

Minutes of the Southeastern Community College Board of Trustees
Monday, January 23, 2023, at 5:30 pm
A-Building, room 210

Present: Judge Jack Hooks, Chair; Joe Hooks, Vice Chair; Emma Shaw, Theresa Blanks, Randy Britt, Henry Edmund, Bobby Ezzell, Dr. Gary Lanier, Dr. Dan Strickland, and Dr. Timothy Lance

Others Present: Dr. Chris English, President; Dr. Sylvia Cox, VP/Student Services; Ms. Ibreta Jackson, COO, VP/Administrative Services; Bill Maultsby, Human Resources Director; Haylee Damato, Marketing Director; Terrie Priest, Foundation Director; Dr. Natalie Hinson, Dean of Instructional Effectiveness; Oretha Kinlaw, SGA President; Kaitlin Nobles, Faculty Council Chairperson; Tyler Cliff, Tech Support; and Jennie Simmons, Executive Assistant

Not in Attendance: Crystal Frink, Dr. Maudie Davis

Open Regular Board Meeting Session:

Judge Jack Hooks welcomed everyone to the meeting and called the meeting into session at 5:30.

Ethics Awareness and Conflict of Interest Reminder: Judge Hooks reviewed the Ethics Awareness and Conflict of Interest Statement and asked for any trustee who has a conflict or the appearance of a conflict to recuse themselves from participation in the matter involved.

Approval of Meeting Agenda: A motion was made by Randy Britt and seconded by Joe Hooks to approve the January 23, 2023 meeting agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda: Consent agenda items should have been reviewed in advance. There were no items that needed further discussion prior to the consent agenda vote. A motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Joe Hooks and seconded by Theresa Blanks. The motion was carried unanimously.

Dr. English introduced Ibreta Jackson as the new Chief Operating Officer to the trustees and welcomed her. Jack Hooks welcomed her and said he had already heard people talking and saying good things about her.

Information Items:

Budget Analytic Report- Mrs. Ibreta Jackson presented the report on page 19 of the board book. She gave a brief synopsis of the budget report as of December 2022; which is midpoint in our fiscal year. Looking at state funding, we are on target at 55.38% spent in the operations part of our state budget. When you consider the budget stabilization, we are on track at about 50% spending. Switching over to county funds, we are at about 50%. The report shows 53.67 in the operations portion of our county funds, but we have already paid a lot of prepaid expenses. Therefore, we are at about 50% spending with county funding. We are in a good position and on track.

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Minority Male Grant- Dr. Cox was pleased to report that SCC was awarded 150K for the Minority Male Grant. Part of this grant will allow for a part-time recruiter person to be hired. This will allow us to increase the number of minority males in our curriculum and workforce programs. We will focus on targeting those minority 11th graders. This has been aligned with our QEP; these students will go through the “I know” career assessment. This is a big partnership with Columbus County Schools and Whiteville City Schools.

Committee Reports:

Facilities- Randy Britt introduced 3 items that the facilities committee has reviewed.

- * 3-1 Renovations Floor and Paint
- * Approval of Architect for STEM project
- * Legislative Capital Request

3-1 Renovations Floor and Paint-

Dr. English elaborated on the 3-1 renovation piece. This is a 400K request out of the SCIF funds. We have been allocated 6.7 million for renovations to our campus. We are requesting the 400K to repair damaged floors, walls, and painting. We can make modifications to this project as we go. This will go to state board for approval and will be assigned a project number.

Approval of Architect for STEM project-

Randy Britt informed the board that we had several good applicants, we narrowed them down to 3, did interviews and all agreed and felt good about choosing McMillan Pazdan Smith as our architect for the STEM project. Now we must have approval from the full board to hire McMillan Pazdan Smith as our architect for the STEM project.

Legislative Capital Request-

Dr. English explained that the largest employer in Columbus County is healthcare. We need to invest in and expand our healthcare facilities by renovating the Nursing building, renovating and updating the biology and chemistry area in C-building and then possibly an expansion of R-building with about a 3500 to 5000 square foot facility. Looking at the Facilities Master Plan, we took the estimate from McMillan Pazdan Smith, which totaled \$12.5 million. This legislative request is to fund this so that we don't have to ask for support from the county. Sessions have started, the committees have been named by the General Assembly, and we will work through February and March. We plan to meet with Representative Brenden Jones and Senator Bill Rabon to have this discussion.

Randy Britt said the Facilities Committee has already approved these 3 items.

Randy Britt made a motion to approve the recommendation from the facilities committee to approve all 3 of these items. There were no questions. Motion carried unanimously.

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Duke Energy EV Charging stations-

Dr. English gave an update on the Duke Energy EV charging stations. Duke Energy has offered to install 4 EV charging stations on our campus. This would take up 5 parking spaces because one will have to be ADA compliant. Duke will cover the 35K installation cost. We will have them for 5 years and then have the option to purchase them at market value or have them removed.

Dr. English said he, Ibreta, and Duke Energy Project Manager, Don Hamilton walked the campus last week to locate the ideal spot for the stations. The only area that had strong cell service was the parking lot beside A-building.

