The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held in the Board Room of the Tinnin Fine Arts Center on the main campus in Poplar Bluff, Missouri, on Wednesday, March 19, 2014 at 1:00 p.m.

Those present included: Trustees: Darren Garrison, chairman; Randy Grassham, vice-chairman; Ben Ressel, secretary (joined via conference call after executive session); Phil Davis, treasurer; Wilbur Thornton, member; Randy Winston, member; and college administrators: Dr. Devin Stephenson, president; Dr. Wesley Payne, vice president for learning; Dr. Angela Totty, vice president for student success; Charlotte Eubank, chief financial officer; Janine Heath, recording secretary.

Trustee Garrison delivered the invocation.

The agenda was unanimously approved, with an amendment to move Executive Session directly after the President’s Report, by a motion from Trustee Winston and a second by Trustee Davis.

The minutes of the meeting on February 19, 2014, were unanimously approved on a motion by Trustee Davis and second by Trustee Garrison.

Charlotte Eubank reported the college’s budget to actual status as of February 28, 2014. At 67% into the fiscal year the college recognized 79% of the total budgeted revenues. Ms. Eubank indicated that to date 96% of the total budgeted tuition/fees have been realized. Expenses are currently at 60% of the budgeted expenses.

Ms. Eubank updated the board on the capital budget and informed them we had begun the projects and the college was making expenditures to cover the costs. Dr. Stephenson informed the board that the college has moved into a spending restriction season requiring personnel to requisition items that are needed to complete the fiscal year.

The financial report was unanimously approved as presented on a motion by Trustee Winston and second by Trustee Thornton.

Dr. Stephenson reported that he and Dr. Payne had a successful trip to Indianapolis to meet with Tom Miller and Associates and the leaders of “Project Lead The Way.” The discussion centered on the work of PLTW in advancing STEM education in K-12 classrooms and the role that Three Rivers College could play in bringing the initiative to Southeast Missouri.
Dr. Stephenson reviewed the meeting held with the New Madrid area focus group exploring partnership opportunities with New Madrid and the college for economic and workforce development in the Bootheel.

Dr. Payne announced that two of our students, Ms. Megan Cook and Mr. Dustin Chaney were honored at the recent PTK luncheon hosted by MCCA. They are now a part of the USA Coca Cola All-USA Academic Team and will compete at a national level. Mr. Greg Hicks was recognized for outstanding teaching and received the Governor’s Excellence in Teaching Award.

Dr. Stephenson discussed the recent Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Grand Entrance to the College. The administration and several community members have been working on this project since 2009 and it is exciting to have the project scheduled for completion in July 2014.

Dr. Stephenson informed the board that the college participated in the New Madrid Chamber of Commerce annual banquet. Dr. Stephenson delivered the Keynote address and was joined by Dr. Payne; Missy Marshall and Ann Matthews, center directors; and Michelle Reynolds, development officer in the celebration.

Dr. Payne reminded the Trustees that the Eagles Tribute Band Concert is scheduled for March 27. The event is sold out and promises to be a stellar performance.

The last show of the season is scheduled for April 28 with the Moscow Festival Ballet performing “Sleeping Beauty”.

Dr. Stephenson welcomed Neva Bissette to the meeting. Chairman Garrison read the Board Resolution presented to her in honor of her husband, Lewis, for his never ending support provided to Three Rivers College and the athletic department. Dr. Stephenson presented Mrs. Bissette with a President’s Medallion for his service to the College.

Trustee Winston made the motion with a second from Trustee Davis to move into executive session. The board was polled as follows: Trustee Davis, yes; Trustee Garrison, yes; Trustee Thornton, yes; Trustee Ressel, absent; Trustee Winston, yes; Trustee Grassham, yes.

Trustee Ressel joined the meeting via conference call.

Trustee Thornton made the motion to approve the Administration’s recommendation of a 2.5% cost of living increase and a $1,500 increase to the base salary for all full-time faculty. On a second from Trustee Davis the board was polled. Trustee Davis, yes;
Trustee Garrison, yes; Trustee Thornton, yes; Trustee Ressel, yes; Trustee Winston, yes; Trustee Grassham, yes.

Trustee Garrison expressed his appreciation to the staff and faculty for contributing to the many successes of the college.

Trustee Davis made the motion to approve the President’s Contract as agreed to between Dr. Stephenson and the Board. With a second by Trustee Winston the board was polled. Trustee Davis, yes; Trustee Garrison, yes; Trustee Thornton, yes; Trustee Ressel, yes; Trustee Winston, yes; Trustee Grassham, yes.

Trustee Garrison expressed his thanks and appreciation to Dr. Stephenson for his leadership and direction of the college over the past five years and the achievement of the goals that were set in 2009.

Dr. Stephenson introduced Greg Bricker with George K. Baum and Sean Flynn with Gillmore Bell Law Firm.

Mr. Bricker referenced the Go to Market resolution that was brought before the board in January and adopted by the board. The college needs an additional $8.5 million to complete the current capital improvement projects. Standard and Poor again provided an “A” rating for the college based on the financial performance and stability. Mr. Bricker further stated that all of the bonds had been spoken for as of March 18, 2014. The closing date on the funding is April 15, 2014 at which time the funds will be available for the college to use.

On a motion by Trustee Winston and a second by Trustee Garrison the approval of the resolution was brought to a vote. The board was polled. Trustee Davis, yes; Trustee Garrison, yes; Trustee Thornton, yes; Trustee Ressel, yes; Trustee Winston, yes; Trustee Grassham, yes.

Dr. Stephenson discussed the date for the Annual Retreat. It is the recommendation of the Administration to have this meeting on June 11 at the Landing in Van Buren.

On a motion by Trustee Davis and a second by Trustee Thornton the approval of the date and location was brought to a vote. The board was polled. Trustee Davis, yes; Trustee Garrison, yes; Trustee Thornton, yes; Trustee Ressel, yes; Trustee Winston, yes; Trustee Grassham, yes.

Dr. Stephenson reviewed the changes to the existing policy. The Administration recommends these changes in order to provide a safe environment for all faculty and staff.

On a motion by Trustee Winston and a second by Trustee
Grassham the approval of the changes to GAP1010 was brought to a vote. The board was polled. Trustee Davis, yes; Trustee Garrison, yes; Trustee Thornton, yes; Trustee Ressel, yes; Trustee Winston, yes; Trustee Grassham, yes.

There being no further business, the board unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 3:06 p.m. on a motion by Trustee Winston and a second by Trustee Davis.

RANDY GRASSHAM, CHAIRMAN

PHIL DAVIS, SECRETARY