



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**JAMES A. RHODES STATE COLLEGE**  
521st Meeting Minutes  
April 16, 2024

The Rhodes State College (RSC) Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at 4:30 pm in the Keese Hall Board Room, Cabinet and Faculty Association President were present in the room, all other guest via Zoom a virtual platform.

**CALL TO ORDER AND QUORUM**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Ann Pohl, Vice Chair. Members present were Mr. Sam Bassitt, Mr. Robert Sielschott and Ms. Jane Krites and Ms. Jessica Cunningham. Mr. Butch Kirk and Dr. Wilfred Ellis joined the meeting in session.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE BOARD MEETING OF MARCH 19, 2024**

Vice Chair Pohl called for the approval of the March 19, 2024 Board Meeting minutes. Ms. Jessica Cunningham moved to approve the minutes from March 19, 2024 seconded by Mr. Robert Sielschott. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**RHODES STATE COLLEGE PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING APRIL AS COMMUNITY COLLEGE MONTH**

Dr. Pohl read the Rhodes State College Proclamation Recognizing April as Community College Month.

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITIONS (unaudited)**

*Notes to the Financial Statements*

*General Overview*

These financial statements were prepared in the format of our annual financial report. Many estimates are utilized when preparing financial statements. However, some presented amounts cannot be estimated, so they are held constant throughout the year until information is available to update them.

Areas where estimates have the highest impact include accounts receivable, accounts payable, compensated absences, and deferred revenue on the Statement of Net Position, as well as tuition and fee revenue, scholarship expense, depreciation, and net position on the Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position.

The College follows the “business-type activities” reporting requirements of GASB Statement No. 35 (as amended). The financial statement presentation required by GASB Statement No. 35 is intended to provide a comprehensive, entity-wide perspective of the College’s assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, net position, revenues, expenses, changes in net position, and cash flows. For financial reporting purposes, GASB Statement 35 defines business-type activities as those financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties for goods or services. Accordingly, these financial statements have been presented using the economic resources measurement focus and on the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when earned. Expenses are recognized when incurred. Interfund receivables and payables have been eliminated in the Statement of Net Position.

### **Statement of Net Position**

A – Accounts receivable are down approximately \$5.3M. This is due to a change in our revenue recognition and write off policies. Many old receivables have been written off, while we are more conservative in our revenue recognition by only recognizing revenue when it is earned.

B – This is a new financial statement account due to GASB 96, Software Based Information Technology Agreements (SBITA). This account is the net present value of the software assets used by the College, which we do not own, but have multi-year contracts for, e.g., Banner.

C – Net OPEB Asset – this account can be a liability or an asset. It is our proportionate share of the State of Ohio’s future, expected OPEB expense. At this juncture, our OPEB liability is overfunded, resulting in an asset.

D – Deferred Revenue is significantly lower. In past years, the College was recognizing revenue too quickly, then offsetting it with deferred revenue. We have ceased this practice to be in line with GASB standards.

E – Net Pension Liability – This account is the College’s proportionate share of the State of Ohio’s future, expected pension expenses. Due to changes in actuarial assumptions in FY22, the State’s pension liability increased by approximately \$21 billion. Our liability increased by over \$9 million.

F – Unrestricted Net Position – this number constantly moves and should only be looked at on the final financial statements. The College will continue to have negative unrestricted net position due the effects of GASB 68 (Pension) and 75 (OPEB).

### **Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position**

A – Federal grants and contracts are down from the prior year, mainly due to the IREPO grant being closed out this fiscal year.

B – Other operating revenues appear to be down, but are not, as federal Cares revenue was incorrectly reported as operating revenue in the prior year. Cares revenue is non-operating revenue and is now reported in that section.

C – Gift Revenue - The College had recognized \$900,000 in gift revenue at this juncture last year. The College will have gift revenue from the Foundation this year, but it has not been recorded yet.

D – Capital Appropriations – Similar to gift revenue, the College will be recording revenue before year end, but has not recognized any to date.

