

**THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SANDHILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Clement Dining Room  
October 16, 2023, 5:00**

**PRESENT:** Trustees George Little, Chairman; Larry Caddell, Vice Chairman; Joe Clendenin, Secretary; Gene Horne; Tim Carpenter; Gary Evans; Vincent Gordon; Bruce Hurst; Connie Lovell; Irish Pickett; BethAnn Pratte; Helen Probst Mills; Stephen Woodward; Andrew Jimenez, SGA President

**STAFF:** Dr. Sandy Stewart; Michelle Bauer; Danaka Bunch; Linda Chandler; Matt Dial; Germaine Elkins; Lindsey Farmer; Brian Garner; Steven Garner; Ron Layne; Kevin Layton; Dr. Twana McKnight; Dr. Rebecca Roush; Teresa Sheets; Tess Regan; Libba Thomas; Dr. Julie Voigt

Mr. Little called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. He read the statute regarding conflicts of interest to the Trustees and asked the Board of Trustees (BOT) if there were any potential conflicts with the agenda items to be discussed. Hearing none, Mr. Little proceeded to the next item of business.

Mr. Hurst offered a moment of reflection.

Dr. Stewart introduced Associate Professors Brian Garner and Kevin Layton Jones from the Automotive Technology program who presented information regarding the program, including plans for the addition of a new Collision Engineering program, making SCC the first community college on the East Coast to offer the program.

Mr. Little made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Clendenin seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Clendenin made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2023 Board of Trustees meeting. Mr. Caddell seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Jimenez presented the Student Government Association (SGA) report, including information on his participation in the Association of Community Colleges Leadership Congress. He reported that the SGA will host Trunk-or-Treat in Hoke County, Fall Fest, and will also enter a float in the Moore County Christmas parade.

Mr. Caddell reported for the Buildings and Grounds Committee. Mr. Caddell made a motion to approve funding to be paid to Hobbs Architects for the development of a Master Facilities Plan addendum for the Hoke Center. Mr. Carpenter seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Carpenter reviewed information regarding funding for the Public Safety Classroom Building in Carthage, identifying project cost funding from three sources: redirected bond funds, county funds, and State Capital and Infrastructure Funds (SCIF). Mr. Carpenter made a motion to approve the funding for the Public Safety Classroom Building. Ms. Probst Mills seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Elkins presented information on repairs needed to the Bradshaw Performing Arts (BPAC) stage and rigging based on BPAC Executive Director Sills' assessment of necessary repairs. Using SCIF funds, stage replacement will take place during the Christmas holiday, and the stage rigging will be replaced in the spring. Mr. Caddell made a motion to approve the repair of the stage and rigging using SCIF funds. Ms. Lovell seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Layne presented information on the Causey Hall renovation to include the HVAC system and renovations to teaching labs and classrooms using SCIF funds. Mr. Caddell made a motion to approve the allocation to make improvements for Causey Hall. Mr. Carpenter seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Garner reviewed updates regarding closeout efforts to Foundation Hall and Kennedy Hall projects. Remaining projects should be complete by early December. Mr. Garner presented information regarding the Meyer Hall project.

Mr. Horne reported for the Finance Committee. Dean of Student Services Shoemake presented information regarding the SGA Budget. Mr. Horne made a motion to approve the SGA Budget for 2023-2024 as presented. Mr. Evans seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Elkins reviewed the Athletics Budget FY 2023-2024. Mr. Woodward inquired as to the funding source(s) of the Athletics Department. Ms. Elkins reported that the funding is received from three primary sources: bookstore revenue, Foundation revenue, and fundraising efforts. Mr. Horne made a motion to approve the Athletics Budget FY 2023-2024 as presented. Ms. Pratte seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Thomas reviewed the Financial Report and the State and County Bond Funds with no Board action required.

Ms. Thomas reviewed the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Financial statements and the 2023-2024 budget with no Board action required.

Mr. Evans reported for the Personnel Committee. Mr. Evans made a motion to approve the appointment of Andrea Morrison as Clinical Coordinator, Respiratory Therapy, effective 7.1.23. Ms. Lovell seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Layne reviewed the Annual Security Report and reported that the Policies and Procedures Manual is being reviewed. Human Resources will conduct Employee Open Enrollment for insurance benefits during October 9 through 27, and Jet Dental will be on campus November 21 and 22. Human Resources has launched a NEOED evaluation.

Mr. Clendenin reported for the Planning Committee. Dean Farmer reported on the recent Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) visit from which the College received zero findings and no recommendations on reaccreditation reporting and the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). The Planning Committee will meet on November 16, 2023 and the College Strategic Plan (CSP) will be submitted to the Board for approval in December.

Dr. Roush reported for the Educational Programs Committee report that the College will move away from Barnes and Noble as our course textbook provider. Financial challenges for the company have resulted in a reduced lack of service for SCC students. The College will transition to a new provider, *ecampus*, beginning late January/early February.

Ms. Shoemake reported that SCC is one of six community colleges that will become part of a pilot program wherein students may apply for a state childcare grant.

Ms. Elkins presented the Foundation report, including information on the continued success of the annual Coca Cola Classic tournament and the launch of the 2023-2024 BPAC season. She noted Foundation gifts that have been received this fiscal year totaling \$1,102,554, including a \$500,000 estate gift. Funding has also been received from the USGA for the Workforce Continuing Education USGA Greenskeeper program. Shelby Basinger, Professor of the Fitness and Science program hosted a very successful 5K run, which yielded receipts for the Foundation.

Dr. Stewart presented the President's report, expressing his gratitude for the work that everyone contributed to a successful SACSCOC visit. He noted that the SACSCOC committee was very impressed with the College Quality Enhancement Plan. Dr. Stewart offered congratulations to Lindsey Farmer, Matt Dial, Kellie Shoemake, and Dr. Roush for their input during the SACSCOC review.

Initial meeting on plans for the Early College High School have begun. Dr. Stewart said that SCC is looking at different models nationwide to envision what would best serve the students of Moore County for the Early College High School. More programmatic information will follow.

The State budget is allocated and, based on a funding formula, the SCC operational budget is \$27.1MM. Dr. Stewart will travel to Raleigh on Wednesday, October 18, to attend the Association of Community Colleges President's meeting. They are collaborating with the system office to make changes to the funding formula. He also reported that the state legislative actions include some adjustments as to how trustees are appointed to the community college boards of trustees. This provision would remove Board of Education and Governor's appointments to local boards and grant those to the General Assembly. Under the new provision, the Hoke County Commissioners would get an additional seat on the SCC Board. The appointments that have already been made will stand.

Dr. Stewart said there is now a provision in law which states that no NC community college can use the same accrediting body twice in a row. This will be a change from the process wherein each of seven regions has its own accrediting body. As with the meeting of seventy-three standards for SACSCOC accreditation is every 10 years, other accrediting bodies have similar sets of standards. Because SCC just completed an accrediting cycle, the College is fully accredited until 2034.

Dr. Stewart made a PowerPoint presentation representing a report of estimated fall 2023 semester enrollment numbers, showing Workforce Continuing Education growth in headcount and Full Time Equivalent (FTE) and curriculum numbers are up 2% in headcount and 4% in FTE. The presentation offered favorable comparisons with area community colleges.

Dr. Stewart reported that he continues to meet with multiple departments on campus, resulting in encouraging conversations concerning various campus issues, policies, and concerns. He reported on the status of SCC volleyball team and basketball team performance and seasons. He closed with information on the Active Shooter drill scheduled on main campus on December 13.

Mr. Carpenter made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Horne seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

George Little, Chairman of the Board

Joseph Clendenin, Secretary of the Board