

MINUTES
COMMISSION ON PROPRIETARY SCHOOL AND COLLEGE REGISTRATION
February 16, 2017

The Commission on Proprietary School and College Registration (CPSCR) met on Thursday, February 16, 2017 at 1:00 p.m., Virginia College – Jackson Campus, 5841 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, Mississippi.

Members Present: Mr. Donald Benjamin, Dr. Dean Belton, Esther Cash, Dr. George Terry and Mr. Otis Stanford

Staff Attending: Ms. Kim Verneuille, Chuck Rubisoff, Liz Bolin, Kell Smith, Dr. Shawn Mackey, Deanus Polk, and Audra Love Kimble

Visitors Present: Mike Lanford – MS Attorney’s General Office, Debbie Moore & Michele Steele – Antonelli College/Jackson, Bill Stanfill – Healing Touch Career College, Milton Anderson, Stephanie Owens & Brock Haas – Virginia College/Jackson, Adam Merkle – Virginia College/Biloxi, Brandi Jefferson, Sonya McBride & Latonya Chambers – Simply The Best Kare, Randal Haynes – Delta Technical College/Ridgeland, Kambrey Hunter – CRW Truck Driver School, Marilyn Taylor & Charles Bibbs – Students @ Virginia College/Jackson.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Donald Benjamin at 1:00 p.m.

II. PRELIMINARIES

A. The invocation was given by Dr. George Terry.

B. Acknowledgments / Introductions

Mr. Benjamin thanked Mr. Milton Anderson for hosting the meeting on the Jackson campus. Mr. Benjamin did a special welcome to Liz Bolin & Mr. Michael Lanford from the MS AG’s office. All visitors present gave their names and the schools that they represent. Mr. Chuck Rubisoff was thanked and honored for his service to the Commission on Proprietary Schools & College Registration. Ms. Kim Verneuille presented Mr. Rubisoff with a proclamation thanking him for his service. Chuck responded with great gratitude to everyone and stated how much he appreciated all members and schools. Mike Lanford, Deputy Director of MS Attorney General, added more to the appreciation and value that Chuck Rubisoff was to the Attorney’s General office as well as the Commission.

C. Adjustments / Approval of Agenda

On a motion by Mr. Otis Stanford to accept the agenda and second the motion by Dr. Dean Belton, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

D. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Donald Benjamin asked if there were any adjustments that needed to be made to the minutes. On a motion made by Dr. George Terry and a second by Ms. Esther Cash, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2016 meeting.

III. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Since the last meeting, we have received two (2) request(s) for application packets.
 - Erica Griffin – Purvis, MS – CNA
 - Coastal Truck Driving School – Hammond, LA
- Accelerated Dental Assisting School is requesting approval of two new annexes in Tupelo & Brandon.
- Crescent Schools - ACCET reported that Crescent Schools had failed to meet the default cohort default compliance standards. At the December Commission meeting for ACCET, Crescent Schools was put on a Show Cause Notice. They must submit four required documents by February 24th, 2017. I have informed Mr. Richard to send a copy of the required response to CPSCR.
- Miller Motte Technical College – Sheri Bowling, acting campus president, states the last students for the campus should complete all classes by April 7, 2017.
- US DOE notified CPSCR of Show Cause on Tulsa Welding School/ OK & FL and Delta Technical College/Horn Lake & Ridgeland.
 - Both schools have an investor that is also an investor in Star Academy in New York & New Jersey. These schools abruptly shutdown without the proper notifications leaving states with lots of student without a school.
 - The accreditor put all schools that investor had interests in on a show cause notice to make sure all other schools were not in financial trouble.
 - Responses from both corporate offices are attached.
- ACICS – National College in TN and Virginia College have signed the Program Participation Agreement from the US DOE Federal Student Aid to continue to legal participate in Title IV for all their students for 18 months.
 - Both schools are continuing to apply for new accreditation: Virginia College with ACCET and National College with ABHES.
- Lincoln College is requesting approval of a tuition increase for March 2017 due rising cost in providing the programs and updated technology to students. Increase is about 2% across all programs except two: one will actually decrease in the costs.
- Request for approval of New Programs for Virginia College – Jackson & Biloxi
 - Business Administration ASS & Diploma
 - Medical Assistant AAS Degree
- Infinity Career College – Ms. Verneville visited the campus is recommending cancelation of the Certificate of Registration.

- Montessori Academy of Jackson – exemption requesting. Ms. Verneuille & Chuck Rubisoff met with Ms. Moxley and feels that CPSCR is not the proper agency to authorize her school. As Ms. Moxley describes in her letter, her program is for individuals that want to become teachers in the Montessori style and are more professional development for teachers, not to become teachers.
- ITT Technical Institute – Ms. Verneuille is still working with the US Department of Education and ITT Bankruptcy Trustee in regard to student records physically left at the Madison campus. The trustee has taken possession of the records and is requesting a procedure for destruction of the records. Ms. Verneuille is working with other states to possibly make the records available to the records to students and/or a state in the chance a claim is made. She stated she will update the Commission once this situation has a resolution.
- HB 1039 on Sexual Assault is making its way through the legislature which would require more oversight and requirements in reporting on sexual assault in campuses to include all post-secondary school. Kell Smith reported on the progression of the bill and would keep Ms. Verneuille abreast of the progress.

