

## **MINUTES**

### **Council on Postsecondary Education**

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Type: Business Meeting  
Date: April 15, 2022  
Time: 9:00 a.m. ET  
Location: Morehead State University, Adron Doran University Center.  
Livestream feed available on CPE YouTube page.

### **WELCOMING & CALL TO ORDER**

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The Council on Postsecondary Education met Friday, April 15, 2022, at 9:00 a.m., ET. The meeting occurred at the Adron Doran University Center at Morehead State University, and it was also livestreamed on the CPE YouTube page. Chair Lucas Mentzer presided.

### **ATTENDANCE**

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Members attending in person: Colby Birkes, Kellie Ellis, Eric Farris, Lucas Mentzer, Elaine Walker, Kevin Weaver, and Commissioner Jason Glass.

Members attending by ZOOM teleconference: Muhammad Babar and Richard Nelson.

Members not in attendance: Ronald Beal, Lori Harper, Karyn Hoover, Vidya Ravichandran, Madison Silvert, and Carol Wright.

CPE President Aaron Thompson served as Secretary of the board, per the CPE Bylaws. Ms. Heather Faesy, CPE's senior associate for Board Relations, served as recorder of the meeting minutes.

### **REPORT FROM KDE COMMISSIONER JASON GLASS**

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Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) Commissioner Jason Glass discussed a number of bills proposed and/or passed during the 2022 Legislative Session that impacted the K-12 community. He also briefed the Council on the United We Learn initiative, which is KDE's vision for the future of public education in Kentucky and builds around three central themes: creating a more vibrant experience for every student, encouraging innovation in our schools – especially when it comes to assessment, and creating a bold new future for Kentucky's schools through collaboration with our communities.

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

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The minutes of the January 28, 2022, meeting, were approved as distributed.

## **PROPOSED COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

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The Council approved a resolution for Council member Ronald Beal for his support and service to the Council on Postsecondary Education and the Commonwealth of Kentucky. He served on the board from July 2016 through April 2022.

## **REPORT FROM CPE PRESIDENT AARON THOMPSON**

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President Aaron Thompson provided an update on the 2022 Student Success Summit held on April 11-12, the GEAR UP Kentucky Institute for a College-Going Culture held on March 22, and the recent kick-off the new Kentucky Advising Academy, which supports postsecondary advisory efforts. He also provided a few highlights of the 2022-24 budget sent for signature by the Governor.

## **2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

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Jennifer Fraker, CPE's Executive Director and Legislative Liaison, and Mr. Travis Powell, CPE's Vice President and General Counsel, provided an overview on several postsecondary education-related bills that were passed during the 2022 legislative session.

## **KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY – DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

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Mr. Powell and President Thompson provided an overview of HB 250 (2022 RS), an act relating to Kentucky State University (KSU), making an appropriation therefor, and declaring an emergency," and which was signed on April 8, 2022. The bill spelled out a number of responsibilities designated to both KSU and the Council.

As part of the responsibilities granted to the Council is the review and approval of any expenditure by KSU greater than \$5,000. In response to this, Mr. Powell presented the proposed Kentucky State University Expenditure Policy which would set forth the process for approving KSU expenditures in accordance with the enacted legislation. The policy dictates the process to be taken and the information required for each submission. Each request must be signed by both the Chief Financial Officer and President of the institution. It also states all contracts and personnel actions must be approved by the KSU Board of Regents or designated Committee before resulting expenditures will be approved.

MOTION: Mr. Weaver moved the Council approve the proposed Kentucky State University Expenditure Approval Policy. Mr. Birkes seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

Mr. Powell then presented KSU's request for disbursement of \$17.5 million to address the FY 2022 shortfall through June 15, 2022. The request falls within Section 3 of HB 250. CPE Senior Fellow Greg Rush reviewed the supporting documentation and accounting information in the attached and verified their accuracy. Amounts that required projection or estimation have been made with the most recent and verifiable information available. Amounts requested are also supported by the KSU Financial Assessment completed by CPE in November 2021.

