

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

**Forest Creek Golf Club  
February 21, 2022, 9:00 a.m.**

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

**STAFF:** Dr. John Dempsey; Heather Lyons; Ron Layne; Dr. Rebecca Roush; Kellie Shoemake; Dr. Julie Voigt; Libba Thomas; Dr. D.J. Farmer; Germaine Elkins; Dr. Twana McKnight; Andi Korte; Chreatha Alston; Nevius Toney; Doug Smith; Roderick Brower; Ed Spitler; Matthew Dial; Dr. Jared Little; Teresa Sheets

**GUESTS:** Kathy McPherson; Stan Bradshaw

Rod Brower presented information to the Board of Trustees regarding the setup of an individual Sandhills Community College (SCC) email address for each Board member. An Information Technology associate will work with trustees to create an email account with multi-factor information and recovery options. Users will make a password change every 90 days, and SCC information will be pulled away from personal information and remain separate. The setup for each member will take approximately 15 minutes. ITS will support each member exclusively. Request forms for SCC email setup were made available during the Board meeting.

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. Little asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Carpenter made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Gordon seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Little asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2021, 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.

Ms. Campbell reported for the Student Government Association (SGA). Several events were made available to students over the past two months in an effort to allow individuals to become

more involved with campus activities. The SGA hosted Welcome Week, a student resource fair, and a Valentine's Day event during the month of February.

Mr. Caddell presented the Buildings and Grounds Committee report. Mr. Smith reported that three bids were received in response to the scope of work required for the Water Connection Project. Mr. Caddell made a motion to ratify the approval of S & L Contractors, LLC. Mr. Horne seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Probst Mills attended a meeting with the Town of Carthage and reported that the meeting went well. Speakers included Mike Cameron, Southern Pines Fire Chief; Brian Phillips, Moore County Public Safety Officer; and Richard Maness, Chief Deputy, Sheriff's Office. Everyone spoke to the significance of the Larry Caddell Training Center in terms of training individuals in Moore County, across the state, and about the unique roll that the College plays in providing the recertification opportunities to the community professionals who keep us all safe.

Mr. Layne reported that the Allred family will fund the development of the field for the Old North State Baseball League. The College will contribute \$40,000 to support the construction of restrooms and a concession stand. Dr. Dempsey asked Mr. Layne to confirm with the NJCAA that field specifications are accurate. Mr. Layne noted that the addition of the baseball field will be an exceptional recruiting opportunity.

Mr. Horne reported for the Finance Committee and reviewed student fees. Mr. Horne made a motion to approve student fees for 2022-2023. Ms. Probst Mills seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Horne called on Ms. Thomas to review the State Budget and Salaries for 2021-2022. Mr. Horne made a motion to approve the State Budget and Salaries for 2021-2022. Ms. Probst Mills seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Horne reviewed the Financial Report through January 31, 2022. No Board action is required.

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

Mr. Evans reported for the Personnel Committee noting Personnel Information. No Board action is required. There were no Personnel Action items at this time.

Dr. Dempsey announced that Andi Korte will be retiring this summer. He congratulated Ms. Korte and thanked her for the time, energy, and numerous contributions she has made to the College. There will be a dinner celebration to honor Andi, Brenda Jackson, and Alfreda Stroman on May 4, 2022, at Forest Creek Golf Club.

Mr. Clendenin reported that the Planning Committee has not met and called on Mr. Layne to give a report of athletics. The SCC Flyers basketball team played and won against Central Carolina Community College last week. The Flyers will travel to Largo, MD on Saturday, and will be playing Prince George Community College at 3:00 p.m. The National Championship games will be held in the Midwest. Games will be live-streamed in the Teresa Wood Reading Room. Mr. Layne also reported that there will be a College Strategic Planning meeting on February 28, 2022. Progress made at this meeting will be presented at the April Board meeting.

Ms. Pickett reported that there has been no formal meeting of the Student Affairs Committee. Ms. Shoemake was asked to share details regarding a new position at the College. Ms. Shoemake cited that, although there are many student resources available, there is a challenge to have students take advantage of these resources and services. During the fall semester the System Office put into place the Guided Pathways initiative. This initiative was put in place to help community colleges implement resources and programs to help our students be more successful. The new student advocate position has been awarded to Emily Waldrop.

