

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

**Sledge Board Room and via Zoom
December 6, 2021, 5:00 p.m.**

PRESENT: Trustees George Little, Chairman; Larry Caddell, Vice Chairman; Gary Evans; Joe Clendenin, Secretary; Irish Pickett; Dr. Sandy Stewart; Pastor Bruce Hurst; Helen Probst Mills; Gene Horne; Connie Lovell; Vincent Gordon; Avery Campbell, SGA President; Michelle Marshall, SGA Vice President

STAFF: Dr. John Dempsey; Brenda Jackson; Ron Layne; Heather Lyons; Dr. Rebecca Roush; Germaine Elkins; Doug Smith; Kellie Shoemake; Taylor McCaskill

REMOTELY VIA CONFERENCE CALL: Germaine Elkins; Dr. Twana McKnight; Dr. Kirk Lynch; Nevius Toney; Jessica Locklear; Dr. Julie Voigt; Wendy Dodson; Dr. Twana McKnight; Libba Thomas; Dr. D.J. Farmer; Chreatha Alston; Andi Korte

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

Ms. Lyons administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed trustee, Bruce Hurst. Mr. Hurst affirmed his acceptance to the appointment of Trustee of Sandhills Community College. Mr. Little appointed Mr. Hurst to the Buildings and Grounds Committee as well as the Student Affairs Committee.

Mr. Caddell submitted that a real estate issue needed to be discussed and that he would like to go into closed session at the end of the meeting. Mr. Little asked that the agenda be modified to reflect these two requests.

Mr. Caddell made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Horne seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Clendenin made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 4, 2021, Board of Trustees meeting. Ms. Probst Mills seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Dempsey asked for nominations for the position of Chairman of the Board of Sandhills Community College Trustees. Mr. Caddell made a motion to elect Mr. Little as Chairman of the Board. Mr. Horne seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Clendenin made a motion that the nominations be closed. Mr. Gordon seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Little opened the floor for nominations of Vice Chairman. Mr. Horne made a motion to elect Mr. Caddell as Vice Chairman. Mr. Evans seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Caddell made a motion to nominate Mr. Clendenin as Secretary to the Board. Mr. Horne seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Caddell made a motion to elect John May as Board attorney. Mr. Horne seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Campbell presented the Student Government Association (SGA) Report. Ms. Campbell reported that all events that were hosted by the SGA were in person, which contributed to the engagement of the students. Activities included a food truck festival, collecting food during Hunger Awareness Week, and preparing Veteran's Day cards for student veterans.

Mr. Caddell reported for the Buildings and Grounds Committee. Mr. Caddell called on Ms. Elkins to submit 3 naming opportunities. Mr. Caddell made a motion to approve the "Lottie Sue Williamson memorial Garden" in the Sandhills Horticultural Gardens. Mr. Evans seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Caddell made a motion to approve the "Peter J. Golden Center for Teaching and Learning" which will be located in the Boyd Library. Dr. Stewart seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Caddell made a motion to approve the "Vivian and Ralph Jacobson Learning Terrace" located on the terrace outside the tutoring center of Logan Hall. Ms. Probst Mills seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Caddell asked Ms. Jackson to clarify approved projects which allow federal funds to be used. Ms. Jackson referenced the Old North State Baseball League regarding the installation of a concession area and restrooms. Mr. Layne explained that the baseball field could be funded through federal COVID funds as it promotes educational outdoor opportunities for students. Mr. Smith explained that the facility would be pre-fabricated. Mr. Caddell made a motion to approve the placement of a concession stand and restroom on the baseball field. Ms. Probst Mills seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Jackson reported that work has begun on the Meyer Hall Lab project. Mr. Smith asked to speak regarding a request to increase the scope of the project by \$350,000 due to a recent discovery concerning current underground heating distribution lines. The 50-year-old water lines serve the Meyer, Stone, and Causey buildings and continue to present issues in service. Mr. Caddell made a motion to approve the scope of work on the Meyer Hall Project for the needed repairs on the water loop on the Pinehurst Campus, using federal funding to pay for the increase. Mr. Horne seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Caddell submitted that the chiller needs to be replaced on the SandHoke Campus. Mr. Smith confirmed that the chiller continues to be problematic and should be replaced. Mr. Caddell made a motion to replace the chiller on the SandHoke Campus at a cost of \$85,000, using federal funding. Mr. Evans seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Caddell called on Mr. Smith to speak on the Design and Construction Guidelines manual set before the Board members. The manual was developed by Mark Wright and sets standards and procedures that the College should follow when involved in construction projects.