MOTION: Ms. Walker moved the Council approve KSU's request for disbursement of \$17.5 million. Mr. Farris seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

## **ACADEMIC AND STRATEGIC INITIATIVES COMMITTEE – REPORT & ACTION ITEMS**

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Chair Mentzer presented the Academic and Strategic Initiatives Committee Report, which included an update on the new Kentucky Advising Academy and the implementation steps associated with the 2022-30 Statewide Strategic Agenda for Postsecondary Education.

The Committee also reviewed and approved three new academic program proposals:

- Master of Science in Cybersecurity from Western Kentucky University.
- Master of Science in Accountancy and Analytics from the University of Louisville.
- Education Specialist degree in Curriculum and Instructions from the University of Louisville.

MOTION: The Academic and Strategic Initiatives Committee recommendation of approval of the three new academic programs served as the motion. A second was not needed.

VOTE: The motion passed.

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE – REPORT & ACTION ITEMS**

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Chair Mentzer presented the Finance Committee report which included an overview of the 2022-24 Budget of the Commonwealth and detailed review of the KSU Special Appropriation as approved by HB 250.

The Committee also reviewed and approved the following actions:

- Tuition and Mandatory Fee Policy for Academic Year 2022-23, which did not reflect any changes from the previous year's policy.
- Tuition and mandatory fee proposals for Academic Year 2022-23 submitted by Northern Kentucky University and Kentucky Community and Technical College System.
- Interim capital project at Eastern Kentucky University to upgrade building management system controls with \$1,150,000 in federal funds.

MOTION: The Finance Committee recommendation of approval of all actions served as the motion. A second was not needed.

VOTE: The motion passed.

At its April 12 meeting, the Finance Committee requested that staff draft a resolution for the Governor and the General Assembly thanking them for their support to postsecondary education in the development of the 2022-24 Biennial Budget. Staff presented those resolutions, and Chair Mentzer read each for the record.

MOTION: Ms. Walker moved the Council approve the resolution honoring Governor Andy Beshear. Mr. Nelson seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

MOTION: Dr. Ellis moved the Council approve the resolution honoring the Kentucky General Assembly. Mr. Farris seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – REPORT & ACTION ITEMS**

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Chair Mentzer presented the Executive Committee report for its meetings in March and April 2022. The Committee received updates on the activities of the 2022 Legislative Sessions at both meetings and conducted the annual review of the CPE President at its April 14 meeting. The Committee also reviewed and approved the 2022-23 Council meeting dates and recommended final approval by the Council.

MOTION: The Executive Committee's recommendation to approve the 2022-23 Meeting dates served as the motion. A second was not needed.

VOTE: The motion passed.

Ms. Lee Nimocks, CPE's Vice President for Strategy and Chief of Staff, reviewed the key accomplishments and work conducted by Council staff under the direction of President Thompson from January 2021 through March 2022. Following the review, Chair Mentzer provided positive remarks and stated the Committee proposed and approved a modification to President Thompson's contract to include a housing allowance that equates to 20% of his salary, and to replace his current vehicle fuel card with an additional \$500 per month vehicle allowance.

MOTION: The Executive Committee's recommendation to approve the modification to President Thompson's contract served as the motion. A second was not needed.

VOTE: The motion passed.

## **HIGHER EDUCATION MATTERS CAMPAIGN LAUNCH**

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Ms. Sue Patrick, CPE's Chief Communications Officer, discussed the launch of the Higher Education Matters Campaign which was conducted in partnership with the public colleges and universities. The campaign goals are to improve public understanding that higher education is key to greater opportunity and economic growth and to promote college-going for traditional and adult students. The initiative supports the Value priority of the 2022-30 Statewide Strategic Agenda.

Terri Giltner, KCTCS's Chief Marketing Officer, and Rick Hesterberg, Morehead State's Vice President of University Advancement, presented on how they are supporting and promoting the campaign and implementing resources to supplement their marketing materials.

## **CAMPUS "GOOD NEWS" REPORTS**

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Reports from the institutions were provided in the agenda materials.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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The Council adjourned at 12:05 p.m. ET.

**MINUTES REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL: June 17, 2022**