

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

**Sledge Board Room and Clement Dining Room
June 5, 2023, 5:00 p.m.**

PRESENT: Larry Caddell, Vice Chairman; Joe Clendenin, Secretary; Vincent Gordon; Irish Pickett; Helen Probst Mills; Bruce Hurst; Catherine Graham; Connie Lovell; Tim Carpenter; Gary Evans; Stephen Woodward

STAFF: Brenda Jackson; Heather Lyons; Ron Layne; Dr. Fallon Brewington; Libba Thomas; Germaine Elkins; Steven Garner; Dr. Julie Voigt; Dr. Rebecca Roush; Dr. D.J. Farmer; Chreatha Alston; Matthew Dial; Dr. Kirk Lynch; Danaka Bunch; Lindsey Farmer; Teresa Sheets; Shenika Ward; Michelle Bauer; Chief Dwight Threet

GUESTS: Attorney John May; Dr. Sandy Stewart, Members of the Community

Mr. Caddell 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 if there were any potential conflicts with the agenda items to be discussed. Hearing none, Mr. Caddell proceeded to the next item of business.

Mr. Caddell asked for a motion to recess and to move the meeting to Clement Dining Room in the Dempsey Student Center to accommodate attendees. Mr. Gordon made a motion to move the meeting to Clement Dining Room. Mr. Carpenter seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Caddell made a motion to reconvene in Clement Dining Room. Mr. Clendenin seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Art Blue.

Mr. Hurst offered a moment of prayer and reflection.

Ms. Lyons administered the Oath of Office to Stephen Woodward, filling the unexpired term of Art Blue.

Mr. Clendenin noted that the previously mailed agenda did not include the oath of office of Mr. Woodward. Mr. Caddell made a motion to approve the agenda as updated and presented. Mr. Gordon seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Caddell asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 3, 2023, Board of Trustees meeting. Mr. Clendenin made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Mr. Gordon seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Coach Mike Apple was recognized for his outstanding coaching of the Sandhills Flyers basketball team. Coach Apple was applauded for his team's 300th win as a college coach. Mr. Layne noted that eight of the Flyers basketball players received diplomas at this year's graduation.

Mr. Caddell and the Board of Trustees thanked Ms. Lyons for her work and dedication during the time of the Presidential search.

Mr. Carpenter reported for the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

The 20'x20' baseball pavilion, which will be located adjacent to the concession stand, will require a shared construction cost with GreyFox Outdoors. Approval of funds coming from the Foundation for the College's share of the cost was requested. Mr. Layne said that the pavilion will serve as a venue for multiple events. Mr. Carpenter made a motion to approve \$17,500 of Foundation funds to share construction costs of a 20'x20' pavilion with GreyFox Outdoors. Mr. Evans seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval is needed to modify the existing Policies 2.5, 2.5.1, and 2.5.2 regarding banners and flags on campus. The proposed policy modification states that banners and/or flags on any college campus are limited to material design to promote educational, athletic, and Bradshaw Performing Arts Center programs. Mr. Carpenter made a motion to approve the modified policies. Ms. Lovell seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. These modifications do not include or affect the display of the American, State, or College flags.

A DOT right-of-way on Airport Road has been requested by Ace Hardware, seeking to extend the turn-lane area of the highway from the traffic circle, creating a right turn lane coming from the college and turning into the new Ace Hardware Commercial Center. Mr. Carpenter said that he will obtain the documentation (plat) to support the specifics of the proposed construction. The college would have the benefit of an improved turn lane at no cost to the college. The plan has been presented to the Horticulture Board prior to this discussion with no objections as proposed. The Horticulture Board will discuss further and approve this proposal at the special-called board meeting on Thursday, June 25. The timeline for this project is within the next six months. Mr. Carpenter made a motion to approve the proposal subject to a proper plat. Ms. Graham seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Carpenter reported that he attended the Town of Carthage Planning Meeting on May 19, 2023. Discussed was the planning and rezoning of the Caddell Public Services Training Center in Carthage. The rezoning is for the permanent build of a classroom structure. The rezoning request is necessary to obtain a permit because the land is not zoned for that type of construction.

The request passed unanimously with the Planning Board. The next step is to move to the Town Planning Public Hearing for discussion. Mr. Carpenter and college officials will attend that meeting as well. The rezoning will allow for the development of the site which may include the addition of a second burn tower, classrooms, and a shooting range.

Mr. Garner reported that his team continues to work on the final punch-list of tasks in Foundation Hall and Kennedy Hall. Items include painting, completing outside brick work, and the installation of remaining doors and hardware. Completion date for remaining projects is July 1, 2023.