To charge a vehicle, a pay by app will need to be downloaded; the cost of a charge is about \$10.00 - \$18.00 depending on the car. We would be able to provide this service for employees, students, and our community.

College Reports:

President's Report- Dr. English welcomed Ibreta Jackson to the team as our new Chief Operating Operator and expressed his excitement about working with her.

He then touched on the legislative agenda update. The President's Winter Conference is this week; we will focus on initiatives to increase student engagement, student enrollment in programs, and developing programs. A huge financial piece of the legislative agenda will go to colleges to support new programs. Another part will be to invest in our faculty and staff. We are estimating from 2023 to 2024 will be a 3.5% increase and in 2024 to 2025 another 3.5% increase. It's a huge investment both at the college level and the program side for both curriculum and Con Ed, but also investing into our current staff.

Apprenticeship- Dr. English said we are so excited about this Healthcare Apprenticeship signing that we had this morning. There is a huge need to care for people in the community and the skilled workforce is not there. Looking at the statistics, it's staggering at the shortfalls on what we have in the nation. The average age of nurses is 52 and the average age of a medical lab technician is 43. This is a problem; we must get the younger sector involved in those pathways. The legislative request we have for the \$12.5 million will help provide solutions to this.

Frosty Freeze- Dr. English reported about a big event happening here on campus on February 4th. It's the Frosty Freeze, Winter Wonderland to raise money for our Student Ambassador Leadership Program and SCC educational programming. Please consider donating.

Executive VP report- Dr. Cox highlighted a few items in the Executive VP report. She then referenced a March snapshot of student enrollment. Fall 2021 to fall 2022 numbers for workforce and curriculum were up by 8.9%.

Lots of apprenticeship meetings working with high school counselors, CTE directors, career and technical education director at Whiteville City and Columbus County have occurred. We have also worked with marketing on how to share this information.

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The apprenticeship signing today was amazing especially having Columbus Regional here. They have signed 3 apprenticeship programs. The one we are working on for enrollment is a 2-year medical lab technician program. We have a pre-apprenticeship program that will start in February; it is a medical lab introduction class, an anatomy class, and an ACA introduction to the college. Columbus Regional will work to identify up to 2 or 3 of those to be apprenticed in the fall. We also signed with them a pharmacy tech program and a clinical medical assistant program. We have been working with them for a year and a half on programs and they have been great to partner with us on this apprenticeship path. Jason Beck's support has been incredible. Dr. Cox said we are excited to build new programs, good things are happening.

SCC Foundation Update- Terrie Priest reported that before the holidays we had a visit from First Citizens Bank and Investor Services. They brought us a check for \$20,000 to go towards their endowment that they had set up last year.

She also stated we are putting together a Richard Burkhardt fine performing Arts Committee. We are working on pulling together artists and entertainers to bring people back to our campus.

This year we will host Celebrate the Arts Gold Key award winners in March. Then the Gold Key award winners will be on display here for the month of April. We will have a reception on Sunday afternoon. More to come on that topic.

She also reminded everyone about the President's Ball. This year's focus will be on the nursing program. Our theme is a Gatsby Gala; please make plans to attend April 29th at The Farm.

Faculty Council, Kaitlin Nobles: We have had meetings and created subcommittees to review our faculty evaluation process and workload process. We have subcommittees on both of those. We have met with HR, Dr. English, and Dr. Cox to present what the committees have come up with. Now we are waiting on them to talk with the Deans and give us feedback on what our next steps will be.

SGA President, Oretha Kinlaw: Oretha Kinlaw elaborated about the many events SGA has been involved in at the college. Just a few of the events she highlighted were:

- Native American Heritage Day
- Polar Express Night
- Martin Luther King Celebration
- The Ram's Closet

They have upcoming events, The Frosty Freeze Winter Wonderland on February 4th to raise money for the ambassador program, a Valentine's Campus event where a love wall will be created and also Valentine Grams will be sent out. This will all go with our focus of Mental Health Awareness for the month of February.

Our next student town hall meeting is Monday, February 27th.

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Chairman's Comments:

Old Business: NONE

New Business: NONE

Reminders: Judge Jack Hooks pointed out the reminders on the agenda.

Request of Closed Session:

A motion was made by Randy Britt to enter Closed Session in accordance with NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (6) to discuss a personnel matter. Henry Edmund seconded the motion, and unanimously approved.

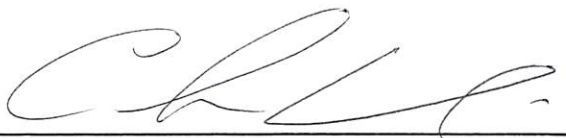
"Closed Session"

Motion was made by Randy Britt to return to open session and seconded by Dr. Gary Lanier. All were in favor.

There was no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Henry Edmund and seconded by Bobby Ezzell. The motion passed unanimously.



Judge Jack Hooks, Chairman
SCC Board of Trustees



Dr. Chris English, President