Mr. Adkins provided an overview of the financial condition.

### **PRESIDENT’S REPORT (Information)**

Dr. Spiers provided the Board of Trustees with a summary of the March 2024 President’s Report. Information on National, State, and Local Collaborations was provided. Ms. Kim Miller, Director, Alumni & Development provided a presentation regarding the Rhodes State College Foundation Scholarship and Outstanding Alumni Award Program.

### **FACULTY ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT’S UPDATE**

Ms. Jill Hay, RSC Faculty Association (RSCFA) President stated she and Mr. Jacob King (RSCFA President-elect) continue to meet and work with Dr. Spiers and Dr. Mason-Guffey. The RSCFA Open Discussion was held on Wednesday, March 27, 2024. Faculty noted the Taskforce meetings have been productive and are looking forward to completion. In addition, the RSCFA Spring Semester meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 3, 2024 from 10:00am - 11:30pm in Science 165.

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL ACTIONS  
Resolution No. 2024 - 35**

**Resolved**, upon recommendation of the President and with the concurrence of the Executive Staff, that the following personnel actions be approved:

a. Faculty/Staff Appointments - April 16, 2024

Dr. Spiers asked the Board for consideration of approval for Resolution No. 2024-35 (Consideration of Approval of Personnel Actions). Dr. Ann Pohl moved to approve Resolution No. 2024-35, seconded by Ms. Jessica Cunningham. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL FOR PURCHASES OVER \$50,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF VACUUM AND GAS EQUIPMENT FOR THE SEMICONDUCTOR CERTIFICATE PROGRAM  
Resolution No. 2024 – 36**

**Resolved**, upon the recommendation of the President, and with the concurrence of the Vice President of Finance & Administrative Services, that approval be given to use \$110,979 of the Super Rapids Grant funds to purchase vacuum and gas equipment for the semiconductor certificate program.

**Overview:**

This resolution will permit Rhodes State College to use \$110,979 of Super Rapids Grant funds to purchase the following from Kurt J. Lesker Company:

- |                                |           |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Main Training Station -     | \$ 86,640 |
| 2. Helium Leak Detector -      | \$ 21,485 |
| 3. Leak Detector Accessories - | \$ 1,354  |
| 4. Shipping Costs -            | \$ 1,500  |

<b>Source of Funds</b>	<b>Dollar Amount</b>
Ohio Super Rapids Grant	\$ 110,979

Super Rapids is an Ohio Grant program to invest in strategic initiatives that build capacity, remove employment and training barriers for prospective and unemployed workers, develop and strengthen business-led strategies in the impacted industries, and provide local guided solutions to employment for communities in economic transition. Super Rapids connects with businesses to ensure awards address a need for a specific skill or credential in a local community that will be addressed through up-to-date equipment or a particular program to help train students and workers.

Rhodes State, with support from industry partners, has been awarded a specially reserved section of the Super Rapids grant of \$113,500 to secure new vacuum and gas equipment and related materials to support the Semiconductor Certificate program and our Applied Associate of Science in Electro-Mechanical Engineering Technology. This fund was explicitly reserved for schools that have developed Semiconductor programs. Rhodes State is one of two schools approved for the large capacity vacuum and gas system trainers. Rhodes has been a leader in the Semiconductor initiative in Ohio, and the approval from the state for a large capacity trainer set, reflects that fact.

Vacuum and gas equipment are pivotal in semiconductor manufacturing, underscoring their significance in technician training. Understanding vacuum principles is crucial for creating controlled environments devoid

of contaminants and vital for processes like deposition and etching of wafers. Technicians must grasp the operation and maintenance of vacuum systems to ensure optimal performance and minimize downtime. Similarly, gas equipment, such as CVD and doping, is vital in chemical reactions. Training in gas handling is essential for safe and efficient semiconductor fabrication, emphasizing the importance of understanding gas properties, handling procedures, and safety protocols. Comprehensive training on vacuum and gas equipment equips technicians with the skills necessary to maintain operational integrity, uphold safety standards, and ensure environmental compliance in semiconductor manufacturing. The State of Ohio, in conjunction with Intel and Kurt J. Lesker Company, has designed this equipment specifically for this project. The system has an expected lifespan of 7-10 years with minimal maintenance needs. We expect regular maintenance would cost less than \$300 per year.

