

**ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD**  
**Regular Quarterly Meeting**  
**October 27, 2023**

**Minutes of Meeting**

The October 27, 2023, regular meeting of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) was hosted by the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS). Chair Graycen Bigger called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., with a quorum present.

Coordinating Board present:

Graycen Bigger, Chair  
Al Brodell  
Kelley Erstine  
Chad Hooten  
Dr. Kyle Miller  
Lucas Pointer  
Carolyn Rhinehart

Coordinating Board absent:

Dr. Jim Carr, Secretary  
Dr. Jerry Cash

Presidents, chancellors, institutional representatives, ADHE staff, members of the press, and guests were also present.

Chair Bigger began by thanking everyone for participating in the meeting. She then introduced new AHECB members Lucas Pointer from Bentonville and Carolyn Rhinehart from Scranton. Next, Bigger introduced UAMS Chancellor Cam Patterson, for a welcome.

Chancellor Patterson welcomed the Coordinating Board and Institutional representatives and distinguished guests to his campus. He said that higher education is the pathway to the future of the state of Arkansas and UAMS is delighted to be a part of that. The UAMS mission is to improve health and healthcare in Arkansas. UAMS is proud that about 70 percent of healthcare professionals in Arkansas train at UAMS, said Chancellor Patterson. He then introduced UAMS Provost, Chief Academic Officer and Chief Strategy Officer Dr. Stephanie Gardner. As the state's only Academic Health Sciences Center, UAMS appreciates the support of ADHE and the Coordinating Board, said Gardner. After highlighting their academic programs and response to workforce needs, Gardner thanked everyone for coming to the Coordinating Board meeting.

Agenda Item. No. 1  
Bond Loan Feasibility Update

Nick Fuller presented an update of the actual terms for bond and loan issues receiving AHECB approval that occurred October 2022 through October 2023. An annual update was requested by the AHECB during the July 30, 2010, quarterly meeting.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 2  
Report on Intercollegiate Athletic Revenues  
and Expenditures for 2021-22

Act 245 of 1989 (A.C.A. §6-62-106) directed the Coordinating Board to develop and establish uniform accounting standards and procedures for reporting revenues and expenditures. Based on these standard definitions and formats, the Coordinating Board is to collect the financial data and provide a uniform report of each institution's athletic revenues and expenditures for the previous fiscal year to the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee and the public by November of each year.

Athletic revenues and expenditures for 2022-23 for each institution have been collected according to uniform standards and compiled in a summary report

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board accepts the Report of 2022-23 Intercollegiate Athletic Revenues and Expenditures as prepared in accordance with Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board uniform accounting standards and definitions for athletic reporting.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board authorizes the Commissioner to transmit the Report of 2022-23 Intercollegiate Athletic Revenues and Expenditures to the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee according to the provisions of A.C.A. §6-62-106.

Al Brodell noted that the actual expenditures varied from the board of trustees-certified budgeted expenditures by a range of 12.8 percent below to 68.3 percent over the budgeted amount. If you go over the budgeted amount, you are still capped at what you can take from E&G, asked Brodell. Nick Fuller said that is correct.

Al Brodell moved to recommend the approval of Agenda Item No. 2 to the full Board for consideration. Chad Hooten seconded, and the Committee approved.

Agenda Item No. 3  
Recommendation for Educational and General Operations  
State-Supported Institutions of Higher Education  
Fiscal Year 2024-25

A.C.A. §6-61-234 (Act 148 of 2017) directs the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) to adopt polices developed by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education (ADHE) necessary to implement a productivity-based funding model for state-supported institutions of higher education.