In April 2017 the College donated approximately 17 acres of land to Moore County Schools for the construction of the Moore County Advanced Career Center. A reversion clause was included in the agreement which states that if the land had not been utilized by Moore County Schools after five years, ownership would automatically revert to Sandhills Community College. The Moore County School Board now has the legal documentation to be signed which will record the transference of land to Sandhills Community College. The College expects to receive the signed document in January 2022.

Mr. Carpenter presented information regarding the easement of the Randy Sanders property adjacent to the College. An undisturbed buffer, not an easement, is planned for the property. Updates will be presented as they are made available.

Mr. Horne reported for the Finance Committee. Mr. Horne called on Ms. Jackson to review the 2021-2022 State Budget. Ms. Jackson was pleased to report that the budget calls for a 2.5% salary increase for employees, which will be retroactive from July to December. Another 2.5% increase will be awarded to employees FY 2022-2023. A bonus of \$1,500 will be awarded to those employees earning less than \$75,000 per year, with a bonus of \$1,000 to be awarded to those employees earning more than \$75,000 per year. The bonuses will be paid in December. Additionally, budget stabilization funds were approved resulting in \$1.2M which will keep the budget the same as last year's budget despite the decrease in Full Time Equivalent (FTE).

Mr. Horne reviewed the Financial Report and the Status of State County Bond Funds through 10/31/21, with no Board action required.

Mr. Evans reported for the Personnel Committee. Mr. Evans reviewed Personnel Action which included five new faculty appointments. Mr. Evans made a motion to approve all new hires. Ms. Lovell seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Evans reviewed Personnel Information with no Board action required.

Ms. Jackson introduced SCC's new Senior Human Resources Director, Chreatha Alston.

Dr. Stewart presented the Educational Programs Committee report. Dr. Stewart said that he will present information regarding several new programs in the February meeting. Dr. Roush reported that Tim Locklear has been appointed interim Moore County Schools superintendent. Mr. Locklear has been involved in quarterly meetings and has been a supporter of SCC and of the learning opportunities the College offers to high school students.

Mr. Clendenin reported that the Planning Committee has not met. He asked Mr. Layne to share information regarding the College Strategic Plan which was approved in October. Mr. Layne said that several initiatives have already been launched, including a more aggressive approach to transfer advising and a centralized testing center located on the campus. More information will be made available during the February BOT retreat. In sports, the Lady Flyers finished ahead of their conference and had a great season. The men's basketball team finished strong in the Saturday game and performed in front of one of the largest crowds since the pandemic began. The cross country coach participated and finished well in the Boston Marathon. It is her hope that after receiving public accolade, students will be drawn to the cross country program. Conversation ensued regarding the Old North State baseball field.

Ms. Pickett reported for the Student Affairs Committee and called on Ms. Shoemake to introduce Taylor McCaskill, Director of the Student Transfer Center. Ms. Shoemake explained how the Student Transfer Center was established. Ms. McCaskill explained that her team helps students set and meet their goals. Students are approached holistically and are given the tools to establish their priorities and to develop an achievable educational pathway.

Ms. Elkins presented the Foundation Report. The annual campaign mailing has been sent to SCC guarantor supporters. As a result of the mailing approximately \$700,000 has been received thus far. The total to date is \$1.25M, with most donations being a cash gift. A \$30,000 gift has been received from the Friends of Pinehurst Surgical Clinic following their fundraising event. Ms. Elkins thanked all of the Trustees who have given their guarantor gift this year.

Dr. Dempsey presented the President's Report. Ms. Lyons and Ms. Dodson received thanks for their contributions to the College. Brenda Jackson will retire in May of next year. Doug Smith will retire in late 2022. Andi Korte will announce her retirement in February. Alfreda Stroman will retire in July. Joe Brown has resigned and will join LKC Engineering in January. Ron Layne will assume the position of Chief Operating Officer. The Business Office, Human Resources, Maintenance, Information Technology will report to Mr. Layne. The director of the Bradshaw Performing Arts Center (BPAC) will report to Ms. Elkins. Dr. Twana McKnight will report to Dr. Julie Voigt. The Boyd Library staff will report to Dr. Roush. The Chief of Police and his staff will report to Dr. D.J. Farmer. The Sandhills Gardens staff will report to Ms. Elkins.

Mr. Little reported that Toyota has announced they will build a \$3 billion industry in Randolph County bringing 1,700 jobs to the area. Mr. Little anticipates this will have a tremendous impact on Western Moore County, citing the need for additional housing, schools, and businesses.

Mr. Caddell made a motion for the Board to go into closed session. Mr. Horne seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board went into closed session at

The Board reconvened at

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at

Respectfully submitted,

George Little, Chairman of the Board

Joseph Clendenin, Secretary of the Board