In Attendance:

Mr. Jay C. Moon, Chair, President and CEO, Mississippi Manufacturers Association
Mr. Richard Berry, Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Human Services
Dr. Eric Clark, Executive Director, Mississippi Community College Board
Ms. Audrey McAfee, Management Information Systems Director, Mississippi Department of Corrections
Mr. Dick Johnson, Systems Manager, Mississippi State Department of Health
Mr. Dale Smith, Deputy Director, Mississippi Department of Employment Security
Dr. Carey Wright, State Superintendent, Mississippi Department of Education
Ms. Shelia Browning, Deputy Director, Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services
Dr. Laurie Smith, Executive Director, State Early Childhood Advisory Council

A list of others present who signed the attendance roster is on file.

Call to Order: Chair Moon called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

Chair Moon asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Mr. Johnson motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. Berry seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Chair Moon opened discussion on the state data clearinghouse and an MOU between the board and nSPARC. Chair Moon said although the board still needs to decide on how monies will be issued to nSPARC on behalf of the board, everyone is in agreement about the language in the MOU. Dr. Wright confirmed that she wanted the audit trail to be clear. Ms. Browning said a monthly payment would be better for auditing purposes. Mr. Smith said the board could give the board chair the authority to sign the monthly installment.

Ms. Browning motioned to approve the MOU. Dr. Wright seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion. Mr. Berry then motioned to give the board chair the authority to sign the monthly invoice. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Chair Moon asked for official data managers to be named. Dr. Wright named Dr. John Porter as the data manager for MDE. Dr. Clark shared that Dr. Glenn Boyce (not present) said the community college presidents had not yet given a designee for data manager.

Chair Moon directed the board’s attention to a memo from the research review committee chair, Dr. Alice Clark. The memo asked the board to break down the request process into three components: full committee review (current process with all checks and balances), expedited review, and standing review. Dr. Wright said report approval could be less time consuming if a clear understanding of definitions and terms could be reached at the beginning of the process. Chair Moon said the board will better define the review process categories and discuss these definitions at the next board meeting.
Ms. Wanda Land of the Mississippi Development Authority requested access to SLDS data to help MDA with timely economic development planning. Dr. Smith said such data helped convince Yokohoma to locate in Mississippi. Dr. Mimmo Parisi of nSPARC stated that MDA’s access would be limited and password-protected. Chair Moon said the board would need to see what this means in real-world terms. Dr. Parisi said he would present the in-depth process to the board. Chair Moon said the board will consider the process and safeguards at a future meeting.

Chair Moon opened discussion on linking early childhood data into the SLDS system. Dr. Smith said the main purpose would be to help the State Early Childhood Advisory Council with grants and policy decisions. Dr. Smith motioned for a process to allow SECAC to use data from the SLDS. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Mr. Clark Holmes, executive director of the Central Mississippi Planning and Development District, requested for permission to work with the board in regard to receiving regional SLDS data from nSPARC for the purpose of constructing better transportation routes. The Mississippi Department of Transportation would also use the data. Chair Moon said road maintenance is directly tied to economic development and public safety. Dr. Parisi said a written agreement would state that the data will only be used for projections and will not be shared. Ms. Browning motioned for an MOU with CMPDD and MDOT in regard to the use of regional data for the purpose of transportation routes. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. Dr. Parisi and Chair Moon pointed out that each entity would require a different MOU. Dr. Parisi also said that employment and enrollment data would be used. The board then unanimously approved the motion.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by Chair Moon at 11:19 a.m.