

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

The March 26, 2015 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

Bruce Akin, Chair	Joe Glassman
Kathy Howell, Vice Chair	Lana Gordon
Thomas Burke	Steve Kearney
Eddie Estes	Jay Scott for Brad Neuenswander
Ray Frederick Jr.	Jackie Vietti
Keith Meyers for Pat George	

Members Absent

David Coleal

Others Represented

Allen Community College	Johnson County Community College
Barton Community College	Kansas City Kansas Community College
Cloud County Community College	Manhattan Area Technical College
Coffeyville Community College	Neosho County Community College
Flint Hills Technical College	North Central Kansas Technical College
Highland Community College	Northwest Kansas Technical College
Hutchinson Community College	

The meeting was called to order by Chair Akin at 10:00 AM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Member Estes moved to approve the minutes of February 26, 2015. Following a second by Member Burke, the motion carried.

REPORTS

Introductions

Eric Burks, president of North Central Kansas Technical College, recognized Jim Genandt who has been appointed the new president of Manhattan Area Technical College.

Member Liaison Report

Jay Scott reported the next meeting of the Kansas Advisory Council for Career and Technical Education (KACCTE) will focus on what it means to be career ready. The meeting will be held at Hillsboro High School on April 2, 2015. He also explained that the education block grant bill, SB 7, which has been signed by Governor Brownback, removes all weightings for various categories of K-12 funding. The schools will continue to receive funds; however, funds will no longer be designated for career technical education (CTE) as well as different categories of students including at-risk students and bilingual students.

Member Estes reported Kansas has received a \$13.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for a jobs training program for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients. The federal grant will be used to expand the program, currently reaching eight counties, to 35 counties in Kansas. Governor Brownback announced the grant award on March 23, 2015 at the Kansas Department of Children and Families (DCF). The announcement was shared via video to a group from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and

Nutrition Service along with DCF and Kansas Department of Labor who were meeting in Dodge City to discuss how to help low-income populations, and particularly the unemployed, underemployed or under-skilled, obtain family-sustaining employment through education and training. Member Estes noted the importance of the various agencies including the local area workforce investment boards and the community and technical colleges working together collaboratively with DCF to effectively benefit recipients without duplication of services.

Member Meyers recognized Washburn Institute of Technology and their partnership with the Second Chance Act Grant administered by the Department of Commerce (Commerce) and the Department of Corrections. The first cohort of female offenders from the Topeka Correctional Facility who have completed certified production technician training are beginning to release. Area manufacturers have shown tremendous interest with placement of a number from cohort one in jobs across the state. Cohort three is now receiving training under the grant. Member Meyers reported work is continuing with the Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas and the registered apprenticeship grant opportunity with a focus in the areas of advanced manufacturing, information technology and the trades and utility occupations. Postsecondary institutions with an interest in providing technical training in these areas are encouraged to contact Keith Lawing at the Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas. The grant application process will wrap up the third week of April 2015.

Vice President for Workforce Development Report

Vice President Flanders announced that the meeting was being streamed live and provided instructions to the TEA to capture the meeting for those listening online.

Vice President Flanders reminded TEA members of the invitation to join the Regents for breakfast on Thursday, April 16, 2015, and asked members to notify him of their availability to attend. The breakfast will be held in Suite 530 of the Curtis State Office Building.

An error in one of the funding calculation spreadsheets included on the discussion agenda was discovered just prior to the beginning of the meeting. Vice President Flanders explained rather than present the spreadsheet with knowledge of the miscalculation, the spreadsheet will be reviewed thoroughly and corrections made as soon as possible to accurately show the impact on each institution. The TEA Tier/Non-Tier Course Reclassification Subcommittee which has representation from the institutions is scheduled to meet April 3, 2015 and will consider how best to provide information to the field.

CONSENT AGENDA

Technical Program and Curriculum Committee

After discussion and a thorough review of the application materials, the Technical Program and Curriculum Committee recommended TEA approval of the Plumbing (46.0503) technical certificate submitted by Barton Community College and the Commercial Truck Driving (49.0205) technical certificate submitted by Cloud County Community College and forwarding the programs to KBOR for final approval.

