

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SANDHILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**Clement Dining Room
August 26, 2024, 5:00 p.m.**

PRESENT: Trustees Larry Caddell, Chairman; Tim Carpenter, Vice Chairman; Joseph Clendenin, Secretary; Gene Horne; Bruce Hurst; Irish Pickett; BethAnn Pratte; Stephen Woodward; Helen Probst Mills; Anthony Hunt; Dell Cook; Haden Barnett, SGA Vice President

ABSENT: George Little, Billy Carter, Gary Evans

STAFF: Dr. Sandy Stewart; Ron Layne; Teresa Sheets; Dr. Rebecca Roush; Dr. Julie Voigt; Dr. D.J. Farmer; Germaine Elkins; Dr. Fallon Brewington; Steven Garner; Michelle Bauer; Alex Patti; Tess Regan; Lindsey Farmer; Dr. Kirk Lynch; Shenika Ward; Chad Williams; Karen Walker

GUESTS: John May; Matt Lamb, The Pilot Newspaper

Mr. Caddell called the meeting to order at 5:04 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. Hurst offered a moment of prayer.

Mr. Horne made a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Pickett seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Bauer introduced Matt Thewes, Director, College and Career Readiness. Mr. Thewes presented an overview of the College & Career Readiness Program. Offered through the program is High School Equivalency (HSE) (GED, HiSet), Adult Basic Education, and English Language Acquisition. Programs are offered on the Pinehurst, Hoke, and Robbins campuses. HSE Scholars is Foundation supported, as well as waiver of testing fees. All graduates receive a \$250 scholarship. Mr. Thewes cited a 17% and 11% growth rate respectively in the past two years. Approximately 800 students were served through the program in 2023.

Dr. Farmer introduced Haden Barnett, new Student Government Association (SGA) President, and shared a brief biography of Mr. Barnett's history and accomplishments. Mr. Barnett presented the SGA report. Mr. Barnett, along with Dr. Stewart, will host "Pizza with Presidents" in the Dempsey Student Center on August 29. The SGA will host a memorial service on September 11, 2024.

Mr. Carpenter reported for the Buildings and Grounds Committee. Mr. Carpenter said that one item requires Board approval, which is the selection of the architect for the Caddell Training Center Classroom, Building #2. Mr. Carpenter made a motion to approve the selection of Stewart Newell Cooper Architects for the Caddell Training Center Classroom, Building #2. Mr. Horne seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Hobbs Architects Hoke Facility Master Plan - Hobbs Architects will attend the October Board of Trustees meeting to present to the Board.

Meyer Hall Project – Mr. Garner reported that all components are in-house and installed. HVAC units require additional work. The Fire Alarm Safety System will be tested on August 30, 2024. This project has been completed on budget.

Causey Hall Project – This project has met all guidelines and is on budget. Air handler will be installed during Christmas break.

Donor-Funded Upgrades to Boyd Library – Restrooms and flooring have been completed.

Removal of glass room has been added to the list of circulation desk projects.

Discussion of College Residence – The former president's residence is being considered for potential options. Hobbs Architects will submit a formal proposal after a study and evaluation of the residence. The residence may potentially become a site for Foundation use in the future.

Mr. Horne made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2024, Board of Trustees meeting. Mr. Woodward seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Horne made a motion to approve the August 21, 2024 meeting minutes. Mr. Hurst seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Horne reported for the Finance Committee. Mr. Horne reviewed for approval the Travel Authorizations for the President and the Board of Trustees. Mr. Horne made a motion to approve the Travel Authorizations for the President and Board of Trustees. Mr. Clendenin seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Horne reviewed information regarding the reclassification of uncollectable student accounts for fiscal year ending June 2024. Mr. Horne made a motion to approve the reclassification of uncollectible student accounts (\$50,759.48). Ms. Probst Mills seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Horne reviewed the Financial Report and State and County Bond Funds through June 30, 2024, with no Board action required.

Mr. Horne reviewed the Tuition and Registration fees. Dr. Farmer noted that these fees have not changed in an estimated 10 years. No Board action required.

Mr. Horne called on Ms. Walker, Controller, to comment on the EAGLE Internal Control Review. Ms. Walker explained that the acronym, EAGLE, stands for Enhancing Accountability in Government Through Leadership and Education. Each year the college is required to submit an assessment of internal controls. The report is due each year on July 31. There were no findings. The college will receive the results of the assessment during the November/December time frame each year. The college has maintained “green” status for several years, which is the highest status that can be achieved. No Board action required.

Dr. Voigt reported for the Personnel Committee. Dr. Voigt read the list of personnel changes under Personnel Action. Mr. Horne made a motion to approve the Personnel Action Items as presented. Mr. Carpenter seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Stewart introduced Chad Williams, who will be joining the college on September 10, as the new Vice President of Student Services. Mr. Williams hails from Randolph Community College where he has served as Vice President of Student Services for the past 7 years.