Dr. Belton asked about reporting back at the next meeting on the status of ITT records. Dr. Terry asked if there was a statute requiring the records to be maintained. Ms. Verneuille reported that there is no law in Mississippi or federally that requires the records to be maintained. However, CPSCR regulations have a requirement of two years for students to be allowed to make a claim. Dr. Belton asked if the Commission need to take an action in regard to the US DOE's Show Cause on Delta Technical College & Tulsa Welding School. Ms. Verneuille stated that the schools had not violated any MS regulations. However, she would likely have more information at the next CPSCR meeting on his situation.

Upon a motion made by Dr. Dean Belton and a second by Dr. George Terry, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the Director's Report.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Milton Anderson introduced two former ITT Technical students that are now attending Virginia College, Marilyn Taylor & Charles Bibbs. Each student briefly expressed their experience with changing schools and how grateful they are to the staff a Virginia College in assisting to continue their education. Mr. Anderson presented Chuck Rubisoff with a plaque thanking him for everything he has done for the MS Proprietary Association. Mr. Anderson provided an update on the President Trump's choice for Secretary of Education, Mrs. Betsy DeVos. We are still not aware of any plans from the DOE, but that meetings have been happening in regard to deregulating the department. Invited everyone attending the meeting to a tour of the campus and see what the school is doing to the citizens of Mississippi. He thanked the students for expressing their experience. Ms. Stephanie Owens, Cosmetology Program Director for Virginia College Jackson, expressed her frustration with not having a Cosmetology Board approved testing company for the

cosmetology students.

V. REPORTS

A. School List

- 49 registered schools total
 - 46 Traditional campuses
 - 3 online schools

B. Financial Report

- Ms. Kim Verneuille reviewed the report.

VI. DOCKET ACTION

A. Registrations:

Upon a motion made by Dr. George Terry and a second by MS. Esther Cash the Commission voted unanimously to approve the initial certification:

- Simply the Best Kare – Hattiesburg, MS
- Coastal Truck Driving School – Hammond, LA

Upon a motion made by Mr. Otis Stanford and a second by Dr. Dean Belton the Commission voted unanimously to approve the renewal certification:

- Careers Plus Institute – Greenville, MS
- Commercial Truck Driver Institute – Saucier, MS
- Maselle Career College – Flowood, MS
- Universal Technical Institute of Texas – Houston, TX

Upon a motion made by Ms. Esther cash and a second by Dr. George Terry the Commission voted unanimously to postpone certification until the April 2017 meeting:

- Ace Training Center – Byram, MS
- Access Training Institute – Jackson, MS

Upon a motion made by Ms. Esther Cash and a second by Dr. George Terry the Commission voted unanimously to approve cancellation of Certificate of Registration:

- Infinity Career College – Holly Springs, MS

B. Agent Permit Application

Upon the Staff's recommendation, a motion made by to approve Dr. Dean Belton and a second by Mr. Otis Stanford, the Commission voted unanimously to issue agent permits for the following:

Agent Permit Application (Initial)

- Accelerated Dental Assisting/Brandon & Tupelo – David Roux
- Columbia Southern University/AL – Nathan Hogan
- Concorde Career College/TN – Mikia Housley
- Concorde Career College/MS – Charlotte Gentry & Chris Burgio
- Lincoln College of Technology/TN – David Osman & Denise Neal
- Swift Transportation – Sonya Brown
- Systems IT, Inc. – Tonya Oliver
- Tulsa Welding School/FL – Craig Callahan, Misty Estrada-Loya, Scott Karcher& Mark Arroyo
- Medical 2 Career College/Flowood – Donna Steele

Staff Recommendation: Approval

Upon the Staff's recommendation, a motion made by Dr. George Terry and a second by Dr. Dean Belton, the Commission voted unanimously to renew agent permits for the following:

Agent Permit Application (Renewal)

- Antonelli College/Online – Andre Newson (C-3022)
- Blue Cliff College/Online – Benny Villarreal (C-3020)
- Columbia Southern University/AL – Bruce Roberson (C-3186) & Cleveland Smith (C-3187)
- Concorde Career College/MS – Ruby Hall (C-2901)
- Concorde Career College/TN – Megan Smith (C-3125)
- Delta Technical College/Ridgeland – Tramell Weeks (C-3212), John Holmes (C-3093), Natalie Horton (C-3206) & Janice Foster (C-3159)
- Delta Technical College/Horn Lake – Selena Medlin (C-3122)
- Healing Touch Career College/Jackson – Sherri Epps (C-3126)
- Lincoln College of Technology/TN – Robert Black (C-2528)
- Swift Transportation/TN – Tamala Wilcher Hill (C-2719)
- Virginia College/Biloxi – Jennifer Smith (C-3207)
- WyoTech/FL, PA & WY – Kelly Price (C-3213)