- **Barton Community College**
Plumbing (46.0503) - Technical Certificate/16 credit hours
- **Cloud County Community College**
Commercial Truck Driving (49.0205) - Technical Certificate/16 credit hours

Member Glassman asked for the Plumbing program submitted by Barton Community College to be pulled from the Consent Agenda to allow for questions.

Member Glassman inquired about the credentials of the adjunct instructor for the Plumbing program at Barton Community College. He stressed the importance of having licensed/credentialed instructors/adjunct instructors in technical programs, especially those programs in the building and construction trades areas. He commended Barton Community College on their efforts in starting a Plumbing program and noted both a current need for

more trained workers in the construction trades and the potential for a surge in construction across the state in the next few years.

Motion: Member Frederick moved to recommend approval of the 16 credit hour Plumbing (46.0503) technical certificate program as submitted by Barton Community College to be delivered to the incarcerated population at the Ellsworth Correctional Facility through a memorandum of understanding with the Kansas Department of Corrections and the 16 credit hour Commercial Truck Driving (49.0205) technical certificate submitted by Cloud County Community College and forwarding the programs to KBOR for final approval. Following a second by Member Estes, the motion passed.

Vice President Flanders commented, as a follow up to concerns expressed by Member Glassman, that KBOR staff will conduct a survey of the institutions regarding flexibility in bargaining agreements for hard-to-fill positions across the system in the state.

DISCUSSION AGENDA

Technical Program and Curriculum Committee

Chair Akin recognized Member Vietti for a report from the TEA Tier/Non-Tier Course Reclassification Subcommittee.

Report from Tier/Non-Tier Course Reclassification Subcommittee

Member Vietti provided the following summary of actions taken by the TEA at the February 26, 2015 meeting regarding the tier/non-tier course review process and the work of the Tier/Non-Tier Course Reclassification Subcommittee. The TEA approved the first round list of courses to be moved from tiered to non-tiered status and approval by the Regents followed on March 11, 2015. The TEA also charged the subcommittee to review and validate the current course appeal process, to work with KBOR staff to identify the next group of existing tiered courses to be reviewed according to the approved course review process and to review the financing assumptions of the current cost model, the distribution formula and re-centering over the remainder of FY 2015. The Tier/Non-Tier Course Reclassification Subcommittee will begin work on these charges identified by the TEA at the meeting scheduled on April 3, 2015. The subcommittee will also consider possible implementation timelines related to funding.

Budget and Finance Committee

Member Glassman recognized Vice President Frisbie for a legislative budget report update.

Legislative Budget Update

Vice President Frisbie explained the Governor's budget which was released on January 16, 2015 did not reduce funding to the two-year institutions. Since that time the Governor has issued two budget allotments for FY 2015 and the second allotment included a two percent reduction in state funding to the higher education institutions. The Governor's budget removed the \$1.5 million school district incentive funding for secondary students enrolled in technical education programs. The House Appropriations Committee has since acted to restore the school district incentive funding for all three years: \$1.47 million for FY 2015 and \$1.5 million for both FY 2016 and FY 2017. The House budget plan for higher education remains similar to the Governor's recommendation and does not include any changes to the two-year institutions. Vice President Frisbie reported the House may debate their budget the week of March 30, 2015 or may vote to not concur with the Senate bill and go to conference. The Senate budget bill was passed on March 25, 2015 and added \$750,000 for the school district incentive funding FY 2015 but zeroed out the program for FY 2016 and FY 2017.

The Governor's budget recommendation does not include any reductions to the state aid line item for tiered and non-tiered funding for FY 2016 and FY 2017 leaving \$58.3 million in the line item for tiered/non-tiered funding. Vice President Frisbie explained there is speculation that state general fund reductions will eventually be issued in order for the budget to come into balance depending on the Governor's tax plan and revenue enhancements still under consideration by the Legislature.