Dr. Voigt reviewed the updates to Policy 5.17. Discussion ensued regarding Title IX verbiage. Mr. Horne made a motion to approve the changes to Policy 5.17 as presented. Mr. Woodward seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Woodward voted “nay,” and Ms. Pratte abstained from voting on the policy change.

Dr. Voigt reviewed the proposed edit to change the BOT Bylaws regarding the alternate/second alternate related to committee attendance. This change was crafted by Attorney John May and is found in Section III of the BOT Bylaws. Mr. Carpenter made a motion to adopt the proposed Policy Change. Ms. Probst Mills seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Voigt reviewed Personnel Information with no Board Action required.

Dr. Voigt reported that the State Health Plan will convert from Blue Cross to Aetna in 2025.

An NC Flex Benefits Fair is scheduled for mid-September.

Mr. Clendenin reported for the Planning Committee and called on Ms. Farmer to discuss the College Strategic Plan (CSP). Ms. Farmer said there were no major updates regarding the CSP other than the team is on target to have the information to the Board during the October BOT meeting. Many of the updates in the CSP reflect the community suggestions received while gathering information during recent forums. A Planning Committee meeting will be held in September where Planning Committee members will have first preview of the newly updated CSP.

Ms. Pickett reported for the Educational Programs Committee, which met on August 7, 2024. Two committee members were present as well as four faculty members. There were no items requiring Board action. The Comprehensive Title II Monitoring visit was reviewed by Ms. Bauer. Dr. Roush reported program updates to include Workforce Continuing Education Career

and College Pathways for high school students to include the newly approved Billing and Coding program and an Electronic Records program. Interviews have been completed for a full-time curriculum Teacher Prep educator faculty member. Conversations continue with Moore County Schools regarding the Cooperative Innovative High School, also known as the Early College. The federally funded Career and College Readiness program Comprehensive Title II monitoring visit will take place in October.

Ms. Probst Mills presented the Student Affairs Committee report. There were no action items requiring Board approval. The committee reviewed scholarships, Project Promise, and enrollment projections. Dr. Farmer reported there are \$1.2M in scholarships for the 2023-2024 academic year, funding 394 curriculum and Workforce Continuing Education students. In addition, 549 students received the Sandhills Promise, for a total of \$530,224 to include first- and second-year Promise students. Dr. Farmer estimates that the numbers moving forward will surpass the previous year.

Ms. Elkins presented the SCC Foundation report. Ms. Elkins shared future dates and events for the 2024-2025 season opening Sept. 6, 2024, at the Bradshaw Performing Arts Center. Ms. Elkins distributed the season schedule for women's volleyball. There will be a dedication of a new sculpture in the Sandhills Horticultural Gardens to honor Jim Westmen who retired following 35 years of service to the Gardens. The Coca Cola Golf Tournament is scheduled for August 27, 2024, at Mid Pines and Pine Needles. Foundation funding and current status were reviewed. The Foundation web page will undergo some upgrades to enable information to become more transparent to the viewer.

Dr. Stewart reiterated the significance of the 207 guarantors, which represents continued support for the College. Dr. Stewart introduced Alex Patti, President of Faculty Assembly, and Tess Regan, incoming Staff Council President. Both incoming presidents will serve a 2-year term. Enrollment projections are encouraging. Dr. Stewart said that enrollment throughout North Carolina Community Colleges is increasing significantly. Dr. Stewart also stressed the importance of SCC's partnerships with Hoke County Schools, Moore County Schools, private schools, and home schools in the area. There are also 1,503 dually enrolled students at SCC from Moore and Hoke Counties. Dr. Stewart discussed enrollment growth funding, citing that the funding that comes along with growth is not automatic and is a process that requires action by the General Assembly. State employees will receive a 3% increase which has now been approved by the General Assembly and will be retroactive from July 1, 2024.

On August 26, 2024, at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees of Sandhills Community College at which a quorum was present and acting throughout, at 7:23 pm on a motion by Joe Clendenin and second by Tony Hunt, the Board voted to go into Closed Session to consider personnel matters.

Present: Larry Caddell, Chairman; Tim Carpenter, Vice Chairman, Joe Clendenin, Secretary; Gene Horne; Irish Pickett; Stephen Woodward; Helen Probst Mills; Bruce Hurst; BethAnn Pratte; Dell Cook; Tony Hunt

In the Closed Session, Mr. Caddell updated the Board on the personnel matters which were the subject of the Board's August 21, 2024 closed session.

Following the update, on motion by Tim Carpenter, seconded by Joe Clendenin, the Board voted to adjourn the Closed Session at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Caddell, Chairman of the Board

John May, Acting Secretary of the Board's Closed Session

Joseph Clendenin, Secretary of the Board