

**Minutes of the
Economic Development Council
Meeting**

May 9, 2017

Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

Members present:

Arun Tilak, CU; Ryan Blanton, CSC; Kaben Smallwood, EOSC; Cecil Carter, MSC; Sheri Snyder, NOC; Sara Hitch, OPSU; David Shideler, OSU; Doug Misak, SWOSU; Patrick Green, TCC; Mark Kinders, UCO; Kirk Garton, OU; Chrystal Overton, WOSC.

Guests present:

Heather Kay, OSU-OKC; Michael Morford, CEO of the Bison Group; Connie Lake, Randy McCrary, Cody Ruiz, and Renae Brill, OSRHE staff.

- 1. Welcome and Introductions of all members and guests**
Chairperson Ryan Blanton started the meeting at 12:30 p.m.
- 2. Approval of January 10, 2017 minutes**
Minutes for January 10, 2017 were approved.
- 3. Water Energy Nexus presentation by Michael Morford**
Mr. Michael Morford, CEO of the Bison Group, shared with the council the importance of the water-energy nexus and its impact on our state, our country, and even other nations. Mr. Morford pointed out that current stress on the water-energy nexus will cause it to fracture. As population grows and society becomes more dependent on energy, it is vital that policy makers pay close attention to this situation to avoid possible conflicts resulting in energy-water shortages. Technologies are arising to assist with this problem, and we, as a people, must continue to put water first and discover efficient solutions.
- 4. Nomination of the Vice Chairperson from the two-year tier for the 2017-18 academic year**
Chairperson Mr. Blanton opened the floor to nomination for the 2017-18 academic year vice chairperson position. Kaben Smallwood from Eastern Oklahoma State College was nominated by Chrystal Overton of Western Oklahoma State College and seconded by Cecil Carter from Murray State College.
- 5. Nomination of 2017-18 Executive Committee members (two from each of the two-year and four-year tiers)**
 - a.** The chair sought nominations for the four-year tier members – Mark Kinders from the University of Central Oklahoma was nominated by Doug Misak from Southwestern Oklahoma State University and seconded by Arun Tilak of Cameron University. Dana Hope Chism of Langston University was nominated by Dave Shideler from Oklahoma State University and seconded by Arun Tilak from Cameron University for the four-year institutions.

- b. The chair sought nominations for the two-year tier members – Patrick Green from Tulsa Community College was nominated by Kaben Smallwood of Eastern Oklahoma State College and seconded by Chrystal Overton from Western Oklahoma State College. John Claybon from Oklahoma City Community College was nominated by Ryan Blanton of Connors State College and seconded by Chrystal Overton from Western Oklahoma State College for the two-year institutions.

6. Form 2018 Regents Business Partnership Excellence Award Ceremony and Reception Planning Committee (RBPEA):

Chairperson Mr. Blanton opened the floor to the council. Dana Hope Chism was volunteered to be the Chair of the RBPEA. Cecil Carter and Chrystal Overton also volunteered to serve on the committee.

7. Bring Successes! Be prepared to share in two minutes what is happening at your institution

Ryan Blanton – Connors State College recently underwent renewal of HLC accreditation with success. The Muskogee-based Indian Capital Technology Center is beginning a new Occupational Therapy Assistant program. The program, held in conjunction with Connors State College, will enable students to earn an Associate in Applied Science degree as an occupational therapy assistant, as well as a certificate from Indian Capital Technology Center. The program will directly impact a shortage of occupational therapy practitioners in the area. The Ogden Family Museum will be opening on campus to celebrate the history of Connors State College.

Patrick Green – Tulsa Community College’s commencement ceremonies occurred on May 8, with the college graduating over 2,000 students. TCC’s April Advisory Committee was represented by 200 employers who discussed the need for various soft skills needed in the workplace.

David Shideler – Oklahoma State University will hold ten commencement ceremonies and expect some 3,600 students to graduate this weekend in Stillwater. Saturday, there will be four separate ceremonies for undergraduate students, each featuring different OSU alumni as commencement speakers. OSU has several dual degree programs with Chinese universities and students from China Agricultural University, and they will be participating in commencement Saturday. Most recently, there was a joint degree initiative launched between Southwest Jiaotong University and the OSU Department of Fire Protection and Safety Engineering Technology. OSU also had many recent national student honors awarded including one Barry Goldwater Scholar, one Udall Scholar, and five Fulbright Scholars.

