

MINUTES - MEETING OF THE  
STATE BOARD OF CAREER EDUCATION  
9:30 a.m.

February 4, 2010

The State Board of Career Education (SBCE) was called to order by Chairman Jack Justus. The meeting was held at Arkansas Rehabilitation Services, 26 Corporate Hill Drive, Little Rock.

A record of member attendance is as follows:

PRESENT

Mr. Jack Justus, Chairman  
Mr. Phil Taylor  
Mrs. Lucy Ralston  
Mrs. Martha Dixon  
Mr. John Riggs  
Dr. Thomas Flowers

Ex-Officio Nonvoting Members  
Mr. William L. "Bill" Walker, Jr.  
Ex-Officio Secretary

ABSENT

Mr. Richard Smith

Ex-Officio Nonvoting Membersd  
Dr. Tom Kimbrell  
Dr. Jim Purcell

Mr. Jack Justus introduced and welcomed new board members Dr. Thomas Flowers and Mr. John Riggs.

A. ACTION ITEM – APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 1, 2009

On motion by Mr. Taylor and second by Mr. Riggs, the State Board of Career Education unanimously approved minutes of October 1, 2009.

B. ACTION ITEM – APPROVAL OF MEETING DATES FOR 2010

Mr. Justus recommended that the State Board of Career Education set the following meeting dates for 2010 per A.C.A. 25-6-302:

Thursday, April 1, 2010  
Thursday, June 3, 2010  
Thursday, August 5, 2010  
Thursday, October 7, 2010  
Thursday, December 9, 2010

On a motion by Mr. Taylor and second by Mr. Riggs, the State Board of Career Education unanimously voted to set the following meeting dates for 2010:

Thursday, April 1, 2010  
Thursday, June 3, 2010  
Thursday, August 5, 2010  
Thursday, October 7, 2010  
Thursday, December 9, 2010

C. ACTION ITEM – AUTHORIZATION OF EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT AND STIPEND FOR BOARD MEMBERS PERFORMING OFFICIAL BOARD DUTIES

Mr. Justus recommended that the State Board of Career Education approve by a majority vote the authorization of payment to its members a stipend not to exceed eighty-five (\$85) per meeting attended. The board action will be effective January 1, 2010, (as required by A.C.A. 25-16-904).

Mr. Justus also recommended that the State Board of Career Education approve by a majority vote the authorization of expense reimbursement for each board member for performing official board duties. This vote (as required by A.C.A. 25-16-902) indicates that board members will comply with an expense reimbursement that will not exceed the rate established for state employees by state travel regulations.

On motion by Mr. Taylor and second by Mrs. Dixon, the State Board of Career Education unanimously approved the authorization of expense reimbursement and stipend for board members performing official board duties.

D. INFORMATIONAL ITEM – PRESENTATION FROM ALICIA “CISSY” RUCKER, ARKANSAS CAREER TRAINING INSTITUTE (ACTI) ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Justus introduced Ms. Cissy Rucker, the administrator of ACTI.

Ms. Rucker thanked the board for the opportunity to share information about ACTI and introduced Dr. Dawn Simpson, director of vocational education. Ms. Rucker told the board that the mission of ACTI is to provide vocational training to Arkansans with disabilities. Currently, 271 students are enrolled at ACTI, and 37 new students are expected. Twenty patients are being served by hospital, which is a part of the ACTI facility.

Ms. Rucker announced there will be two graduation ceremonies this year. One ceremony is scheduled for April 2, and a date for the second has not yet been set.

This year marks ACTI's 50th anniversary, and an open house to commemorate the anniversary will be held in May.

Ms. Rucker invited the board to hold a board meeting at ACTI.

Dr. Simpson spoke to the board about the status of accreditation for ACTI's training programs. ACTI offers 23 specialty areas of study within 14 vocational programs. Seven of the vocational programs offer national or state certification, and three additional programs are currently in the process of seeking national accreditation.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Deputy Director for Career and Technical Education John Davidson shared a Jonesboro newspaper article about students participating in career and technical education.

The Race to the Top Grant has been submitted.

The Career and Technical Education Division is currently working on two projects: (1) establishment of new secondary career centers to serve the areas of Hope, Ozark, Mountain Home, Melbourne, Pocahontas, Newport, and Batesville and (2) implementation of Jobs for Arkansas's Graduates (JAG) programs in Arkansas's twelve lowest-performing schools.

Ms. Sonja Wright-McMurray, associate director for Arkansas Works, was introduced.

A two-day training session for the Arkansas Works new career coaches was held January 13-14, 2010.

The Department of Career Education has applied to the Department of Workforce Services for Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) funds to expand JAG programs in the Delta.

The central office of the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services (ARS) Division will relocate to 525 W. Capitol. The move is scheduled for March 5-7, 2010. The second phase of the relocation, which will involve the offices at Corporate Hill Drive, will occur in 2011.

An architect has been selected to perform renovations at ACTI. These renovations are funded by \$500,000 in capital improvement funds and \$3.6 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) fiscal stabilization funds allocated by Governor Mike Beebe.

Mr. Charlie Brown, ACE associate director for finance, reported that the Arkansas Department of Career Education has about \$1.7 million less in operating funds.

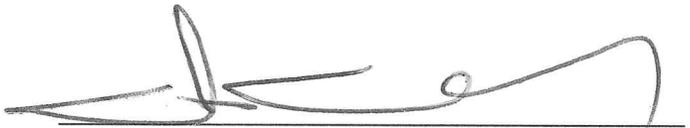
Mr. John Wright, ARS finance director, reported that ARS has experienced a reduction in funding of approximately \$500,000 in state general revenue funds. ARS has received an additional \$2 million reallocated from other states' vocational rehabilitation (VR) funding.

Mr. Walker announced the following:

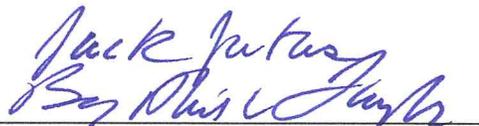
- February 8, 2010 – Fiscal legislative session begins.
- February 8-9, 2010 – Arkansas JAG State Leadership Conference at the C.A. Vines 4-H Center, with Governor Mike Beebe, Martin Luther King, III, and Chad Foster scheduled to speak.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Justus adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.



William L. "Bill" Walker, Jr., Ex-Officio Secretary  
State Board of Career Education



Jack Justus, Chairman  
State Board of Career Education