Staff Recommendation: Approval

C. New Program of Studies

Upon the Staff's recommendation, a motion made by Mr. Otis Stanford and a second by Dr. Dean Belton, the Commission voted unanimously to approve new programs for the following:

- Virginia College/Biloxi & Jackson – three new programs
 - Business Administration AAS Degree
 - Fifteen new courses
 - Business Administration Diploma
 - Ten new courses
 - Medical Assistant AAS Degree
 - Fourteen new courses

D. Program Modifications

None

E. Exemptions

Upon the Staff's recommendation, a motion made by Ms. Esther Cash and a second by Dr. Dean Belton, the Commission voted unanimously to approve exemption for the following:

- Montessori Academy of Jackson

Dr. George Terry asked a question on the type of student that would attend this type of school, would this Commission have the authority to oversee this type of school. Ms. Verneuille stated that we have not in past. Mr. Rubisoff added that a teacher wanting this type of education is not a state requirement of licensure to teach in the Montessori method. The certificate the individual would receive only allows them to teach at a Montessori school. If the individual would apply for a regular teaching position in Mississippi, licensure would be required. The request was submitted because the Ms. Moxley needs an official response in regard to her

accreditor, which is recognized by the US Department of Education, on state authorization which is a federal requirement. The school does have oversight from an accreditor that reports to the US Department of Education. Ms. Kimble added that this a specific type of professional development. This exemption allows Ms. Moxley to continue the purchase of the school to operate.

F. Instructor Approval

Upon the staff's recommendation, a motion made by Ms. Esther Cash and a second by Dr. George Terry, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the Instructors as listed for the following schools:

- Accelerated Dental Assisting School/Tupelo
 - Tara Smith Dental Assisting
 - Leigh Ann Huffstatler Dental Assisting
 - Daphne Jones Dental Assisting
 - Melissa McKinney Dental Assisting
 - Carlee Morgan Dental Assisting
- Accelerated Dental Assisting/Brandon
 - Heather Hester Dental Assisting
 - Accelerated Dental Assisting/Hattiesburg
 - Deanna Smith Dental Assisting
- Delta Technical College/Ridgeland
 - Daniel Cox CDL
 - Fitzgerald Thurman CDL
- Healing Touch Career College/Jackson
 - LaTasha Green Medical
- Medical 2 Career College/Flowood
 - Yolanda Jackson Medical/CNA
- New Horizons Computer Learning Center of Biloxi
 - Rachel Burger Software/Business
 - Steven Andrews Computers
 - Gary Dall Computers
 - Eric Foulkrod Computers/Software
 - Kirk McArdle Computers
 - Jenny Griffith Computers
 - Ralph Nyberg Computers
 - Gene Parker Business
- Tulsa Welding School/OK
 - Michael Barrett Computers
- Tulsa Welding School/FL
 - Christopher Morter Welding
- Virginia College/Jackson
 - Cherron Sims Pharmacy Tech
 - Melissa McCoy General Education
 - Alicia Martin Surgery Tech
 - Eric Irvin General Education/Math
 - Kellea Barrett A&P/First Term Intro Course
- Universal Technical Institute/TX
 - Thad Pannell Automotive
- WyoTech/PA
 - Michael Keener Automotive

G. Other

Dr. George Terry wanted to express his concern about the amount of closures and program teach-outs. He was very concerned that the students being harmed. He asked if the Commission is vetting the out-of-state school programs to make sure our residents were taken care of. Ms. Verneuille assured Dr. Terry that CPSCR regulations do require that each school closing any program must provide a teach out and not just drop students in the middle of a program. Unfortunately, ITT Technical Institute did just that. Many of the registered schools and community colleges in Mississippi volunteered to assist the ITT students and that she spoke with many students in helping them to navigate the federal regulations for loans. Ms. Verneuille stated she does review all programs the schools submit for approval. However, CPSCR does not have the authority to deny a program solely based on a determination that a program is offered in many schools; for example, CNA programs. Ms. Verneuille she does make sure she thoroughly reviews each application and tries to do visits to the campuses on a regular basis. However, if they meet all of the criteria for registration, they can operate in the State of Mississippi. Mr. Benjamin asked if there are any additional protections for our students attending out-of-state schools. Ms. Verneuille reported that no, all school registered with CPSCR carry to same \$50,000 bond. Increasing bonds for schools would require a legislature change to the CPSCR statute.

VII. COMPLAINTS

None

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Not needed

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion made by Dr. Dean Belton and a second by Ms. Esther Cash, the Commission voted unanimously to approve adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 2:02 p.m.



Ms. Audra Love Kimble
Associate Executive Director
Commission on Proprietary School
& College Registration



Mr. Donald Benjamin, Chairman of
the Commission on Proprietary
& College Registration