Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes  
October 8, 2015

The Northark Board of Trustees met in regular session Thursday, October 8, at 3 p.m. at the Carroll County Center in Berryville. Chair Jones called the meeting to order at 3 p.m. Trustees David Evans, Bill Lovell, Matt Miller, Scott Miller, and Kirk Campbell were present. Trustees Sarah Jo Fendley, Jim Milum, and Jane Adair were absent.

Northark personnel attending included Dr. Jackie Elliott, Don Sugg, Tavonda Brown, Dr. Michael Wiggins, Dr. Rodney Arnold, Katie Vaughn, Jamie Stevens, Micki Somers, Nell Bonds, Dr. Laura Berry, Kristin Griffin, and Trish Villines. Russell Larimore was also in attendance.

Approval of Agenda:
Chair Jones requested a motion to approve the agenda. Trustee Lovell made a motion to approve the agenda, which was seconded by Trustee Matt Miller and passed unanimously.

Regular Reports:

Finance Report: Don reviewed FY15-16 year-to-date revenue and expenses through September 30 compared to FY14-15 revenue and expenses. There was discussion regarding a slight decrease in student semester credit hours. He also reviewed the auxiliary year-to-date revenue and expenses compared to last fiscal year. He discussed a decrease in anticipated bookstore revenue which correlates to the decline in enrollment.

President’s Report: Dr. Elliott discussed that the College was recently awarded the Arkansas Workforce Initiative Act Planning grant. She discussed two additional grant deadlines including implementation in June 2016 and continuation in 2018. She also discussed that the College was awarded the Governor’s Quality Award in mid-September. She also discussed the recent financial aid disbursements of about $1.8 million to students.

Approval of Consent Agenda:
Chair Jones requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda which included the September minutes. Trustee Lovell made a motion to approve the agenda, which was seconded by Trustee Matt Miller and passed.

Monitoring Reports:

1.2 Retention—Tavonda Brown discussed that retention for 2013-2014 was at 50% and that 2014-2015 data would be available in November. There was discussion about financial literacy components that assist with retention.

6.5 Financial Aid—Tavonda Brown discussed the percent of students receiving financial aid excluding loans, Pell grants, state and local awards, and institutional awards. She discussed recent and planned improvements to educate students on loans and financial aid options.

5.2 Foundation—Dr. Arnold discussed the number of donors and total dollars given to the college over the last five years. He discussed a fairly large donation from the Dan Hawkins Estate. He discussed recent and planned improvements for increasing foundation contributions. There was discussion about the land that the Foundation is in the process of selling.

Chair Jones discussed a letter from the Classified Staff thanking the Board for the recent merit bonus. He also discussed a letter from Congressman Womack congratulating the College on receiving the Governor’s Quality Award. There was brief discussion about the course offerings and enrollments at the Carroll County Center.

Board Comments:
There being no further business, Trustee Scott Miller moved to adjourn which was seconded by Trustee Lovell and carried. The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

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Chair Jones  Submitted By:  
Trish Villines