

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

**Forest Creek Golf Club  
February 6, 2023, 9:00 a.m.**

**PRESENT:** Trustees George Little, Chairman, Larry Caddell, Vice Chairman, Joe Clendenin, Secretary, Gary Evans, Art Blue, Tim Carpenter, Catherine Graham, Bruce Hurst, Helen Probst Mills, Connie Lovell, Vincent Gordon, Michelle Marshall, SGA President

**STAFF:** Brenda Jackson, Heather Lyons, Ron Layne, Dr. Rebecca Roush, Dr. Kirk Lynch, Kellie Shoemake, Steven Garner, Dr. Julie Voigt, Libba Thomas, Dr. D.J. Farmer, Dr. Twana McKnight, Germaine Elkins, Michelle Bauer, Dr. Fallon Brewington, Chreatha Alston, Matthew Dial, Danaka Bunch, Lindsey Farmer, Teresa Sheets

**GUESTS:** Dr. David Shockley, President, Surry Community College

Mr. Little called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Mr. Hurst offered the invocation. Mr. Little read the statute regarding conflicts of interest to the Trustees 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.

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

Mr. Clendenin made a motion to rename Item #17 on the agenda to Closed Session. Ms. Probst Mills seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Marshall reported for the Student Government Association (SGA). The SGA will host a Winter Ball Dance on February 24, 2023. Student representation at the Flyers basketball games has increased. The SGA welcomed the Tennis, Veterans, and Creative Writing Clubs.

Mr. Little asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2022, Board of Trustees meeting. Mr. Horne made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Mr. Evans seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Caddell presented the Buildings and Grounds report. He stated that a request would be submitted to meet with the Town of Carthage regarding rezoning. Funding has been appropriated for the Caddell Training Center and that now is the time to move forward with the request to include the eventual approval of an indoor shooting range. Mr. Carpenter will make an appointment with the Carthage Town Manager. The property is now zoned residential but needs to be zoned as industrial. Mr. Carpenter will reach out to Bob Koontz, landscape architect, to

enlist his involvement with guiding the approval of this rezoning effort as it paves the way for the public services classroom building and future projects on the Carthage campus. Ms. Graham, as a resident of Carthage, felt it would be helpful if she volunteered to be a part of this process. Mr. Caddell reviewed the layout of the land and explained how the new building would be positioned. Mr. Layne added that the fire department would also expand their use of the property. Mr. Caddell made a motion to meet with the Carthage Town Manager to discuss rezoning of the property at the Larry Caddell Center. Mr. Evans seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

The Old North State League (ONSL) has approached SCC to discuss the installation of lights on the baseball field. They wish to match one-half of the funding if the college agrees to provide the other half of the cost of the lighting. Ms. Thomas said that SCC has fund sources to provide one half of the payment and suggested the use of LED lights to defray costs. Mr. Garner will solicit three estimates, but the estimates will not include the cost of installation. Mr. Garner also stated that the Moore County Airport has no issues with the lighting of the baseball field. Mr. Caddell made a motion to move forward with three estimates and to work with ONSL to pay half of the lighting costs. Mr. Evans seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Layne received a request from the ONSL to use the Allred name moving forward until such time that a donor is found. Ms. Elkins said that there is no seven-figure donor at this time. This request will be discussed further in the April Board of Trustees meeting.

Mr. Garner presented a current project review. Foundation Hall has a small punch list of tasks to be completed. The Kennedy Hall A & B renovation is working through fire sprinkler system issues that have extended the project completion date. J & D Sprinkler Systems has been working to complete this project. The Moore County Fire Marshall will be on campus to inspect upon completion as the step to gaining temporary certificate of occupancy for resumption of Kennedy Hall activities. Temporary occupancy will be requested on February 28, 2023.

The ONSL concession stand will be delivered in late February and will be installed and operational by the end of March.

Mr. Layne reported that the restrooms in Stone Hall will be upgraded. Renovation will begin during spring break.

Mr. Caddell said that when Dr. Dempsey moves out of the president's house, there will be an evaluation of work to be done to determine the cost of upgrading the current residence owned by SCC. Discussion ensued regarding options for the myriad potential uses of the home.

