

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

The October 29, 2020 meeting of the Kansas Postsecondary Technical Education Authority (TEA) was held at the Kansas Board of Regents office, 1000 SW Jackson Street, Suite 520, Topeka, Kansas and virtually via ZOOM.

**Members Present**

Ray Frederick Jr., Chair

Rita Johnson

Mike Johnson

Debra Mikulka, via ZOOM

Mike Beene

Stacy Smith

Ryan Wright, via ZOOM

Mark Hess, via ZOOM

Eddie Estes, via ZOOM

Jason Cox, via ZOOM

Tiffany Anderson, via ZOOM

**Others Present**

Shannon Martinez, KDOC via ZOOM

Jim Genandt, Manhattan Area Technical College, via ZOOM

Dennis Rittle, Cowley County Community College

Kim Krull, Butler Community College, via ZOOM

Greg Nichols, Salina Area Technical College

Heather Morgan, KACCT

**Kansas Board of Regents Staff Present**

Scott Smathers

Charmine Chambers, via ZOOM

Chris Lemon

Sue Grosdidier

Vera Brown, via ZOOM

Erin Guardiola, via ZOOM

Steve Funk, via ZOOM

Connie Beene

April Henry, via ZOOM

Lisa Beck

Tim Peterson, via ZOOM

Tobias Wood, via ZOOM

Elaine Frisbie, via ZOOM

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Frederick at 10:00 A.M.

Approval of Previous Minutes

**Motion:** Member Estes moved to approve the minutes of September 24, 2020. Following a second by Member M. Johnson, the motion carried.

**REPORTS**

Introductions

Chair Frederick welcomed introductions. President Rittle of Cowley County Community College introduced their Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Michelle Schoon and the Director of Engineering at GE Aviation, Christopher Swan.

Chair's Report

Chair Frederick reported that on October 14, 2020 he provided an update and overview to the Kansas Board of Regents on the 2020 TEA goals. He reported that the Regents were pleased with the progress in reviewing programs, program alignment, and the review of extraordinary costs. He reported that on

October 21, 2020 he met with GE Aviation and Cowley County Community College President Rittle in Winfield and received information on their partnership.

#### Member Liaison Reports

Chair Frederick invited TEA member activity reports.

Member M. Johnson reported that the Barton County Community College 2020 report is complete, and he brought a copy to share.

Member Beene reported that the workgroup reports are being completed from the Department of Commerce, the Governor's Council on Education, and the report on higher education, and the objectives will be aligning with the 2020 TEA Goals, specifically around business engagement, partnerships, and work-based learning, whether that is internships or apprenticeships. There is an opportunity here to focus on talent development and retainment in Kansas.

Member Estes congratulated Garden City Community College on their partnership with Empirical Foods, which is building a new meat processing plant in Garden City, and the college is very involved in training opportunities. He reported he visited with Seward County Community College and reported that Dodge City Community College held its 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. He informed members that the Governor's Finance Council is meeting today.

Member Anderson thanked Washburn Tech for their responsiveness to secondary superintendent concerns regarding their plan to increase their GPA requirements and that the plan to adjust GPA requirements will not be forthcoming. She reported that Washburn Tech, in partnership with TCALC and Stormont Vail, will be developing a new CNA program. Additionally, they are expanding electrical, GED, and ESL programs at their East Campus and are planning a new partnership in developing law and public safety programs. She will meet again with Washburn Tech in February.

Member Smith reported that he has been working on individual plans of study, getting messaging out to schools, increasing expectations and accountability. He thanked KBOR staff for their work on the matriculation side of KSDE-KBOR postsecondary success.

Member Mikulka thanked the institutions for their work in obtaining student support services grants, assisting low income and first-generation students, and recognized Neosho County Community College on obtaining a new Title III grant.

#### Vice President for Workforce Development Report

Chair Frederick called on Vice President Smathers to provide Members with a Workforce Development report. Vice President Smathers reported that staff continues to work remotely. He informed members that due to a security issue in the office, new security measures are being implemented, requiring badges to enter the office. He informed members that the KBOR Finance Department will be handling TEA member travel expenses going forward, and they will be reaching out to members. He reported he met with the technical college leadership group and continues to work defining the Pillar III efforts of the universities. He reported that KBOR staff continues to participate in national local Perkins and adult ed meetings, continues to support various committees, and continues to work on the Lumina military grant. Vice President Smathers recognized Member Anderson for being selected as one of the four finalists for the Kansas Superintendent of the Year.

