

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

**MINUTES**

**Julius Boros Boardroom  
Mid-Pines Resort  
February 7, 2011**

**PRESENT:** Trustees George W. Little, Chairman; Mickey R. Brown; Joseph A. Clendenin; James O. Cunningham; Catherine P. Graham; Robert S. Hayter; Eugene B. Horne, Jr.; Linda McCaskill; Mary G. Upchurch and Raymond Washington, Sr.

**STAFF:** Dr. John R. Dempsey; Dr. Susanne Adams; Jenifer Blakely; Jean Blue; Wendy Dodson; Germaine Elkins; Richard Gough; Wendy Kauffman; Karen Manning; Colleen Pegram; Rick Smith; Dr. John Turner.

Following the Buildings and Grounds and Finance Committee Meetings held prior to the regular Board meeting, the Board of Trustees convened their regular meeting at 1:07 p.m.

Chairman Little called the meeting to order and read the statute to the trustees regarding conflicts of interest. Mrs. McCaskill indicated she would have to abstain from voting on construction issues involving Aim Construction Company due to a conflict. Mr. Little then proceeded to the next item of business.

A motion was made by Mr. Horne, seconded by Mr. Washington, to approve the agenda. The motion passed.

Mr. Hayter made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 6, 2010 Board of Trustees meeting, with corrections from Mr. Clendenin, Mrs. McCaskill and Mr. Hayter. Mr. Caddell then seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The motion passed.

As Ms. Denton was not present, **The Student Government Report** was not given.

Mr. Clendenin reported for the **Educational Programs Committee**. He announced that the next committee meeting would be on May second in the Sledge Board Room. Mr. Clendenin discussed having the visiting representatives from Shkodra University in Albania attend and speak about their relationship with Sandhills. He would also like Dean Andi Korte from the Continuing Education department speak about what goes on in her area. The meeting will start with lunch at 11:30 and adjourn by 2:00 p.m.

Dr. John Turner then introduced the new principal of the SandHoke Early College program, Dr. Colleen Pegram and detailed her background. Dr. Pegram discussed the SandHoke students and explained the goals of the school. She shared that SandHoke is the number one early college in the state. Dr. Pegram explained that the program runs for five years. Upon completion, students earn both a high school and an A.A.S. degree. The program creates personalization between the teachers and students. The staff and teachers get to know every student up close and personal. The program

provides parent informational sessions in the evening. SandHoke will have twenty-nine graduates this May. Twenty-five will have an A.A.S. degree and the remainder will have transfer credit. Selection for the program involves the teachers screening the applications. One of the main criteria is that the student must be a first generation candidate. Dr. Pegram further explained the application and selection process to the board. Dr. Adams helped explain the student's transition to college from SandHoke and the attention given to make sure the students don't go astray. Dr. Pegram indicated that 89.9 % of the students have internet access and that they all have a laptop.

Dr. Turner then shared with the Board that the college hosted a fire and emergency conference the previous weekend. There were three hundred and twenty attendees on campus. The college is also in the process of completing a survey for a medical ophthalmic program and hopes to implement it in spring of 2012. Carolina Eye will provide the equipment for the program. Dr. Turner then discussed the **Program Audit Report** with the Board. He explained that the State Auditor audits the college's educational programs every year. The preliminary audit was generally very good and had only one exception. Dr. Turner then explained the exception to the board. The exception involved one instructor not having his/her signatures on the roster. This instructor filled out a different form and stapled it to the roster, as opposed to signing the actual roster. That one class counted for the one exception. The college feels that this exception was overly punitive and will appeal this discrepancy. Dr. Turner felt that this should have been a teaching moment, not an exception.

Mr. Washington suggested that the Board visit SandHoke at a future date.

Mr. Hayter reported for the **Building and Grounds Committee**. Mr. Hayter deferred to Mr. Gough to discuss the **General Classroom Building** project. Mr. Gough explained to the Board the need to transfer \$815,328 of the 2007 Moore County Bond funds from this project to the Physical Plant project, and \$460,780 to the Miscellaneous Repair and Renovation Projects Account. Mr. Caddell made a motion from the Buildings and Grounds Committee to approve the transfer of \$815,328 from the 2007 Moore County Bond from the General Classroom Building project to the Physical Plant project, and \$460,780 to the Miscellaneous Repair and Renovation Projects Account. Mr. Hayter seconded the motion and it carried.

Mr. Gough then presented the **Physical Plant Facility** project. He explained that bids for this facility were received on January 6, 2011. The low bid on this project exceeded available funding in this project. As a cost avoidance measure we have decided not to accept the athletic storage building alternate. As a result of this alternate deletion, AIM Construction Contracting became the apparent low bidder. He asked the Board to approve both recommendations. Mr. Horne made a motion to approve both the transfer of \$815,328 of 2007 Moore County Bond funds from the General Classroom Building project to the Physical Plant project, and recommendation two, approval of the bid tab and AIM Construction Contracting as the low bidder in an amount not to exceed \$2,351,370. Mrs. Upchurch seconded the motion. The motion carried with one abstention from Mrs. McCaskill.