The individual institutional recommendations for all three types of institutions (Colleges, Universities, and Non-Formula Entities) were determined in the following manner: The general revenue funds were distributed based upon the productivity funding distribution policy adopted by the AHECB in October 2017. The non-formula needs were based on the justifications submitted by the institutions. **The total funding recommendation for 2024-25 for Colleges and Universities is \$0 in new revenue with \$4,555,985 of one time incentive funds being utilized for statewide purposes. The total recommendation for 2024-2025 for the Non-Formula Entities is \$51,724,246 in new revenue.**

In addition to these funding recommendations, an additional appropriation increase recommendation of 2% of the formula based entities funding recommendation has been added to address any changes in disbursements for Educational Excellence Trust Fund revenues or any other state funding adjustments. This increase totals \$9,946,076 for the **universities** and \$3,626,503 for the **two-year colleges**.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board adopts the recommendations for state funding of the educational and general operations of Arkansas public institutions of higher education in the 2024-25 fiscal year as included in Tables 03A, 03B, 03C, and 04D.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education is authorized to prepare appropriate documents for transmission to the Governor and the General Assembly of the 2024-25 operating recommendations of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That should any errors of a technical nature be found in these recommendations, the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education is authorized to make appropriate corrections consistent with the policy established by the Board's action on these recommendations.

There were no questions.

Al Brodell moved to recommend the approval of Agenda Item No. 3 to the full Board for consideration. Chad Hooten seconded, and the Committee approved.

Agenda Item No. 4  
Recommendation for Distribution of Productivity Funding for  
State-Supported Institutions of Higher Education  
Fiscal Year 2024-25

A.C.A. §6-61-234 directs the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) to adopt polices developed by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education (ADHE) necessary to implement a productivity-based funding model for state-supported institutions of higher education.

For the **universities**, a net 0% change in funding is recommended for those institutions with productivity increases for a total change in university funding of \$0. This is also the fifth year that institutions with productivity declines will have an amount reduced and then reallocated to the institutions who showed an increase. \$4,236,833 was reallocated from 9 institutions to the other 1 university.

For the **two-year colleges**, a net 0% change in funding is recommended for those institutions with productivity increases for a total change in two-year college funding of \$0. \$950,314 was reallocated from 7 institutions to 11 other two-year colleges. 4 of the two-year colleges hit the 5% stop-loss level for the FY2024-2025 recommendation. This resulted in the overall amount of reallocation dollars being reduced to ensure those 4 institutions do not lose more than 5% of their FY2019-20 funding for the upcoming fiscal year per the current distribution policy. This is shown in the data in Table XXC.

This distribution recommendation results in a total request for new general revenue funds of \$0.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board adopts the recommendation for distribution of productivity funding to the Arkansas public institutions of higher education in the 2024-25 fiscal year as included in Table XXB.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education is authorized to prepare appropriate documents for transmission to the Governor and the General Assembly of the 2024-25 productivity funding distribution recommendation of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That should any errors of a technical nature be found in this recommendation, the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education is authorized to make appropriate corrections consistent with the policy established by the Board's action on these recommendations.

Al Brodell asked if this is the first year there has been a \$0 request for new general revenue funds. Fuller said, yes.

Al Brodell moved to recommend the approval of Agenda Item No. 4 to the full Board for consideration. Carolyn Rhinehart seconded, and the Committee approved.

Agenda Item No. 5  
Technical Certificate in Practical Nursing  
Northwest Arkansas Community College

The administration and Board of Trustees of Northwest Arkansas Community College (NWACC) request approval to offer the Technical Certificate in Practical Nursing, effective Spring 2024. NWACC is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and the proposed program is within the role and scope established for the institution. The

Northwest Arkansas Community College Board of Trustees approved the program on May 8, 2023.

Northwest Arkansas Community College, in conjunction with the Office of Skills Development (OSD) and NWACC’s Secondary Career Center, propose to offer a 35 credit-hour Technical Certificate in Practical Nursing to both secondary and post-secondary students. Students completing this program of study will gain the skills necessary to perform basic patient care tasks in a variety of settings such as nursing homes, hospitals, physicians’ offices, and private homes.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the offering of the Technical Certificate in Practical Nursing (CIP 51.3901) at Northwest Arkansas Community College, effective Spring 2024.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of Northwest Arkansas Community College of the approval.