The Educational Programs Committee met on February 11, 2022. Dr. Stewart recognized there is a true synergy shared by the Curriculum and Continuing Education programs. Discussed at the meeting were programs to include Aviation, Fire and Rescue, Medical Assisting, Commercial Driver's License (CDL), and Physical Therapy. Dr. Roush said that two construction-related programs will be in the fall catalog. The College is actively recruiting for Building Construction Technologies and Construction Management programs for fall. The College is also moving forward with a tomography certificate. Dr. Roush thanked Ms. Korte and Continuing Education who would, based on public demand, implement a class to help determine if a curriculum class would be beneficial.

Ms. Elkins presented a brief history of the SCC Foundation, which was established in 1969, making the Foundation the oldest community college foundation in the State of North Carolina. There is a rich tradition of philanthropy within the Foundation, which started with a gift from Mary Lumen Meyer. The Foundation has worked diligently to maintain a consistency of recognition across the campus in naming and celebrating people who have been important supporters in the history of the College. Each of these supporters represents a shared value of education. Ms. Elkins stated that the mission of the SCC Foundation is to support the excellence of the college's programs and to guarantee the opportunity for all Sandhills students to be able to pursue their course of education regardless of their financial circumstances. Ms. Elkins invited guests Kathy McPherson, SCC Foundation Board Chair, and Stan Bradshaw, Chair, Foundation Finance Committee, to share their thoughts regarding the success of the SCC Foundation. Dr. Dempsey thanked Ms. McPherson and Mr. Bradshaw for their contributions to the College.

Dr. Dempsey announced that Dr. Fallon Brewington will join the SCC staff as the Vice President of Continuing Education and Workforce Development. Dr. Brewington is currently the President of the Moore County Boy's and Girl's Club. Michelle Bauer will work with Dr. Brewington as

Associate Vice President. Regarding masks, Dr. Dempsey reported that the College will lift the mask mandate after students return from spring break.

Dr. Voigt presented information regarding student retention efforts currently in place and moving forward. Based on the one college model, students should always be at the center, redefining what student success is, assisting students in achieving their next credential, and getting a connection to the workforce. Meeting students where they are is paramount for success. Dr. Farmer said that the College is in the business of changing lives. He recognized Taylor McCaskill's efforts in the new Transfer Center and noted that relationship-building is one of the primary goals of the center. Dr. McKnight reported on events at the Hoke Campus and offered her appreciation to those who have contributed their collaborative efforts. Students will now be able to complete Curriculum classes on the Hoke Campus and receive an Associate's Degree without having to travel to the Pinehurst Campus for completion of their studies. Dr. Jared Little, Director of Advanced Manufacturing, shared his thoughts on the importance of offering additional opportunities to the students, and the reevaluation of current programs. Professor Ed Spitler, Chair of Engineering and Computer Technology, said that faculty involvement is a priority regarding student success. Board members were given a graph depicting students upon entry and the processes that they will experience in their educational journey until graduation in their field of study. This Excellence in Opportunity Plan focuses on marketing, recruiting, and student success.

Mr. Caddell made a motion for the Board to go into closed session for the purpose of evaluating the president, doing a trustee self-evaluation, approval of an honorary degree, and a presentation by Kennon Briggs, a higher education consultant. Mr. Horne seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board went into closed session at 1:32 pm.

The Board reconvened at 3:33 pm.

During the closed session, Dr. Dempsey asked that the board approve an honorary degree, Doctor of Laws, honoris causa, for Brenda Jackson, the chief operating officer who has been vital to the success of this college. Mr. Little made a motion to approve an honorary degree, Doctor of Laws, honoris causa, that will be presented to Ms. Jackson at graduation. Mr. Evans seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Trustees asked Mr. Layne to prepare a Request for Qualifications to help trustees find a higher education consultant in their search for a new president once Dr. Dempsey retires. Mr. Clendenin made a motion to request Mr. Layne to prepare a Request for Qualifications to help trustees find a higher education consultant in their search for a new president once Dr. Dempsey retires. Mr. Gordon seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

George Little, Chairman of the Board

Joseph Clendenin, Secretary of the Board