The Town of Southern Pines removed trees from Reservoir Park via the college property. No trees had to be removed on the SCC campus. Following the tree removal, the city laid crush-and-run gravel and planted grass to restore the access road and easement. The project enhanced the existing access road, and the new gravel road will help with an erosion issue and will create access to the SCC dam. The Town of Southern Pines is responsible for the permit and survey work for a permanent easement.

Mr. Garner reported on the timetable for the Meyer Hall project. Bids have reopened and will close on June 22, 2023. This will allow for next year's construction due to an approximate 10-month wait for most HVAC items. The project should begin in May 2024.

The college residence has been examined by Tarhill Basement to check possible solutions to the water that is leaking into the basement of the residence. Mr. Garner believes that the best approach at this time is to cut off irrigation to let the basement wall dry to see if it is an easy solution and then install new gutters. If the water issue continues, other options will be explored.

The Little Hall sidewalk project is now complete. The SCC maintenance team will grade, seed, and place pine straw in the area for a cosmetic upgrade. A crosswalk will also be added to direct traffic so that golf carts and foot traffic will not damage the lawn.

Mr. Layne reported that Old North State Baseball League (ONSL) had their first set of games this weekend. As part of its advertising package, ONSL gave the college two banners to display in the left field area. ONSL is in year two of a 10-year lease agreement which will be revisited next year. There is a buyout clause in the agreement.

Ms. Thomas reported for the Finance Committee.

McGriff Insurance is in the process of calculating insurance renewals, but all renewal rates are not fully available at this time. Once final rates are received, Ms. Thomas will review the rates with Ms. Jackson and Mr. Little, and an email will be sent to Board members for review and approval. The renewal date is July 1, 2024.

Ms. Thomas reported on the Moore County budget request. Mr. Clendenin made a motion to approve the Moore County Budget proposal. Mr. Carpenter seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Thomas reported on the Hoke County budget. Mr. Carpenter made a motion to approve the Hoke County budget proposal. Mr. Evans seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Thomas reported on the Foundation Budget Request, citing that this is the same budget request that was approved by the Foundation Board at its meeting in April 2023. This is an unrestricted budget of \$345,000. Ms. Probst Mills made a motion to approve the annual Foundation College Budget as submitted. Ms. Graham seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Thomas reviewed the Financial Report and State and County bond funds through April 30, 2023, with no Board action required.

Mr. Evans reported for the Personnel Committee. Mr. Evans reviewed Personnel Action, which included one new faculty appointment, Ms. Heather Lyons. Mr. Evans made a motion to approve the new appointment as presented. Mr. Gordon seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Evans asked that everyone review the Personnel Information, with no Board action required.

Mr. Clendenin reported for the Planning Committee. The Passing of the Mace from Interim President Brenda Jackson to incoming President Sandy Stewart will take place on July 3 at 9 a.m. The Presidential inauguration will take place on August 9 at 10 a.m. in Owens Auditorium.

The SACS committee will be on campus October 9-12. This is also during the time that the ACCT Convention will be held. Mr. Clendenin asked that the Board members keep those dates in mind as some individuals will be required to be on hand for the SACSCOC meetings.

Ms. Farmer said that a favorable report was received from the SACSCOC off-site review committee and that the committee is looking forward to its visit to the SCC campus on October 9-12. Because of the SACSCOC visit, Ms. Farmer said the College Strategic Plan (CSP) information for approval will be submitted this year in December instead of October. The same process will be in place for the CSP with a shift in timeline.

Mr. Layne presented the Annual Academic Report of the NJCAA Flyer athletes. The season-end average GPA was 3.07, which included 12 Academic All-Americans. As mentioned previously, eight players graduated at this year's commencement. Funding for the academic advisor, which comes from First Bank donations, continues to reap positive benefits. The college receives approximately \$10,000 per year. Of the funding, \$6,000 supports an academic advisor who

works with low-performing athletes. The athlete meets one-on-one with the advisor in the Boyd Library. All college sports reap the benefits of the funding. Mr. Layne applauded Coach Apple for his efforts in encouraging players to improve their academic scores.

