items that would bring all of the K-12 employees into the State Health Plan, which would be more expensive for most of those employees.

## **OTHER MATTERS**

### **Military Articulation Initiative**

Chair Frederick recognized Director Beene for an update on the Military Articulation Initiative. Director Beene explained that the mission of the Multi-State Collaborative on Military Credit (MCMC) is to facilitate an interstate partnership of 13 states to translate competencies acquired by veterans through military training and experiences toward college credentials. States will exchange information and share best practices in the areas of articulation of credit, certification

and licensure, communication, and data and technology. The Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC) provides operational and administrative support for the MCMC.

Director Beene also shared there are currently four State workgroups that mirror the national workgroups:

- Articulation of Academic Credit –Translate military learning to college credit and encourage course to course articulation and credit for prior learning options.
- Licensure & Certification –Identify curricular gaps in programs and military training, and formulate bridge programs to decrease time to license or certification.
- Communications and Outreach –Identify effective communication methods to inform service members about how military training and skills can apply to educational attainment or industry credentials.
- Data, Technology & Systems –Focus on a systematic process to gather data on service members and veterans to better serve their educational needs.

Director Beene explained that the initial articulation meeting was held December, 2015, bringing together faculty from all culinary/food science/food safety programs to examine course outcomes and competencies and how those relate to the Military Occupational Specialty 92G Food Service Specialist. With the assistance of experts from the U.S. Army and Kansas National Guard, great strides were made in recognizing skills learned in the Army and how those competencies relate to CTE programs. A similar meeting was held in January with the diesel and automotive technology faculty with similar results. The next meeting, scheduled in April, will bring together community and technology college faculty, as well as university faculty in the criminology/criminal justice/police science programs to examine MOS 31B Military Police competencies.

Director Beene presented a power-point that included the organizational flow-chart of Army University, and to show how the training they provide could articulate to course credit in our colleges. One of the main goals is to have a universal transcript from Army University that can be deciphered by college registrars.

#### **Update on the Wichita Area Technical College/Wichita State University Merger**

Chair Frederick recognized Sheree Utash, President of Wichita Area Technical College, to give an update on the Wichita Area Technical College /Wichita State University merger. President Utash shared that ongoing discussions between Wichita Area Technical College (WATC) and Wichita State University (WSU) regarding development of a more enhanced partnership have occurred over the past several years.

A Strategic Partnership Council was formed in July 2015, involving leadership from WATC and WSU, three members of the WATC board and Andy Tompkins, retired Kansas Board of Regents President. The primary focus of the Council has been to prepare a processes and procedure document required by the Kansas Board of Regents for the merger to continue. She noted that the merger document was approved by the Regents with great support.

The intent of the WATC/WSU merger is to create a new model for higher education, to create a better trained workforce, and to create more opportunities for students. The merger plan is to transition Wichita Area Technical College into a new school of technology and applied sciences within WSU; creating an open access school within the university and giving WSU a technical arm from which to build additional degrees. The mission, agreed upon by all parties, will focus on workforce development, open admissions and affordability for the programs that are offered. President Utash noted that for the merger plan to remain viable, the current funding streams in place for Wichita Area Technical College must remain in place. Those funding streams would be applicable for the 2-year associate of applied science degrees only.

Legislative support of this merger is the next step in the process. During the current legislative session, SB 451 was presented for approval language required to support this merger. However, during the committee discussion on the bill, additional language was introduced and as a result WATC/WSU asked to have the bill rescinded. The plan is now to bring forward a similar bill, focusing only on the merger, during the next legislative session. The final piece to the merger will be seeking approval of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). WATC will prepare a self-study and the accompanying application for submittal to HLC by December 1, 2016. Following a review of the application, the HLC conduct an on-site visit in the spring of 2017. If all HLC requirements are met, approval of the merger could be approved by June 2017. The implementation date of the merger could begin July 1, 2017, with a follow up visit by HLC in January 2018.

Member Burke inquired why new legislation is required, as he believes that legislation is already in place to allow institutional merger or affiliation. President Utash responded that the legislation addressed maintaining access to existing funding streams. Vice President Johnson added that in a number of statutes pertaining to funding institutions are specifically named. The new legislation was designed to be more general to allow for any potential future mergers and/or affiliations.