Mr. Garner said that Moseley Architects now has the bidding documents from State construction regarding Meyer Hall. The team will meet with Moseley tomorrow to discuss issues in the bidding documents.

Ms. Thomas reviewed the allocation of SCIF Funds as related to the Meyer Hall project. Ms. Thomas said the entire part of SCIF funds has been allocated to add to the amount that SCC already has with Moore County. SCC must use SCIF funds and will reallocate Moore County bond premium funds for the classroom building at the Larry Caddell Center. Mr. Caddell expressed thanks that the commissioners allowed the \$2.1m bond premium for SCC projects. There will be some flexibility in the allocation of the bond premium funds.

Mr. Layne asked that Board members refer to the insert in their packets, explaining the layout of the Rural Broadband Project Design and Improvement profile. The design now moves forward to the state funding agent for review and approval.

Mr. Horne reported for the Finance Committee and reviewed student fees. Dr. Roush reviewed increases and reasons for each increase. Mr. Horne made a motion to approve student fees for 2023-2024. Ms. Probst Mills seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Horne called on Ms. Thomas to review the Financial Report through December 31, 2022. No Board action is required.

Mr. Horne reviewed the status of State and County Bond Funds through December 31, 2022. No Board action is required.

Ms. Elkins reviewed the increased fee schedule for Facilities usage, which included classrooms, Clement and Peterson Dining Rooms, and the new Fletcher Auditorium. Adjustments to facilities related to athletics were also reviewed. Board members were asked to refer to the fee schedule included in their packet. Mr. Caddell inquired as to the FirstHealth use of Fletcher Auditorium and suggested that a partnership be considered to waive such fees per SCC policy wherein that becomes possible under approval from the President.

Ms. Thomas presented information regarding the SCC Audit. Financial statements will be dated February 1, 2023. Statements indicate that all is in place for the SACSCOC review. Ms. Jackson said that there were three audits that were crucial to the SACS accreditation this year: the Foundation audit, the Financial Aid audit, and the Financial audit, which all received clean audits.

Mr. Evans reported for the Personnel Committee noting Personnel Information. No Board action is required. Personnel action items included two new hires. Mr. Evans made a motion to accept the hiring of two new associates. Mr. Carpenter seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Alston reported that as part of the State Health Plan, on January 21, 2025, the college will move from Blue Cross/Blue Shield to Aetna insurance. No projected rates or services are expected to change.

Mr. Clendenin reported that the Planning Committee has not met. Mr. Clendenin called on Mr. Layne to report on the success of the SCC Flyers basketball team. Coach Apple and the Flyers won their 300<sup>th</sup> game last week. The team heads into the conference 4-0.

Mr. Layne asked if some type of proclamation could be made to recognize Coach Apple's achievements. All responded in agreement. Mr. Blue suggested that Coach Apple be compensated for his outstanding coaching performance and continued support of his player's educational needs.

Mr. Layne asked that Board members review a list of policy approvals included in each Board packet. Mr. Layne noted that the policy and procedure information related to harassment is over 50 pages and referenced copies available if the board wanted to review. He noted that in reference to Policy 10.13, Consumer Information, there has been a heightened federal requirement to make this more visible on the website. There may also be additional policies to review and approve in April. Mr. Clendenin made a motion to approve the policies presented. Ms. Probst Mills seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Shoemake reported for the Student Affairs Committee and presented a new opportunity for meeting the needs of the SCC military population. As a result of a December meeting arranged by Mr. Clendenin, a group of SCC associates met with Walt Havenstein, President of the Sandhills Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). Mr. Havenstein shared details of the program that provides emergency funding for military students and encouraged the group to take advantage of this service for the college's 10% military population. Workforce education and curriculum teams will meet to discuss this new service for military students. Mr. Gordon said that the Transition Assistance Program is another resource program which provides assistance to military students, and Ms. Shoemake agreed to research that opportunity as well.

Dr. Farmer and Dr. Brewington presented an enrollment update. The leadership team is working diligently to present SCC under the One College model. The goal is to stabilize and move forward with growth. SCC spent \$1.5m on tuition assistance for students in 2022 that was part of COVID funding that has been expended; thus, this is a reset year for the college since this funding will not be available this year. Mr. Farmer reported that the number of students under the Promise program has doubled on the Hoke campus.