Mr. Layne presented information regarding the One-Time Project Program. At the previous Board of Trustees meeting, Chairman Little asked if the college was considering applying for any grant through the One-Time Project Fund Grant. Mr. Layne said that permission is needed from the Board to draft a possible grant request. The \$75,000 grant would go towards the cost of lighting the baseball field. The lighting would allow the college to partner with some of the resorts in the area as well as other outside groups that would choose to use the field at night. Old North State Baseball League (ONSL) and the college would provide matching funds to cover the estimated \$215,000. Mr. Clendenin made a motion to approve a draft of a grant proposal to use a requested \$75,000 for the lighting of the baseball field. Mr. Carpenter seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Lovell presented the Educational Programs Committee Report. Ms. Bauer said that new class fee approvals are currently presented to the Board once per year. Workforce Continuing Education (WCE) has asked for approval to submit a request of \$500 each time the fee is required to begin a new program. Ms. Lovell made a motion to allow WCE to submit a \$500 request as needed for new programs. Ms. Graham seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Bauer made an additional request to partner with FirstHealth to administer drug screenings for Commercial Driver's License (CDL) program participants. Ms. Bauer said that the first year of the program was reliant on the partnership through Central Carolina Community College (CCCC) and FirstHealth but that it is now necessary to begin our own partnership. Ms. Lovell made a motion to approve the partnership with FirstHealth to conduct drug screenings. Ms. Graham seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Thomas reported that the College Access and Parking fee (CAPS) was not implemented during the time of the COVID pandemic. The fee is at a cost of \$25 per semester for curriculum students and \$10 for Workforce Continuing Education students. CAPS funds are used for parking enforcement security personnel and any related equipment needed to secure college property. Estimated total fees collected per year is \$150,000. Ms. Lovell made a motion to implement the CAPS fees for Curriculum and Workforce Continuing Education. Mr. Evans seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Pickett reported that the Student Affairs Committee has not met and there are no current updates at this time.

Ms. Elkins presented the Foundation Report. The Sandhills Horticulture Society met last week and reported that the recent renovations at the Ball Visitors Center will be completed in the fall semester. She also noted that Foundation Hall artwork will be chosen by the faculty and decided

upon by the number of votes related to either scientific prints or images of campus gardens taken by the Sandhills Photography Club.

Planning for the annual golf tournament to be held on August 29, 2023, is well under way. The tournament will include more student volunteers this year. Mailing for Flyers athletic fundraising will be going out in late July/early August.

Available in the Board packet is a 2023/2024 season BPAC handout which includes both a comedy and family series. A CS Lewis film will be screening in March. BPAC is working within budget and should be in the black next year. The Ruth Pauley Lecture Series is having its annual retreat on Friday, June 9, 2023. The Holshouser Lecture Series has an event scheduled for June 24, 2023. The 60th Birthday Planning Committee, which has representatives from across campus, will meet on July 19 at 11:00 a.m. in Clement Dining Room.

A fall events handout for the 60th birthday celebration was made available to the Board. Events for the celebration will be held at each of these campuses: Pinehurst, Hoke, Robbins, and Carthage. Plans for the upcoming presidential inauguration are moving along well. Ms. Elkins said that the college has received \$600,000 in donations in the last two months.

The Foundation will close out the year at \$3.25m increase. Friends of Pinehurst Surgical Clinic presented the college with a notable gift. They will be hosting the Nursing Pinning Ceremony on July 27. A major gift will be coming in from Stan and Jean Bradshaw to be used towards their pledge for Foundation Hall. The McPhersons completed their pledge payments for BPAC. The Krasicky Radiography Achievement Scholarship is a new endowment. Ellen Leslie made an additional major gift towards the Aviation Fund. Julia Connelly made another major gift to the Culinary Program to help support Farm-to-Table efforts. The Wandering Epicurean was a very successful event as well.

Ms. Jackson presented the President's Report. Ms. Jackson called on Dr. Farmer who reported on the status of enrollment. Dr. Farmer said that with a month to go in our summer enrollment period we are essentially even in enrollment numbers. Registration for summer and fall enrollment began on April 1, and there is an upward trend each week in the enrollment cycle.

Ms. Jackson said the week of May 8 was a great week for the college. The week began with Employment Recognition Day (ERD) on May 10. There were seven retirees with a total of 151 years of combined service to the college. ERD was followed by many celebrations during the week to include the Nursing Pinning Ceremony and SandHoke graduation. Commencement on the Pinehurst campus included 8:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. ceremonies. Isabel Cain spoke as the Distinguished Alumnus of the Year. Ms. Jackson thanked the Board of Trustees for allowing her to submit her final President's Report and congratulated the Board for their selection and hard work in their efforts to find a new SCC president.

Mr. Caddell called on Attorney John May to speak. Attorney May expressed the importance of confidentiality regarding matters discussed in the regular and closed sessions of the Board of Trustees meetings.

Mr. Clendenin made a motion to go into closed session to discuss the contract of Sandy Stewart. Mr. Evans seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board went into closed session at 6:03 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Caddell, Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees and Chairman of the Executive Presidential Search Committee, told trustees there will be a meeting on Thursday, June 15 at 2 pm to discuss and approve Dr. Stewart's contract. Mr. Caddell reported that the Executive Presidential Search Committee met to work on Dr. Stewart's contract. Mr. Caddell went over the compensation package and the funding sources. In addition to a salary, Dr. Stewart will receive housing, auto, and phone allowances. Ms. Jackson handed out a copy of Dr. Stewart's three-year contract to all trustees.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

George Little, Chairman of the Board

Joseph Clendenin, Secretary of the Board