

MINUTES

**Louisiana Community and Technical College System
Board of Supervisors**

**Executive Committee Meeting
Wednesday, June 1, 2005
1:00 p.m.**

**System Office 2nd Floor Conference Room
265 South Foster Drive, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806**

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

Ms. Bonni Blouin, Coordinator of Board Services, called roll and a quorum was established. Board Chair Johnson and Supervisor Barham were in attendance. Supervisors Mellington, Smith and Knapp attended the meeting via teleconference. Other staff present: Dr. Walter Bumphus, Dr. Angel Royal, Mr. Leo Hamilton, Legal Counsel for LCTCS, Bonni Blouin and Pat Eddy.

B. REVIEW OF RECENT LEGISLATION REGARDING THE
LOUISIANA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Dr. Bumphus asked Mr. Leo Hamilton, Legal Counsel for the LCTCS, if it would be appropriate to go into Executive Session to discuss this agenda item because it may involve discussion of personnel issues.

Mr. Hamilton indicated that it is not necessary to enter into Executive Session to discuss legislation issues alone. He added that if the item will involve discussion of the character, personality and performance of an employee, you may make that known at that time, and then, on that basis, request to go into Executive Session.

Dr. Bumphus explained the purpose of the Executive Committee meeting was to brief members of the Committee on a meeting of the Senate Education Committee which was recently held to discuss Senate Bill 301. He explained that SB 301 is a bill that called for a basic restructuring in the Louisiana Technical College. He stated that the original bill specifically proposes to set up a technical education division within the System, but it was later amended by Senator Hines.

Dr. Bumphus stated that he requested an analysis of the bill on the constitutionality of the bill from Mr. Leo Hamilton. A copy of this report was previously provided to all Board members.

Dr. Bumphus provided a report on what occurred during the Senate Education Committee. He reported that the bill was deferred by a vote of 4-0. He stated that even though this can be seen as a win, it was a very difficult win in that it went against the President of the Senate and put senators that have supported the LCTCS in a very difficult situation. He shared statements that were made during the meeting and spoke to the “perception” issues that exist with the LTC that need to be addressed. He shared some of the major themes that have been stated by individuals:

- Layers of bureaucracy exist in the System and in the Louisiana Technical College (LTC) – defined and described as the vice chancellors of the regions.
- Because of this bureaucracy, funds are still not getting to the campuses (welding rod issue).
- Autonomy of campuses and their ability to manage their own budgets.
- Programs that have been eliminated because the change of the role, scope and mission of the LTC.

Dr. Bumphus provided a brief background on the development of the Louisiana Technical College, as it is today with the seven (7) districts. He stated that he has reviewed the LTC structure and visited with System staff to develop several options to present for the Committee’s consideration and review:

- Option A: A complete elimination of the regional model.
- Option B: Reduce seven districts to three. Combine districts 7 & 8; districts 4 & 6; and, districts 1, 2 and 3. This option would result in three vice chancellors instead of seven.
- Option C: Create a technical community college in Alexandria and two districts (7 & 8, and 1, 2, 3 & 4).
- Option D: Keep current model intact.
- Option E: Pull out eleven technical college campuses that have a high school enrollment of 10% or greater (suggested in NCHEMS Report). This option could be attached to the three vice chancellor model or the two vice chancellor model.
- Option F: Do away with chancellor/chancellor’s position. (Not part of the options presented, but was suggested during the Senate Education Committee meeting).

Each of the options was discussed at length.

Supervisor Barham indicated that he was scheduled to meet with Senator Hines socially this afternoon and asked if there was any information that the Committee would like him to relay.

Dr. Bumphus asked Mr. Barham to let Senator Hines know that the LCTCS Board is taking this issue very seriously and we are looking at ways to become more

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efficient as a college (LTC). He added that we need to educate our legislators about some of the good things that are going on and to ensure and make sure that administrative dollars are not being used in any way that is inappropriate, but are used in ways in which to continue quality instruction.

Supervisor Knapp suggested that any conversations (with legislatures) be based on foundational principles: 1) quality; 2) responsibility and accountability; and 3) making sure that wherever we have a delivery of instruction that there is suitable infrastructure for the adequate delivery thereof.

Chair Johnson stated that she thought a meeting with the Governor would be beneficial, and it would be appropriate to receive her input on this issue.

Supervisor Barham stressed the importance of educating and providing information to System supporters so they will remain supportive of the LCTCS.

Dr. Bumphus reviewed several “take-aways” from the meeting:

- ✓ Supervisor Barham will meet with Senator Hines socially and will carry a message from the Board, provided by Board members.

Supervisor Knapp asked that he provide the message to Senator Hines that, “our (the LCTCS) job is to provide quality instruction to students and potential students and employers throughout the State of Louisiana. Whatever it is that will bring quality instruction to the classroom is something we will explore and we look forward to discussing this with you. But, our students are our priority, not our instructors and not their deans.”

- ✓ Dr. Bumphus offered two points of discussion for Senator Hines: 1) the Board is open to discussion regional concept; and 2) ensure more local leadership exists to make sure the campuses receive their money.
- ✓ Dr. Bumphus has a meeting scheduled with Senator Hines on June 2, 2005.
- ✓ Dr. Bumphus asked Chair Johnson to work with Board leadership to contact Governor’s Office to see if a meeting can be scheduled.

Dr. Bumphus provided an update on the South Louisiana Community College issue regarding Chancellor Brobst. He indicated that an action plan is being development between the Faculty Senate and Dr. Brobst.

Dr. Bumphus addressed a bill advanced by Representative Beard to be heard by the Appropriations Committee to create a film institute at Baton Rouge Community College (BRCC).

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Dr. Royal added comments regarding the bill and stated that the amendments to the proposed bill would eliminate any educational entity from being mandated to participate.

Dr. Bumphus informed the Committee that the System is scheduled to go before the JLCB on June 2, 2005, for the BA7.

Dr. Bumphus asked Dr. Royal to get information for him on the Houma Project, and the Lake Charles project, in terms of capitol outlay.

Discussion was held regarding several ongoing projects: State Farm project, Sowela project and Houma project.

Supervisor Knapp asked for an update on House Bill 2.

Jan Jackson provided an update on HB2. She stated that there is money requested for Louisiana Delta Community College (\$1.3 million), but nothing has been submitted on the House side for SOWELA Technical Community College from the Division of Administration.

Supervisor Knapp asked for clarification to the statement Ms. Jackson provided stating that there is no allocation for planning money in Priority 1 of \$550,000 as required by the donor of the monies in Southwest Louisiana in order for the contribution to be received by SOWELA.

Ms. Jackson stated that this statements was correct. She added that she had determined that the recommendation that went from the Board of Regents to the Division of Administration was \$2.5 million of the trust money to be spent first and \$2.5 million of the State money to be spent second, which is not what was recommended.

Dr. Bumphus stated that he would contact Dr. Savoie regarding this issue and would include Supervisor Knapp on the call.

Dr. Bumphus thanked Committee members for taking time out of their busy schedules to attend/participate in this meeting.

C. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Executive Committee, on motion of Supervisor Knapp, seconded by Supervisor Mellington, the Executive Committee meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m.