Vice President Gough then presented the **Blue Hall Renovation** project. He explained to the Board that the requirements for this project exceed available funding. Therefore, additional funding in the amount of \$ 423,748 will help alleviate this shortfall. Mr. Caddell made a motion from the Buildings and Grounds Committee to approve the transfer of \$156,728 in State Equipment Grant funds from the

Hoke Early College Building project to the Blue Hall Renovation project. Mr. Brown seconded the motion and it carried.

Mr. Gough then presented the **Emergency Services Training Complex (Phase II)** project. Mr. Gough indicated that there were two separate recommendations for this project. He explained to the Board that this project is nearing completion and residual funding is available for transfer to the Blue Hall Renovation project. He asked the Board to approve transferring \$267,020 of 2007 Moore County Bond Funds to the Blue Hall Renovation project. Mr. Caddell made a motion from the Buildings and Grounds Committee to transfer \$267,020 of 2007 Moore County Bond Funds to the Blue Hall Renovation project. Mr. Horne seconded the motion. The motion carried. Mr. Gough then explained that additional work is required for this project to incorporate the installation of the new mobile classroom building, and the Highway 705 Rest Stop toilet facility. This will require an increase in design fees for Stewart-Cooper-Newell, AIA in the amount of \$8,000. Mr. Caddell made a motion from the Buildings and Grounds Committee to approve increasing the design fees for Stewart-Cooper-Newell, AIA in the amount of \$8,000, using existing project funding. Mr. Horne seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Gough then discussed the **Hoke Early College Building** project. He explained that this project is nearly complete and there is residual funding in the amount of \$156,728 from the State Equipment Grant which can be transferred to the Blue Hall Renovation project. Mr. Caddell made a motion from the Buildings and Grounds Committee to approve the transfer of \$156,728 of State Equipment Grant funds from the Hoke Early College Building project to the Blue Hall Renovation project. Mr. Hayter seconded the motion and it carried.

Mr. Gough then presented the **Miscellaneous Repair and Renovation Projects Account** project for discussion. He explained to the Board that in order to provide sufficient resources for future capital needs it is necessary to increase the fund balance of this account. Mr. Caddell made a motion from the Buildings and Grounds Committee to approve transferring \$460,780 of 2007 Moore County Bond funds from the General Classroom Building project to the Miscellaneous Repair and Renovation Projects Account. Mr. Caddell commented that the goal is to be certain that this account has enough in it to avoid having to go the county for additional funds. Mr. Hayter seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Gough then presented the **Westmoore Rest Area Property** project. He explained that the North Carolina Department of Transportation transferred the Westmoore Area Property to Sandhills Community College at no cost. Mr. Caddell made a motion from the Buildings and Grounds Committee to approve the Resolution in appreciation of the North Carolina Department of Transportations transfer of the Westmoore Rest Area Property to Sandhills Community College. Mr. Clendenin seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Vice President Gough distributed updates to the Facilities Master Plan and asked the Trustees to review the changes and forward any comments and feedback to him to facilitate finalizing the plan.

Mr. Little asked if there were any other questions related to Buildings and Grounds. Hearing none, he introduced Mr. Gene Horne to present for the Finance Committee.

Mr. Gene Horne reported for the **Finance Committee**. Mr. Horne then presented the request for the **Approval of Budget Revisions, November 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010**. Mr. Horne asked if any of the Trustees had any questions. Hearing none, Mr. Horne made a motion from the Finance Committee to Approval of Budget Revisions for November 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010. Mr. Clendenin seconded the motion and it carried.

Mr. Horne then presented the request for approval of updated **Owens Auditorium User Fee schedule**. Mr. Horne made a motion from the Finance Committee to table this topic for future discussion and research. Mrs. Graham seconded the motion and it carried.

Mr. Horne then presented the request to approve the new summer self-support tuition rate. The current summer self-support tuition rate is \$50.00 per credit hour for curriculum classes, and the state tuition rate is \$56.50 per credit hour for Fall 2010 and Spring 2011. The college is requesting an increase in the summer self-support tuition rate to \$66.50 per credit hour for curriculum classes. Mr. Horne made a motion from the Finance Committee to approve charging \$66.50 per credit hour for curriculum classes during Summer 2011. Mrs. Upchurch seconded the motion. Dr. Dempsey commented that while this increase looks high, the state is projected to come up to this range in fall 2011. The motion carried.

Mr. Horne then presented the request for approval to charge a specific fee of \$20 to students registering for ART 231 or ART 232 effective Fall Semester 2011. Due to the high cost of materials for ART 231 and ART 232 it has been requested to add a \$20 fee to students registering for these courses. Mr. Horne made a motion from the Finance Committee to approve the charge of a specific fee of \$20 to students registering for ART 231 or ART 232 effective Fall Semester 2011. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Horne then presented the Financial Report and the County and State Bond Funds for information only. Dr. Dempsey shared with the Board that the response from the faculty and staff, with regard to the budget situation, has been proactive in their cooperation.