Dr. Diane Johnson, Senior Vice President of Learning, Mark Wallenmeyer, Dean of Health Professions and Carla Boyd, Director of Nursing, provided additional background information.

Al Brodell asked if there are any agreements for clinical affiliations. Carla Boyd said they have requests from Northwest Medical Center and the VA Medical Center.

Chad Hooten moved to recommend the approval of Agenda Item No. 5 to the full Board for consideration. Kelley Erstine seconded, and the Committee approved.

Agenda Item No. 6  
 Trails Trade School and Construction Technology Administrative Unit  
 Certificate of Proficiency in Trail Management  
 Certificate of Proficiency in Trails Technician  
 Technical Certificate in Trails and Community Development  
 Technical Certificate in Trails Construction and Maintenance  
 Northwest Arkansas Community College

The administration and Board of Trustees of Northwest Arkansas Community College (NWACC) request approval to establish the Trails Trade School and Construction Technology administrative unit and offer the Certificate of Proficiency in Trail Management, Certificate of Proficiency in Trails Technician, Technical Certificate in Trails and Community Development, and Technical Certificate in Trails Construction and Maintenance, effective Fall 2024. NWACC is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and the proposed administrative unit and program are within the role and scope established for the institution. The Northwest Arkansas Community College

Board of Trustees approved the administrative unit on June 12, 2023, and the programs on August 7, 2023.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the establishment of the Trails Trade School and Construction Technology administrative unit and the offering of the Certificate of Proficiency in Trail Management (CIP 03.0207), Certificate of Proficiency in Trails Technician (CIP 03.0207), Technical Certificate in Trails and Community Development (CIP 03.0207), and Technical Certificate in Trails Construction and Maintenance (CIP 46.0000) at Northwest Arkansas Community College, effective Fall 2024.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of Northwest Arkansas Community College of the approval.

Dr. Diane Johnson, Senior Vice President of Learning, and Dr. Megan Bolinder, Executive Director for the International Trades School for Trail Innovation, provided additional background information.

Dr. Kyle Miller asked if there was any coordination or partnership with the Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism. Dr. Bolinder said she is currently in talks with the Department of Parks and Tourism.

Kelley Erstine asked if the three-year grant was solely contingent on biking trails. Dr. Bolinder said, no, it will include everything from hard surface to soft surface. Erstine asked how the \$900,000 for equipment would be used. Dr. Bolinder said it will be used for a practice simulator, mini excavators, and multiple tools.

Chair Bigger commended Dr. Bolinder on her preparation and knowledge of the program. She noted that her primary concerns were for the career outlook for the students because there isn't a standard operating code for this program. Bigger said she believes there is a great opportunity for this program, and she really looks forward to seeing what this looks like throughout the state.

Kelley Erstine moved to recommend the approval of Agenda Item No. 6 to the full Board for consideration. Dr. Kyle Miller seconded, and the Committee approved.

Agenda Item No. 7  
Doctor of Musical Arts in Music  
University of Arkansas Fayetteville

The administration of the University of Arkansas Fayetteville (UAF) and Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System request approval to offer the Doctor of Musical Arts in Music, effective Spring 2024. UAF is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and the proposed program is within the role and scope established for the

institution. The University of Arkansas System Board of Trustees will consider the administrative unit and program for approval on September 15, 2023.

Graduates from the proposed degree program will seek employment as a college music professor, worship leader, or composer. Occupational projections from the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services indicate approximately 350 openings per year in this field within Arkansas with a long-term growth rate of 10.21% in Arkansas. The majority of graduates will seek employment at institutions of higher education in music departments, however they may also seek employment in K-12 public schools' instrumental programs as well. Almost all institutions of higher education with music programs have a need for faculty with doctoral degrees.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the offering of the Doctor of Musical Arts in Music (CIP 50.0903) at the University of Arkansas Fayetteville, effective Spring 2024.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to inform the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas Fayetteville and Chair of the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System of the approval.