#### Report from the Community Colleges

Chair Frederick called upon Cowley County Community College President Dennis Rittle to provide members with a report from the community colleges.

Report from the Technical Colleges

Chair Frederick called upon Manhattan Area Technical College President Jim Genandt to provide members with a report from the technical colleges.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Budget and Finance Committee

State Innovative Technology Grant Recommendations

Program and Curriculum Committee

New Program Proposals

Cowley County Community College: Aviation Mechanic – Powerplant (47.0608)

Salina Area Technical College: Fire Science (43.0203)

Excel in CTE Fees

Cowley County Community College: Aviation Mechanic – Powerplant (47.0608)

Salina Area Technical College: Fire Science (43.0203)

Chair Frederick called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items from the Advocacy and Marketing Committee, the Budget and Finance Committee and the Technical Program and Curriculum Committee. Member Mikulka recused herself from the vote. Technical Program and Curriculum Committee Chair R. Johnson informed members that an addition is required for the approval of the Aviation Mechanic- Powerplant program for Cowley County Community College. The program was unanimously approved with the stipulation that eligibility for any tiered technical education funding is contingent upon the program receiving full accreditation from the FAA.

**Motion:** Member Beene moved to approve the Consent Agenda items including the stipulation as stated by Member R. Johnson. Following a second by Member M. Johnson, the motion carried by roll call vote.

**CONSIDERATION OF DISCUSSION AGENDA**

Chair Frederick requested updates from the Committee Chairs.

Committee Chair Estes provided members with an update on activities of the Advocacy and Marketing Committee including a reminder of the Mid-America Workforce Summit scheduled for January 21, 2021, and committee work on developing a user-friendly main website consolidating CTE information.

Committee Chair M. Johnson provided members with an update on activities of the Budget and Finance Committee including the committee continuing to review extraordinary costs, examining potential CTE funding shortfalls and resulting allocation challenges.

Committee Chair R. Johnson provided members with an update on activities of the Technical Program and Curriculum Committee, including continuing the existing program review process, reviewing low-income occupation programs, and continuing work to streamline program alignment processes.

**OTHER MATTERS**

GED Update

Chair Frederick called on High School Equivalency State Administrator Grosdidier to provide members with a GED update. Administrator Grosdidier provided members with statistics gathered through GED Analytics, and she explained that it reflects decreases in numbers due to the pandemic; however, prior to the pandemic, student success numbers were increasing. She informed members that last year's projects included trainings to improve customer service, tracking educational history of inmates, completion of the

GED records scanning project, coordinating GED online test proctoring, and the introduction of SB 199 (Kansas Pathway to Career) alternative high school diploma. The online proctoring test allows the GED testers to test in the privacy of their homes with a computer, webcam and internet service, contingent on the tester passing the GED Ready test within 60 days of testing. From June-October 2020, thirty-one students have passed their GED via online proctoring, and feedback from parents and students has been positive. She recognized the GED centers for their work with the public with the pandemic challenges. Administrator Grosdidier explained that the number of high school students who wish to dropout and take the GED has increased due to the pandemic. She provided members with a copy of the new GED marketing pamphlet, which has also been translated into Spanish.

#### Adult Education Update

Chair Frederick called on Senior Associate Director Lemon to provide members with an adult education update. Senior Associate Director Lemon explained that the Kansas Board of Regents serves as the State Eligible Agency (SEA) for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title II Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA) grant. The board office chooses providers based on a competitive grant process and distributes funds using a performance-based funding formula. Additionally, board staff provide technical assistance, monitor local program compliance, and report data to the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE). He provided an overview of FY 2020 activities and performance and reported that during FY 2020, board staff provided professional development to local adult education programs, monitored programs for compliance, and reported federal data. He explained that a competitive RFP for new providers was due in March, and applications were reviewed, and grant funds awarded. As expected, the number of students served was down about 6% due to the pandemic, and challenges include hiring and retaining instructors and conducting in-person learning with a reduction in allowable site capacity. He reported that all adult education sites are open with face-to face, remote, and hybrid learning.

#### Board of Regents/TEA Goals for 2020-2021

Chair Frederick called on Vice President Smathers to lead discussion regarding the Board of Regents/TEA Goals for 2020-2021. Vice President Smathers explained that the Board of Regents goals as presented to the TEA at the September TEA meeting were approved by the Board of Regents. The TEA goals for 2020-2021, as previously provided to members, were revised to include supporting the Board of Regents goals. The goals assigned to the Budget and Finance Committee, the Advocacy and Marketing Committee, and the Technical Program and Curriculum Committee are unchanged. Vice President Smathers provided members with a copy of the 2020-2021 TEA Goals.