**Attachment:**

Price Quote - Kurt J. Lesker Company

Dr. Spiers provided an overview of the Super Rapids Grant fund that was explicitly reserved for schools that have developed Semiconductor programs.

Dr. Spiers asked the Board for consideration of approval for Resolution No. 2024-36 (Consideration of Approval for Purchases Over \$50,000 for the Purchase of Vacuum and Gas Equipment for the Semiconductor Certificate Program. Ms. Jessica Cunningham moved to approve Resolution No. 2024-36, seconded by Dr. Ann Pohl. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES COMMENCEMENT UPDATE**

Commencement will be held in person at the Civic Center on Saturday, May 4, 2024. Please see details about the day.

**PARKING**

Board of Trustees will receive a parking pass for the parking garage. The President’s Office will provide the parking passes. When parking in the garage, please leave the parking pass on your dashboard.

**SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2024 - COMMENCEMENT DAY**

**Graduation Ceremony – 10:00 am**

**8:45 a.m.** - Arrive at Civic Center (report to **Rooms West 1 and 2**). Your regalia will be in the room (unless you are bringing your own regalia). Individuals will be available to assist you.

**9:45 a.m.** - Robed and lined up for procession; Ms. Krista Richardson will walk the President and Trustees to the side stage.

**10:00 a.m.** - Ceremony begins

Dr. Spiers will lead Board of Trustees from side of stage. Faculty and student procession will begin once Trustees and President are on stage.

Conclusion of Ceremony - Trustees and President will exit to the side of stage. Stage participants will lead recession to the back of auditorium and form line for gauntlet outside, weather permitting.

**FOLLOWING THE CEREMONY**

An Alumni reception will be held in the North and Central Halls for graduates and guests. You are welcome to attend and congratulate Rhodes State’s newest alumni.

Disrobe in rooms West 1 and 2. Leave regalia (unless you brought your own)

As part of the commencement discussion, Dr. Brendan Greaney provided an overview of the graduation ceremony with specific details regarding the schedule for the Board.

**OHIO ETHICS COMMISSION 2023 FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT MUST BE FILED BY MAY 15, 2024 (Informational)**

**Link:** <https://disclosure.ethics.ohio.gov>

Dr. Spiers reminded the Board to file by May 15, 2024.

Chair Kirk asked for a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Matter. Ms. Jane Krites moved to go into Executive Session, seconded by Ms. Jessica Cunningham. Chair Kirk asked for a Roll Call vote: Mr. Butch Kirk, Mr. Sam Bassitt, Dr. Wilfred Ellis, Mr. Robert Sielschott, Dr. Ann Pohl, Ms. Jane Krites and Ms. Jessica Cunningham were present and voted yes.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**a. Personnel Matter**

Discussion occurred with regard to a Personnel Matter. Following the discussion, Chair Kirk asked for a motion to adjourn from the Executive Session and return to Public Session. Dr. Ann Pohl moved to adjourn from Executive Session, seconded by Ms. Jessica Cunningham. Chair Kirk asked for a Roll Call vote: Mr. Butch Kirk, Mr. Sam Bassitt, Dr. Wilfred Ellis, Mr. Robert Sielschott, Dr. Ann Pohl, Ms. Jane Krites and Ms. Jessica Cunningham were present and voted yes.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Kirk asked for a motion to adjourn the Board meeting. Dr. Ann Pohl moved to adjourn the Board meeting, seconded by Ms. Jessica Cunningham. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Approved Meeting Minutes of April 16, 2024



Mr. Everett "Butch" S. Kirk III  
Chair

Pamela Mooneyhan, Recording Secretary