Chair Frederick and Members Howell and Gann applauded the efforts of WATC and WSU in their work toward the merger. Member Estes asked for conversation regarding the decision to rescind SB 451. President Utash responded that WATC and WSU felt that as a result of the additional language inserted into the bill during the legislative process the original intent of the bill was becoming unclear and the institutions chose to rescind the bill at this time.

Chair Frederick stated that he is disappointed that there were additional issues added to SB451 that caused the bill to be rescinded WATC and WSU. When asked if the delay in getting the bill passed has damaged the timeline of the merger, President Utash responded that now many things will have to happen in the spring of next year, and the bottom line is that without the funding stream, the merger will not happen. Member Fund responded that SB451, as originally presented, had the potential for great impact on many colleges and the funding streams and that she hoped in the future all would be involved in a discussion that might impact their colleges. Chair Frederick responded that he agrees that open communication is very important, but that those institutions with concerns did not reach out to any members of the TEA for discussion prior to the amendments that were added to the bill.

#### **Update on Workforce AID Activity**

Chair Frederick recognized Director Gruber to present a Workforce AID update. Director Gruber recognized and thanked college representatives present who have participated in Workforce AID, which has successfully completed 23 projects across the state.

Director Gruber noted that Chair Frederick who, along with Samantha Meeds from Spirit AeroSystems, Danny Phillipe from Caterpillar, Clark Coco from Washburn Institute of Technology and Tim Welsh from Wichita Area Technology College, attended the Talent Pipeline Management National Conference in Washington D.C. last week. Kansas is one of 7 states selected to participate in this initiative.

Director Gruber shared a power-point presentation giving a brief overview of the Workforce AID project. She also noted that a new project in Garden City is currently in the recruiting phase; projects with Rubbermaid and Cowley College and with Caterpillar and Washburn Institute of Technology were just completed; and one of the first projects in the IT sector, with Manhattan Area Technical College and Security Benefit in Topeka is underway.

Director Gruber shared a video that was produced by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation as part of their gift back to each of the 7 selected states for the Talent Pipeline Management initiative. The Kansas video was filmed in Wichita with groups from Caterpillar and Spirit AeroSystems.

Chair Frederick congratulated Director Gruber for her work on Workforce Aid and thanked Stan Ahlerich with Kansas Department of Commerce for his leadership in the project.

### **Approval of 2016-2017 SB155 Qualifying Credentials**

Chair Frederick recognized Associate Director Chambers to present the 2016-2017 SB155 Qualifying Credential Incentive List for approval. Associate Director Chambers reminded members that the occupations and credentials identified on the qualifying credentials list do not limit the eligibility of any of our postsecondary programs for SB 155 tuition reimbursement. She then reviewed process used for developing the qualifying credentials list.

### **Credential List Development**

The list of credentials qualifying for the incentive program is developed by the Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL) in consultation with KBOR and the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) based on the following criteria:

- Occupations must have an industry credential (certification or license).
- Courses leading to that credential are available to high school students.
- The credential is attainable by a high school student within six months of high school graduation or before.
- Wages for the occupation must be at least 70 percent (\$29,414) of the average annual wage in Kansas (\$42,020) or, if the occupation does not meet the wage criteria, the credential for the occupation must be a stackable credential and required for the next occupation level.
- The education level for the occupation requires at least a high school diploma as designated by KDOL.
- Occupations must appear on the high demand/high wage occupations list and have an overall demand score between 10 and 30 using the metric developed by KDOL based on job vacancy, short-term job projections, long-term job projections, and wage data.

Associate Director Chambers noted that Dental Assistant and Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics have been added to the list for the 2016-2017 school year. She also pointed out that Assemblers and Fabricators, under the SOC code of 51-2099, remains on the 2016 Phase-Out Occupation list.

Associate Director Chambers also explained that in FY 2015 the appropriation for the incentive funding was reduced from \$1.5 million to \$750,000 requiring a pro rata distribution of these funds among the qualifying school districts. The incentive dollars for current year, and for FY 2017, have again been reduced to \$50,000 per year. Although the incentive funding portion of SB 155 has been significantly reduced, it is estimated the remaining appropriated amount should cover the one/half of the credentialing assessment costs that districts are required to pay.

**Motion:** Member Burke moved to approve Approval of 2016-2017 SB155 Qualifying Credentials. Following a second by Member Howell, the motion carried.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:49AM.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Susan Henry, Executive Assistant