The K-12 education block grant bill, SB 7, was signed by Governor Brownback on March 25, 2015. Vice President Frisbie noted this bill does restore a portion of the current year two percent funding allotment. The House passed HB 2095 which would authorize \$1.5 billion in pension obligation bonds for the Kansas Public Retirement System (KPERS). Some personnel at the two-year institutions are members of KPERS. HB 2095 does not affect KPERS benefits but is a measure that could enhance the ability to pay future benefit payments.

Marketing Committee

Member Kearney recognized Director Thompson for an update on the marketing campaign for HB 2506. Director Thompson introduced Breeze Richardson, Director of Communications, for a presentation on the “Get Unstuck” campaign. Director Richardson served as manager for the campaign.

Marketing for HB 2506 Report

Director Richardson explained the goal of the “Get Unstuck” marketing campaign was to create awareness across the state about the benefits of the AO-K Proviso and GED Accelerator (HB 2506) and new opportunities available in career technical education programs for Kansas adults who do not have a high school diploma or GED. A series of videos and posters were created and distributed strategically to highlight the availability of tuition assistance. The campaign ran from December 8, 2014 to January 16, 2015.

Director Richardson reported a total of 1,600 posters and 5,000 information rack cards were distributed to over 600 locations across the state including public libraries, adult education centers, workforce centers, Head Start Centers, community and technical colleges, GED testing centers and the Department for Children and Families regional offices. The dedicated webpage for the campaign, kansasregents.org/GetUnstuck, received over 3,300 visits and the videos received a combined 58,204 views. Nearly 2 million impressions were earned through purchased ads on Facebook, YouTube and Google Search.

The campaign was financially supported through AO-K (Accelerating Opportunity: Kansas) funds. The GED Testing Service provided funding to support the Google Search component and poster distribution to public libraries and Head Start Centers. The Kansas State Library provided support for distribution of materials to libraries across the state through their statewide courier service.

Information on how the campaign impacted enrollment at the institutions will be tracked through the special collections that is currently being submitted by the institutions. Director Richardson reported receiving several comments from the field indicating people called or visited enrollment offices as a result of seeing a “Get Unstuck” video or poster.

OTHER MATTERS

Perkins Grant Monitoring Visit

Director Beene reported the U.S. Department of Education Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education (OCTAE) will conduct a Carl D. Perkins grant monitoring site visit April 20 – 24, 2015. KBOR received notification of the onsite visit on December 23, 2014. The last federal site visit for the state of Kansas was conducted in 2004.

Carl D. Perkins funds are distributed to the states on a per capita basis to improve local career and technical education programs. The state of Kansas received \$10,245,408 in federal Carl D. Perkins funding for FY 2014. KBOR serves as the flow-through reporting agency, fiscal agent, for the state of Kansas. Fifty percent of the funds, \$5,122,704, goes to the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) for secondary education. The majority of the postsecondary funds, \$3,918,869, goes to the institutions for program improvement; \$947,699 is for state leadership which addresses needs of special population students, professional development and to expand use of technology including the IT Academy project and for reserve to support state projects to address workforce needs in high skill, high wage or high demand occupations including the outcome metrics project and \$256,135 is for state administration which includes staff salaries and travel expenses to administer the grant.

Director Beene explained that performance targets are negotiated each year on the federal level and the state is judged collectively on the performance of the institutions. The community and technical colleges submit plans for Perkins funding each year which must address all nine mandatory activities: academics and technical activities; articulation; all aspects of industry; activities to expand and improve the use of technology; professional development; program evaluation; activities that improve, expand and modernize programs; ensure programs are sufficient size, scope and quality and activities to address special populations. Institutional Perkins allocations are based on institutional Federal PELL Grant recipient counts and headcount. To be Perkins eligible, a program must include 55 percent tiered technical credit hours, have an average of eight concentrators and must be aligned.