Dr. Terry Martin, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, provided additional background information.

Dr. Kyle Miller asked if there were other Doctor of Musical Arts in Music programs in Arkansas. Dr. Martin said, no.

Chad Hooten moved to recommend the approval of Agenda Item No. 7 to the full Board for consideration. Kelley Erstine seconded, and the Committee approved.

Agenda Item No. 8  
Master of Science and Graduate Certificates  
in Environmental Resiliency  
University of Arkansas Fayetteville

The administration of the University of Arkansas Fayetteville (UAF) and Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System request approval to offer the Master of Science in Environmental Resiliency, Graduate Certificate in Environmental Resiliency, Graduate Certificate in Environmental Resiliency Certifications, Accounting and Metrics, Graduate Certificate in Environmental Resiliency Leadership, and Graduate Certificate in Environmental Resiliency Sustainability, effective Spring 2024.

Graduates of the proposed program will be able to seek jobs at a number of Arkansas companies who have focused on sustainability as a key driver of their business such as becoming a zero emissions company, reducing its carbon footprint, greenhouse gas emissions reductions, and water usage reductions. Workforce analysis indicates that the most common positions obtained by a student with these credentials include

program and project managers, compliance officers, and analysts with 1,566 Arkansas job openings annually. The projected median salary in Arkansas is \$55,000 and \$74,000 nationally.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the offering of the Master of Science in Environmental Resiliency (CIP 03.0101), Graduate Certificate in Environmental Resiliency (CIP 03.0101), Graduate Certificate in Environmental Resiliency Certifications, Accounting, and Metrics (CIP 03.0101), Graduate Certificate in Environmental Resiliency Leadership (CIP 03.0101), and Graduate Certificate in Environmental Resiliency Sustainability (CIP 03.0101) at the University of Arkansas Fayetteville, effective Spring 2024.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to inform the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas Fayetteville and Chair of the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System of the approval.

Dr. Terry Martin, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, provided additional background information.

Chair Bigger noted that the companies that are listed as moving towards zero admissions are not the same companies that are looking to hire graduates from this program. And the companies that are looking to hire graduates don't have a presence in Arkansas. Are we creating a program for jobs that don't exist yet, asked Bigger. Dr. Martin said they believe there is a job market for graduates of this program. He noted that the target students are existing employees at the companies that are interested and listed in the program information.

Chad Hooten moved to recommend the approval of Agenda Item No. 8 to the full Board for consideration. Dr. Kyle Miller seconded, and the Committee approved.

#### Agenda Item No. 9 Institutional Certification Advisory Committee

**RESOLVED**, That pursuant to A.C.A. §6-61-301, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants initial certification to the institutions listed on pages 1 - 2 to offer the specified degree programs to Arkansas residents for a period of three years through December 31, 2026.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education is authorized to notify the administration of said institutions that the certification of the degree programs requires the institution to notify the Arkansas Division of Higher Education whenever any of the following occurs: (1) major reorganization of the controlling body; (2) changes in the charter or incorporation documents of the institution; or (3) changes in the method of operation of the institution's programs in Arkansas.



**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Commissioner to notify the administration of said institutions that any advertisement or published materials using the name of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board or the Arkansas Division of Higher Education must contain the following statement:

Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board certification does not constitute an endorsement of any institution or program. Such certification merely indicates that certain criteria have been met as required under the rules and regulations implementing institutional and program certification as defined in A.C.A. §6-61-301.

**Initial Program Certifications – Distance Technology**

California State University Northridge, Northridge, California

DeVry University, Naperville, Illinois

University of Massachusetts Global, Irvine, California

**Initial Program Certifications – New Institution**

Campus, Inc., Sacramento, California

There were no questions.

Kelley Erstine moved to recommend the approval of Agenda Item No. 9 to the full Board for consideration. Carolyn Rhinehart seconded, and the Committee approved.