Mark Kinders – The University of Central Oklahoma graduated 1,640 students in spring commencement. This is the second highest spring graduating class on record. The College of Business at UCO received notification that it has received full accreditation by

the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB). This is an elite accreditation that has been granted to 789 colleges among 53 nations, or fewer than 5 percent of all business colleges. For the second time in three years, the UCO men's hockey club team won the Division I national title of the American Collegiate Hockey Association. Meanwhile, the UCO Cheer team won its 11th national championship in the Intermediate All Girl Division II at the National Cheerleaders Association College National.

Doug Misak – Southwestern Oklahoma State University's fall enrollment for 2017 was up –this marks the sixth consecutive semester enrollment has increased at SWOSU. The recent Oil and Gas Expo at SWOSU was attended by 13 oil and gas companies actively searching for new employees.

Kaben Smallwood – Eastern Oklahoma State College is no longer on The Department of Education's Heightened Cash Motioning list. The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) has completed their program review. After providing supplementary information, all standards were met and EOSC may continue to operate with HLC certification. Eastern Agriculture hosted Barn Bash, a benefit concert and raffle, on May 6th, 2017. EOSC held its commencement on May 5th, 2017, and former alum Teresa Jackson delivered the address.

Sara Hitch –Panhandle State's Rodeo Coach, Robert Etbauer, was named the Coach of the Year for the Central Plains Region. Spring is a time for many competitions at Panhandle State. This spring, OPSU had the following accomplishments:

1. PBL, OPSU's business club, earned 8 state championships, 3 2nd place finishes, and 2 3rd place finishes at the recent State Leadership Conference.
2. AITP, OPSU's computer programming club, earned a 3rd place national finish in Systems Analysis and Design.
3. OPSU's Crops Judging team earned a 2nd place national finish at the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture Judging Conference.

Sheri Snyder – In March, Northern Oklahoma College broke ground on a new four-story Classroom building in Stillwater. NOC commencement was May 6 – NOC exceeded the Complete College America and Institutional Goals with 1,000 degrees awarded to over 950 graduates (a record in the 115 year history of the college). The Commencement speaker was U.S. Marshall Clayton Johnson, a NOC Distinguished Alumnus. Former OSRHE Regent Ike Glass will be honored for his 20 years of service to higher education and Northern Oklahoma College on May 17 with the Glass Room dedication at NOC - Tonkawa.

Chrystal Overton – Graduation for Western Oklahoma State College is on May 12th. Western has plans to develop an all online LPN to RN Nursing track. Western currently has a traditional ADN program with a face-to-face track for LPN students. The goal is to have this approved by fall 2018, and it is still in the planning phase and has not been granted approval. Focus on these programs is heavy because nursing is one of the top workforce needs in Western's service area.

Heather Kay – OSU-OKC will be hosting the So You Want to Be Camp June 12th through the 16th, which is a college and career camp for children in middle school. The camp has filled with 40 kids. The Center for Safety & Emergency Preparedness is now offering CDL training in partnership with Central Tech, with classes being offered in the evenings.

Arun Tilak –Two benches have been set in the Graybill Courtyard at Cameron University in memory of Phillip and Marshall Cabe brothers. They died in a tragic plane accident a year ago shortly after their graduation. The Phillip and Marshall Cabe Memorial Endowed Scholarship was created in their memory to assist deserving students who are members of a sorority or fraternity at Cameron University. Slightly over \$16,000 has been raised for the scholarship. CU’s Speech and Debate team won state. They are now 4-time consecutive state champions and have been nationally ranked since 1975 by Pi Kappa Delta. Two companies, Lawton Marketing Group and Artes Pro Vita, graduated from the Center for Emerging Technology & Entrepreneurial Studies (CETES) business incubator and are operating successful businesses in the area.

Cecil Carter – Murray State College recently dedicated the new Nursing and Allied Health Building, as it had been under construction for 2 years. They expect to double the nursing students in the program with the new building. MSC’s registrar announced that they are 5% ahead of fall enrollment (17 or 16) last year. MSC expects to break ground on the new Science Building in August or September.

Kirk Garton – An overview of The University of Oklahoma Economic Development Institute (OU EDI) was given along with an example of those who may be interested, such as local and international economic developers participating in the Institute’s courses either in-person or online making it accessible to various economic development bodies. OU EDI in San Antonio occurred last week, with the highest attendance in at least the past 8 institutes which speaks to the interest and quality of the program. OU is also currently going through a major upgrade to its online courses, both the platform and the content.

8. New Business

No new business.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.