KBOR received a monitoring checklist from OCTAE which applies to the KBOR institutions and all of the secondary school districts through KSDE. In preparation for the monitoring visit, KBOR contracted with Brustein and Manasevit, PLLC, legal experts for federal education programs, to conduct a mock monitoring visit. Director Beene reported space was purchased in a secure drop box and over 500 documents were uploaded for review. After the information was reviewed by the attorneys and feedback received, adjustments were made as suggested.

Director Beene explained that KBOR anticipates two program consultants and a risk management team member to be present for the monitoring visit. KBOR and KSDE are prepared to provide additional documentation as requested. A letter of findings will be received approximately 30 days following the visit.

Director Beene noted that Kansas is looked upon well on the federal level. The attorneys have commended the KBOR website and availability of documents on the website for the institutions as well as the KBOR Perkins Handbook which provides helpful direction for the institutions.

Workforce AID

Director Thompson presented a PowerPoint update on Workforce Aligned with Industry Demand (Workforce AID). Workforce AID is a joint pilot project led by Commerce in partnership with KBOR to align workforce training and education with industry demand and provide a skilled, certified workforce for Kansas companies. The project is driven by the clients, Kansas employers, and through the shared KBOR-Commerce position, the Director of Workforce Training and Education, the skills gap is addressed directly linking training and education to jobs.

Companies identify and design the training programs needed and through a competitive request for proposal (RFP) process the community and technical colleges bid for the opportunity to deliver the training that results in skilled employees with the opportunity to earn college credit and industry-recognized credentials. Private staffing agencies and **KANSASWORKS** partners assist with recruiting participants. Director Thompson noted that recruiting qualified participants for training is challenging and the involvement of all public and private partnerships and the community and technical colleges at multiple levels is key to the success of the Workforce AID initiative. Employers are involved with participants in a variety of ways including re-training incumbent workers, pre-hiring participants, or offering guaranteed or preferred interview status after completion of training. Some participants choose to continue their training on a part-time basis after they have started working.

Director Thompson reported 12 projects have been completed across the state, one project is in progress and three projects on in the planning process. Over 125 jobs have been created through the pilot since the first project with Washburn Institute of Technology in January 2014. The fiscal impact based on annual payroll is over \$3 million. Director Thompson reported the project continues to generate interest from employers and staff will continue to develop projects for clients as needed across the state.

WIOA Update

Vice President Flanders introduced Mike Beene, Director of Employment Services with the Kansas Department of Commerce, to present an update on the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Director Mike Beene oversees all of the federal workforce programs for the state of Kansas.

The WIOA legislation was signed into law by President Obama on July 22, 2014. The Act promotes alignment on the federal, state, regional and local levels to provide increased comprehensive and efficient services through the public workforce system and postsecondary education and adult basic education. Director Mike Beene noted that, as a state, Kansas has been addressing the needs of job seekers and business for several years through proven strategies which are now being emphasized in WIOA. These strategies include career pathways, program alignment, demand occupations, regional economic approaches and work-based training.

Director Mike Beene reported the new WIOA legislation emphasizes work-based learning such as apprenticeships, on the job training and incumbent worker training. Increasing access for employment, education, training and support services is a targeted goal of WIOA and, in particular, for those with barriers, resulting in increased prosperity for workers and employers. The WIOA vision is to provide exceptional customer service to jobseekers, employers and communities through one-stop centers with continuous improvement on all levels. WIOA will focus on strengthening existing core partners (Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth programs; Adult Education and Literacy programs; Wagner-Peyser Employment Service programs) and engaging additional programs to become part of the system such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Trade Adjustment Assistance programs.

Under WIOA the state and local workforce boards will be reconfigured to have representation from all required partners. The legislation allows states two years to fully transition from the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998 to WIOA. Kansas is working toward early implementation and plans to submit the state combined plan to the federal government by October 1, 2015.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Akin called for adjournment. The next TEA meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 23, 2015 at the KBOR office.

Respectfully submitted by:
Deej Cowling, Executive Assistant