Agenda Items No. 10 & 11  
Letters of Notification and Letters of Intent

The Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education approved institutional requests for new programs not requiring Board action unless further review is requested by the Board. During this period, the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee received notice of requests from out-of-state institutions to offer degree programs to Arkansas residents. The program notice lists appear in the Letters of Notification on pages 10-1 through 10-27 and in the Letters of Intent on pages 11-1 through 11-4 of the agenda book.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 12  
Approval of Minutes

Kelley Erstine moved to approve Agenda Item No. 12. Al Brodell seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 13  
Appointment of Nominating Committee

Chair Graycen Bigger appointed members of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board nominating committee. The nominating committee will recommend Board officers for 2024-25 at the January 26, 2024, meeting. The members included Al Brodell and Dr. Jim Carr.

Lucas Pointer moved to approve Agenda Item No. 13. Kelley Erstine seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 14  
Approval of 2024 Coordinating Board  
Meeting Schedule

The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board meets quarterly to act upon Board initiatives and to respond to campus proposals.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board agrees to the following dates for regular quarterly meetings during 2024: January 26, April 26, July 26, and October 25.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Board expresses its appreciation and accepts the invitations to meet in January at National Park College in Hot Springs, in April at North Arkansas College in Harrison, in July at the University of Central Arkansas in Conway, and in October at the University of Arkansas Community College in Batesville.

Chad Hooten moved to approve Agenda Item No. 14. Dr. Kyle Miller seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 15  
Commissioner's Report

*Institutional Changes*

Dr. Russell Jones has been named acting interim president of Arkansas Tech University by the ATU Board of Trustees. Jones joined ATU in July 2020 as dean of the College of Business, which has since been renamed the ATU College of Business and Economic Development.

Dr. Sheila Jacobs is serving as interim chancellor at Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus since July 1, 2023. Jacobs has served as chief academic officer at ATU-Ozark Campus since 2019. Jacobs succeeded Bruce Sikes, who retired June 30, 2023, after 10 years as ATU-Ozark chancellor.

30 Years of AmeriCorps

EngageAR is celebrating the AmeriCorps 30th Anniversary in partnership with the Clinton Center, Voices for National Service, America's Service Commissions, and AmeriCorps State & National. The President-appointed CEO of AmeriCorps and President Clinton are in town this week along with a several other representatives (Clinton passed the legislation creating AmeriCorps in 1993).

CPI Shark Tank

ADHE hosted Arkansas Career Pathways Initiative directors and college marketing and outreach staff at a workshop on October 23-24 to discuss how CPI could be used as a recruiting tool to increase college enrollment. Marketing experts provided technical assistance leading up to Shark Tank pitches to a panel of "sharks" from US Bank, Arkansas Travelers, City of North Little Rock, and the Arkansas Department of Education. Based on decisions of the sharks, six colleges will receive supplemental funding to implement a variety of outreach activities. The overall winning proposal was from ATU-Ozark to fund three "Family Fun Day" events to attract potential students with children (a requirement for CPI services). National Park College, Black River Technical College, Ozarka College, UA Cossatot, and ASU Three Rivers will also receive funding. Activities ranged from on-campus events focused on children and their parents, kindergarten parties to reach parents, partnership with local movie theater showing family friendly movies, and digital and social media marketing campaigns.

Role and Scope Update

The Division is required to review the role and scope designations for our public institutions at least once every five years. This spring, ADHE began working with the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS) to develop a draft report. This report was sent to the institutions a couple of weeks ago for their input and feedback. The deadline for feedback is by the close of business today. Once ADHE collates and codes the responses, we will revise the report to ensure it accurately reflects our higher education landscape across the state. We plan to publish the final report before the end of this academic year, said Warden.

Chair Bigger thanked Commissioner Warden for his work and all he is doing across the state.