Ms. Jackson said that she recently met with Mr. Little and Mr. Caddell. Efforts being made to increase enrollment are encouraging. She believes that it will be beneficial to establish an Enrollment Committee of the Board of Trustees. This could be helpful and would allow Board members to become more acquainted with one another and the responsibilities to which each member is tasked. Ms. Jackson said that since her return she has seen some great initiatives on campus.

Ms. Lovell reported for the Educational Programs Committee. Ms. Lovell and Ms. Graham met in January with Dr. Roush and Dr. Brewington. Discussion included inquiries regarding domestic skills such as lifelong learning. Ms. Lovell noted that North Carolina is known for textiles, fabrics, carpentry, and furniture making, but those skills are no longer taught. It was determined that Moore County students are also lacking in soft skills related to time management and communication. Ms. Lovell asked Board members to refer to information included in the Board packet regarding a Moore County survey. The top three skills that employers are looking for in a new hire are communication, problem-solving, and customer service. Ms. Lovell stressed the importance of partnership with the hospital, local resorts, and those in the community who are looking for a solid workforce. Dr. Brewington reviewed results from a recent community survey.

Ms. Elkins presented the Foundation Report. The Foundation added \$3.4m in support of the college during the past year. Board members were asked to refer to the chart included in the Board packet reflecting those and other significant numbers. Major donor gifts were received during the end of last year. Investments were down about 16.9% last year but are already up 4.5% this year. Dr. Sam Mitchener contributed a large gift towards the nursing scholarship. The Dave Weiss family has committed to a 10-year pledge to endow the Breakthrough Scholars Scholarship, and the gifts will total \$1,780,000. The next Guarantor's meeting will be held on April 6, 2023, in Foundation Hall. There will be a culinary fundraiser on April 20. An initial kickoff meeting will be held in March to plan the 60<sup>th</sup> year celebration of the college and selected board members will be offered a role in that planning.

Ms. Jackson presented the President's Report, offering appreciation for returning to such a wonderful establishment. Ms. Jackson noted four priorities that the next president should cultivate: 1) be involved at the state level to stay abreast of economic development and growth, 2) develop relationships and become involved with other presidents, 3) get to know local businesses to determine what skill sets are needed to fill positions, and 4) be a true leader and remain diligent in helping staff and faculty prioritize.

Dr. David Shockley, President of Surry Community College, offered insights on the responsibilities and duties of being a college president. Dr. Shockley reflected upon how the system has changed so drastically through the years. He said that the One College approach to leadership today is one that can broker relationships and effectively help to reach an individual's fullest potential. Dr. Shockley noted there is a changing dynamic as we move forward. When you become One College, you have the creative energy to achieve your goal. The One College approach is that when students come on campus, they are to go to one building, and the workforce continuing education advisors and the curriculum advisors are all located in one central area. There must be a strong analytic team which focuses on the first two weeks of the student's time at the college. Multiple departments work together to focus on student success. The One College model is rewarding for students, staff, and faculty.

Ms. Farmer presented an update of the SACSCOC information. The Planning and Research team has been in preparation and working for a little more than a year to gather necessary data, to include a compliance certification report containing about 70 standards. A review draft was submitted to the assigned SACSCOC vice presidents in December 2022. That pair from the SACS team visited two weeks ago, and the draft review was favorable. The report is due March 1, 2023, and the SACSCOC offsite committee will review and let the Planning and Research team know of any concerns. The Planning and Research team will address any concerns and will respond to the committee. There will be an on-site committee visit October 9-12. The committee will conduct interviews with various individuals. The College will be reaffirmed in June 2024. The College Strategic Plan (CSP) has been very helpful with the preparation of the SACSCOC information, as has the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), which is also a requirement of SACSCOC. The QEP focuses on the One College model. The SACSCOC team viewed the information during their visit and were pleased.

Mr. Caddell made a motion to go into closed session after lunch at 1:45 p.m. Mr. Evans seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board went into closed session at 1:51 p.m.

The Board reconvened into open session at 4:11 p.m.

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

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

George Little, Chairman of the Board

Joseph Clendenin, Secretary of the Board