#### TEA Goals 2020-2021

1. Support Kansas Board of Regents 2020-2021 goals and advocate for all public postsecondary institutions
2. Continue extraordinary costs review
3. Evaluate Excel in CTE funding allocation options should the program be underfunded
4. Continue the existing CTE program review process including reviewing those programs that pay less than 250% of the poverty rate
5. Work with Commerce and KSDE in developing definitions, guidelines, and processes for work-based learning (apprenticeships, internships, work experience, etc.)
6. Improve CTE program alignment between KSDE and the postsecondary institutions
7. Raise awareness of CTE programs and information available to students, parents, school districts, and businesses

**Committee Focus****Budget & Finance Committee**

1. Continue extraordinary costs review
2. Evaluate Excel in CTE funding allocation options should the program be underfunded

**Advocacy & Marketing Committee**

1. Raise awareness of CTE programs and information available to students, parents, school districts, and businesses

**Technical Program & Curriculum Committee**

1. Continue the existing CTE program review process including reviewing those programs that pay less than 250% of the poverty rate
2. Work with Commerce and KSDE in developing definitions, guidelines, and processes for work-based learning (apprenticeships, internships, work experience, etc.)
3. Improve CTE program alignment between KSDE and the postsecondary institutions

**Motion:**

Member Mikulka moved to approve the TEA Goals for 2020-2021 as amended. Following a second by Member R. Johnson, the motion carried by roll call vote.

**2020 Preliminary Fall Semester Enrollment**

Chair Frederick called on Vice President Smathers to present members with the preliminary fall semester enrollment information. Vice President Smathers provided members with the Fall Preliminary (20th Day) Enrollment Summary for full-time equivalency for calendar years 2015 - 2020, as well as the 2020 Fall semester enrollment totals, which show a decrease systemwide in full-time equivalency student enrollment at public higher education institutions in Kansas. He emphasized that the one-year numbers are directly affected by the pandemic, so members may wish to focus their attention on the five-year summary at this time.

**AO-K @ Work Update**

Chair Frederick called on Associate Director Beck to provide members with an AO-K @ Work update. Associate Director Beck informed members that the Kansas Board of Regents received a \$463,500 grant from Walmart to develop customized training programs. These programs, delivered in partnership with retail and service-sector employers, focus on employer and employee needs. Employees participating in the AO-K @ Work program further their education at no cost. Instruction is available in English language learning, skills for the workplace, or assistance in earning a high school diploma. Classes are held at the workplace and are compatible with employee work schedules. Five adult education centers are currently serving eleven different businesses through the AO-K @ Work project, and an additional four centers are collaborating with employers on the best arrangement to serve their employees. Associate Director Beck shared student success stories of improving their lives and connections with their communities from their participation in the program.

**Workforce AID Update**

Chair Frederick recognized Workforce AID Program Manager Shannon Martinez from the Kansas Department of Commerce to provide members with a Workforce AID update. Program Manager Martinez explained that the Kansas Department of Commerce has partnered with the Kansas Board of Regents in developing the Workforce AID project, to address the skills gap in Kansas. Employers drive the training process, outlining the skills and industry-recognized credentials their employees need for success. Short term, highly focused training programs result in industry-recognized credentials. The business contributes 50% of the cost of the training program and the Department of Commerce pays the remaining 50%.

Community and Technical Colleges deliver short-term training through a competitive bid process. Past successful projects include working with Spirit Aerosystems, Cargill, Ryder, Coca Cola and Exide. The project has been interrupted by the pandemic; however, employers are requesting new projects and partners are addressing those challenges. She shared success stories from employees who have received training in the project.

**COLLEGE PRESENTATIONS**

Butler Community College

Chair Frederick recognized President Kim Krull to provide members with an informational update on activities from Butler Community College.

Salina Area Technical College

Chair Frederick recognized President Greg Nichols to provide members with an informational update on activities from Salina Area Technical College.

**NEXT MEETING REMINDER**

Chair Frederick reminded members that the next TEA meeting will be held at the KBOR Offices in Topeka, Kansas on December 10, 2020 at 10:00 AM.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Chair Frederick adjourned the meeting at 12:38 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Susan Henry, Executive Assistant