MINUTES OF MEETING
COSSATOT COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS
BOARD OF VISITORS
January 11, 2016

Chair Larry Mashburn called the regular meeting of the Board of Visitors to order at 6:00 p.m. following a light meal on the Howard County Campus in Nashville.

Present: Larry Mashburn  Ricky Kesterson
Greg Revels  Jay Dooley
Kathy Beavert  Robert Martinez
Dr. Glenn Lance

Absent: Barbara Horn  John Hearn

Staff Reports:

Dr. Cole reported that the current graduation rate which has been steadily climbing over the years is now at 37%. It is very common for two-year colleges in rural Arkansas to have graduation rates of less than 20%. We are at the very top of all the two year colleges in the state. I give credit to all of our staff and all the things we have been putting in motion over the last several years trying to increase student retention, engaging the students in the classroom, and even the café. Our café is not just a food service. It is a place for students to meet and hang out with other students between classes. We have a staff that will actually put in the extra time to make things happen.

Charlotte Johnson gave the financial report. Revenues through the end of December were up about $347,000 from where they were last year at this time. Expenditures were up about $140,000. Student Account Receivables have also increased from this time last year to $93,000 due to the majority of student accounts billed after January 1st. Out of the $411,000 of GIF funds we have spent about $97,000 with a little over $300,000 available for construction. We have $872,000 in grants and have earned about $322,000 to date. Our total bank accounts are a little over 2 million including the General Revenues. Our CDs are a little over $771,000 which is up about $2,000 from this time last year. Our VSO balances are running a little over $33,000. The Endowment Fund is up a little from last year. The Foundation is down just a little due to granting more student scholarships last fall.

Maria Parker reported that Spring enrollment is at about 947 students. We are projecting an enrollment level to last Spring of 1480. We will present our PTA Associate of Applied Science degree to the Board of Trustees the end of this month. We held the kick-off event for one of the Workforce planning grants we received in December. The kick-off for the other grant will be held at Winrock the beginning of next month. Due to low attendance at our winter commencement, we have decided to hold only one commencement in May and combine graduating classes. The CCSSE survey will be administered again this Spring as a measure of student engagement. It is the basis for many of our quality improvement projects.
Mike Kinkade reported on facilities. We are still meeting with our architects on the Student Commons project on the Sevier County campus. The curbing and landscaping on this campus awaits the outcome of the Student Commons planning. With funding provided by Weyerhaeuser, the Howard County campus is getting a new computer/coding lab. We are getting bids for perimeter lighting supplies for the Lockesburg property and will begin working on this during the next few months. For the safety of our staff and students, we will continue our recent practice of installing video equipment in all our buildings.

Steve gave the Public Services and Workforce Development report. On our website we actually have a virtual career site. This is for students/alumni/community with 48 registered employer accounts. If you are looking for a job, there were 19 active job posts in October. The job posts are current and for our region.

Action Items:

No. 1 Approve the Minutes of the November 2, 2015, Board of Visitors Meeting. Jay Dooley made the motion for approval and Ricky Kesterson made the second. The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

No. 2 Approve Revision of College Policy 501: Student Grievances: Non-Grade Issues. Greg Revels made the motion for approval and with a second from Jay Dooley, the motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

No. 3 Approve Revision of College Policy 509: Dropping, Adding, or Withdrawing From Courses. Greg Revels made the motion and Ricky Kesterson made the second. The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

No. 4 Approve Revision of College Policy 525: Confidentiality of Student Records. Ricky Kester made the motion for passage and Robert Martinez seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

No. 5 Approve Revision of College Policy 605: Types of Instruction and Services. Greg Revels made the motion and Jay Dooley made a second. With a vote of 6-0, the motion passed.

No. 6 Approve Revision of College Policy 645: Grading System and Graduation Requirements. Greg Revels motioned to pass and Ricky made the second. By a vote of 6-0, the motion passed.

Chair Mashburn asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Robert Martinez made a motion to adjourn, and Greg Revels made the second. With a vote of 6-0 the meeting was adjourned at 6:17.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Beavert, Secretary

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