Agenda Item No. 16  
Annual Report on Credentials Awarded

Commissioner Warden presented summary and detailed information about credentials awarded. Arkansas higher education institutions reported little change in 2023 when compared to 2022 in both the number of students receiving credentials and the number of credentials awarded. The number of students receiving credentials has remained consistent for the past five years with slightly more than 40,000 unduplicated students receiving awards. However, since 2014 the number of credentials awarded each year has increased at a much higher rate. 41,360 total credentials were awarded in 2014 and more than 50,000 credentials were awarded in 2023, which is a 21% increase. The

increase in total credentials is due to a rise in awards in several degree levels at both public 2-year and 4-year institutions.

Chair Bigger asked if the certificate of proficiency growth is due to concurrent students. Commissioner Warden said staff will look into the growth and provide more information.

#### Agenda Item No. 17 Report on Academic Program Status

Mason Campbell provided summary and detailed information about academic program statuses for both AY2023 and a 5-year period spanning AY2019 through AY2023. From July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023, ADHE Academic Affairs staff completed a total of 309 status change requests. 176 Additions to create new, active programs were processed, along with 107 Deletions/Phase-Outs and 26 Inactivations/Future Inactivations. Four-year institutions totaled 84 program additions, 57 program deletions or phase-outs, and 0 inactivations or future inactivations. Two-year institutions totaled 92 program additions, 50 deletions/phase-outs, and 26 program inactivations/future inactivations.

Al Brodell asked if our rate of additions and deletions are healthy. Mason Campbell said, yes. While it is very hard to draw a standard line across all of the programs, you have to look at the conditions of each institution.

#### Agenda Item No. 18 Concurrent Enrollment Report

Mr. Campbell reported on the state of concurrent education among Arkansas postsecondary institutions in academic year AY23 and comparison data from AY19 through AY23. Of the 181,133 total number of Arkansas college students enrolled in various sectors, 9.89% attended private institutions, whereas 30.37% of students attended 2-year public institutions, and 59.19% of students attended 4-year public institutions.

Kelley Erstine asked how Arkansas' concurrent students rank with other states. Campbell said he does not know, but Arkansas does have some opportunities with concurrent education and he and Commissioner Warden are working to try to leverage it.

Erstine asked if high school faculty have special requirements to teach concurrent classes. Campbell said they are required to have 18 hours of special instruction.

Agenda Item No. 19  
Annual Status Report for  
Sexual Assault Prevention on Campus

Mason Campbell presented the Annual Status Report for Sexual Assault Prevention on Campus. Under Act 563 of 2017, the Higher Education Coordinating Board was directed to develop an action plan to address the prevention of sexual assault. ADHE has collected the annual campus status reports for the 2022–2023 academic year, as required by the legislation.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 20  
Unplanned Pregnancy Prevention Annual Report

Mason Campbell presented the Unplanned Pregnancy Prevention Annual Report. Under Act 943 of 2015, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) was directed to develop an action plan to address unplanned pregnancies on college campuses. In the uncodified portion of the legislation, the high rate of unplanned pregnancy among older teens of college age was addressed and institutions of higher education were called upon to act. ADHE has collected the campus implementation reports for 2022-2023.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 21  
Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board By-Laws

The By-Laws Committee recommended the amended by-laws for adoption to allow the Coordinating Board to discharge its responsibilities in a more effective manner. The majority of the revisions were aligning the wording with current statutes and the most significant change was redefining a quorum from 7 members to more than 50% of the current number of slated members.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board adopts the by-laws presented in this agenda item for the operation of the Coordinating Board.

There were no questions.

Dr. Kyle Miller moved to approve Agenda Item No. 21. Kelley Erstine seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Report of the Committees

Kelley Erstine presented the report of the Finance Committee and moved approval of Agenda Items 2 – 4. Chad Hooten seconded, and the board approved.

Al Brodell presented the report of the Academic Committee and moved approval of Agenda Items 5 – 9. Kelley Erstine seconded, and the board approved.

Remarks by Presidents and Chancellors

Chair Bigger announced the next Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board meeting would be held at National Park College on January 26, 2024.

With no further comments, the meeting adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

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Nichole Abernathy

APPROVED:

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Dr. Jim Carr, Secretary