Mr. Little introduced Ms. Upchurch to present for the **Personnel Committee**. Ms. Upchurch referred the trustees to the **Personnel Information** included in their packet. She indicated that she had no report. Dr. Dempsey then indicated to the Board that the college currently has a hiring freeze in place and it will continue until further notice.

Mr. Little then introduced Mr. Hayter to present for the **Planning Committee**.

Mr. Hayter indicated that he attended the Quality Conference on November 22, 2010, but held his comments until this meeting for Dr. Turner to provide explanations to the Board. Mr. Hayter also shared with the Board that he spent four hours on the SACS website to better understand the process that the college is currently embarking on for re-affirmation. Mr. Hayter introduced Dr. Turner. Dr. Turner explained to the Board that at the quality conference, the college looks back and examines the benchmarks and reports on those that are not met. The group discusses specific topics that relate to this year or next year. SACS is one of the important topics with regard to reaffirmation and

reaccreditation. The college is in the preliminary stages of preparing for the 2013-14 reaffirmation visit. Committees are being staffed for assessment and archiving of documents is taking place. Dr. Turner then went on to explain the benchmark review process. Mrs. McCaskill had some concerns about student success in math classes and the need for remediation. A discussion ensued about success rates for math and English at the college level. Dr. Dempsey indicated that the inability to pass math is the biggest barrier to graduation. Mr. Clendenin questioned the position that community colleges sit between the high school and four year institutions. Further discussion on assessment and requirements ensued. Dr. Turner indicated that there is an ongoing effort between the faculties of both the college and the Moore County Schools.

Mr. Little introduced Mr. Mickey Brown to report for the **Student Affairs Committee**. Mr. Brown indicated that the committee had not met, but will meet in April.

Mr. Smith then reported for the **Foundation**. Mr. Smith introduced Jennifer Blakely and Germaine Elkins. Ms. Blakely went over the foundation calendar of events for the Trustees. She reminded the Trustees that the golf tournament is on September 13<sup>th</sup>, instead of August. She indicated that the college has a number of teams, with Southern Atlantic having registered fifteen teams already. She also shared that the Return to the Classroom brochures would be sent out this week. Mr. Smith then introduced Germaine Elkins as the new Director of Foundation Operations. She detailed the fundraising benchmarks for the year.

President Dempsey gave the **President's Report**. Dr. Dempsey shared with the Board that the college foundation is ranked ninth in the nation. Sandhills Community College is ranked 20<sup>th</sup> in the state of NC among all colleges and universities. The foundation raises more money than Western Carolina, UNC Asheville and almost as much as Fayetteville State University and UNCP together. President Dempsey expressed thanks to the foundation for all of their hard work. Mr. Smith indicated that donors don't give money because of what we do but because of what the faculty and staff does. He explained that Dr. Dempsey builds many of these relationships. Our donors can feel the excellence here and are moved to make a difference when they meet our faculty, students and staff. Mr. Hayter asked if the college is number one in fundraising in schools of comparative size. Dr. Dempsey indicated that the college is and proceeded to review the list of the top ten. He also indicated that the college is very lucky to be in an area with a lot of advantages. Charles Wellard is a major benefactor. He was never asked for a donation. He initiated his support because he fell in love with the Sandhills mission. Dr. Dempsey then referred to the number '68' buttons at each Trustees place to discuss completion rate. He explained our campaign to have students finish what they start, the 2020 hedgehog concept. The number 68 is the completion rate we have established as our goal. The college has put together a composite measurement that includes students who are in a degree program through students who are taking one class.

The '68' buttons were passed out at the Christmas party and if next year it is up or down the college will know if it is making progress based on this number. That is what the college is doing to advance the 2020 concept.

Mr. Little indicated that the entire team deserves our appreciation. Dr. Dempsey was charged to grow the foundation and has done an outstanding job with the help of the staff and the community.

The Board asked for staff to leave the meeting to enter a closed session at 2:35 to discuss the President's evaluation. The Board returned from closed session at 2:55 to discuss Dr. Dempsey's evaluation with him.

Mr. Little indicated that President Dempsey's evaluation was outstanding and he was of the opinion that it was his best evaluation; however, the board cannot provide an increase this year. Dr. Dempsey indicated that with the right board the president's job is the best in the world and that he has right board and the best job. Mr. Cunningham expressed that it was the first board he has been on and that he has enjoyed coming to meetings and has learned much. Mr. Caddell expressed his pleasure in being part of the hiring committee that brought Dr. Dempsey to the college. He indicated that he has enjoyed every day and it has been a tough decision not to be reappointed to the board this year. Mr. Washington expressed his opinion that leadership style is contagious and that it starts with Dr. Dempsey.

Mr. Little asked if there were any other items of business for discussion. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Mrs. Graham and seconded by Mrs. Upchurch. The motion carried.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



George W. Little, Chairman



Wendy B. Dodson, Assistant Secretary