

ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
Special Meeting
April 14, 2011

Minutes of Meeting

The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board held a special meeting on Thursday, April 14, 2011, at Arkansas State University – Mountain Home in the McClure Convention Center. Chairman Leech called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. with a quorum present.

Coordinating Board present:

David Leech, Chair
Dr. Olin Cook, Vice-Chair
Sarah Argue, Secretary
Dr. Charles Allen
Dr. Joe Bennett
Dr. Olin Cook
Bob Crafton
Horace Hardwick
Kaneaster Hodges
Steve Lulf
Florine Milligan

Coordinating Board absent:

Dr. Bob Burns
Jodie Carter

Department staff present:

Shane Broadway, Interim Director
Harold Criswell, Interim Deputy Director
Jackie Holloway, Senior Associate Director for Finance
Rick Jenkins, Associate Director for Planning and Accountability
Cynthia Moten, Associate Director for Academic Programs
Zanette Douglas, Coordinator of Institutional Certification
Brandi Hinkle, Communications Officer
Nichole Abernathy, Administrative Support

Presidents, chancellors, institutional representatives, members of the press, and guests were also present.

Chairman Leech thanked presidents and chancellors for attending the Special Board meeting and welcomed new Coordinating Board member Horace Hardwick to his first Coordinating Board meeting.

Chairman Leech stated that last month the Board decided to discuss at today's meeting the process they would go through in hiring a director and said that he would like to ask the board to put the search process off indefinitely.

After expressing several reasons for delaying the search process, Chairman Leech recommended to the Board that the search process be discussed at a later date.

Steve Luelf voiced concerns over postponing the discussion indefinitely and the fact that Arkansas was unable to keep Dr. Purcell. He stated that the Board really valued Dr. Purcell's services and essentially lost him for \$80,000 to \$90,000. Arkansas talks about how important education is, however, we can't find the resources to keep someone like Dr. Purcell, said Mr. Luelf.

After a lengthy discussion from the board, Chairman Leech asked that a motion be made to delay the Director search discussions until the October Board meeting. Kaneaster Hodges moved to delay discussion of hiring a new Director until October. Sarah Argue seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved.

Next, Interim Director Broadway presented information on performance funding, the method of funding public institutions based not on inputs, such as enrollments, but on outcomes, such as retention, degree completion, and job placement. He explained that the principal rationale for performance funding has been that performance funding will prod institutions to be more effective and efficient, particularly in a time of increasing demands on higher education and increasingly straitened state finances. In closing Interim Director Broadway said that the work other states have done to implement Outcomes-Centered formulas will be helpful in our preparation, but Arkansas and its institutions are unique and this must be kept in mind throughout the process.

Florine Milligan asked how comfortable Interim Director Broadway was with the Board setting the funding codes. Interim Director Broadway said that he was confident that the Board could do it; however, it would be an educational process that would have to be done with the help of trustees and institutions.

Chairman Leech thanked Interim Director Broadway for the informative information.

With no further comments, the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Nichole Abernathy

APPROVED:

Sarah Argue, Secretary