

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

**Ball Visitor Center  
Sandhills Horticultural Gardens  
June 3, 2024, 5:00 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Trustees Larry Caddell, Chairman; Tim Carpenter, Vice Chairman; Joe Clendenin, Secretary; George Little; Gene Horne; Irish Pickett; Gary Evans; Vincent Gordon; BethAnn Pratte; Stephen Woodward; Helen Probst Mills; Connie Lovell

**ABSENT:** Bruce Hurst, Tony Hunt

**STAFF:** Dr. Sandy Stewart; Teresa Sheets; Dr. Rebecca Roush; Ron Layne; Dr. Julie Voigt; Dr. D.J. Farmer; Dr. Fallon Brewington; Chreatha Alston; Steven Garner; Michelle Bauer; Lindsey Farmer; Alex Patti; Tito Ward; Shenika Ward; Danaka Bunch; Tess Regan

**GUESTS:** John May; Robert Hayter

Mr. Caddell called the meeting to order at 5:15 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.

Dr. Stewart offered a moment of prayer.

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

Mr. Horne made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2024, Board of Trustees meeting. Mr. Evans seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Probst Mills made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2024, Board of Trustees meeting. Mr. Horne seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Caddell opened the meeting with comments.

Dr. Farmer reported for the Student Government Association (SGA). Ms. Haden Barnett has been elected new SGA President, replacing Andrew Jimenez. Mr. Jacob Spiegel will serve as SGA Vice President. Both newly elected representatives hope to attend the August 2024 Board of Trustees meeting.

Mr. Carpenter reported for the Buildings and Grounds Committee, which met on May 22, 2024, and offered updates regarding the following items:

1. Dr. Voigt and Mr. Layne presented an update on the Hobbs Architects Hoke Facility Master Plan and how best to utilize classroom space, to include class rotations. The new space provided as part of the plan to eliminate all learning pods within the next 10 years. Hobbs Architects will attend the August Board of Trustees meeting.
2. Carthage Project Location Discussion – The new classroom building will be repositioned to eliminate substantial sitework costs. The new location will be more centralized to the campus. An architect may be engaged in the project.
3. Causey Hall Project – Demolition is ongoing, scheduled to be completed in August. State Capital and Infrastructure Funds (SCIF) are being utilized for this project.
4. Meyer Hall Project – Ongoing renovation, looking towards a mid-September completion date. Currently on budget. Primary work is for HVAC improvements.
5. Baseball Field Lights Project Completion – Lights are now in working order.
6. USGA Parking Update and Payment Increase – Dr. Lynch reported that the College will be used as a secondary lot for the U.S. Open and will facilitate courtesy vehicles for players. Shuttle buses will also park on campus each evening. USGA increased funding by \$5K.
7. Donor-funded upgrades to Boyd Library - \$1M donation will allow for interior renovations, student privacy pods, and an upgrade to the circulation desk. Restrooms will also be upgraded, allowing for ADA compliance in a more cost-wise approach.
8. Foundation/Kennedy State Construction Closeout was held on May 16, 2024.

Mr. Horne reported for the Finance Committee, reviewing the Moore County budget request. Mr. Horne made a motion to approve the Moore County Budget Request. Mr. Evans seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Horne reviewed the Hoke County budget request. Mr. Horne made a motion to approve the Hoke County budget request. Mr. Evans seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

In Ms. Elkins' absence, Mr. Horne presented the Foundation budget request. Mr. Horne made a motion to approve the Foundation budget request. Mr. Evans seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Roush reviewed information related to increases and adjustments to student fees. Mr. Horne made a motion to approve increases and adjustments to student fees. Mr. Gordon seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Farmer reviewed the Financial Report and the State and County bond funds through April 30, 2024, with no Board action required.

Mr. Layne presented information regarding insurance renewals and reported that final quotes have not yet been received for review. Dr. Stewart clarified that once final quotes are received from insurance provider, McGriff, it will not be necessary to conduct a voice poll for Board approval once the final quotes are captured.

Dr. Farmer introduced Karen Walker, Controller, and Daffie Garris, former community college Chief Financial Officer (CFO), who is under contract and is working with the Business Office to transition the year-end processes.

Mr. Evans reported for the Personnel Committee. He reviewed changes regarding Personnel Action Items. Mr. Evans made a motion to approve the Personnel Action Items. Ms. Lovell seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Alston reviewed changes to Policy 5.13, *Compensatory Time and Overtime Compensation*. Mr. Evans made a motion to approve the 5.13 policy changes as reviewed by Ms. Alston. Ms. Probst Mills seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Alston reviewed the list of Personnel information with no Board action required.

Mr. Clendenin reported for the Planning Committee and called on Ms. Farmer to review the College Strategic Plan (CSP). Ms. Farmer said that the Vice Presidents will meet in June and will begin writing the CSP in August. The Planning Committee will review the CSP draft in September. Ms. Farmer also gave a report of the listening forums conducted in April 2024.

Dr. Stewart addressed the Board with a proposal to move the Board of Trustees meetings from the first Monday of each designated month to the first Tuesday of each month. Meeting dates will be August 27, 2024, October 1, 2024, December 3, 2024, February 4, 2025 (Board retreat), April 8, 2025, and June 3, 2025. Mr. Carpenter made a motion to approve moving the Board of Trustees meetings to 5:00 p.m. on the aforementioned dates. Mr. Woodward seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Lovell reported for the Educational Programs Committee. Dr. Roush presented information regarding the approval to submit, in partnership with Moore County Schools, the College's 2024 Letter of Intent for Cooperative Innovation High School application. Ms. Lovell made a motion to approve the Letter of Intent for the Cooperative Innovation High School application. Mr. Evans seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. Dr. Roush submitted that two programs, Turfgrass Management and Simulation & Gaming, will be ending. The College is in conversations with the United States Golf Association (USGA) and those who are instrumental in the Greenskeeper Certificate to envision what needs to happen to develop the turfgrass management program in the future.

Ms. Lovell presented an update regarding plans for an Early Childhood Development Center.

Ms. Probst Mills called on Dr. Farmer to present the Student Affairs Committee report. Dr. Farmer recognized Ms. Jami Dandridge as the Director of Financial Aid and Veterans Services for the College. The Financial office issues Federal and State Aid. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) has been simplified with an adjusted formula used for working federal aid. Dr. Farmer recognized Mr. Dave Daniels as the Veterans Services coordinator at the Veterans Center located within the Boyd Library. The center currently offers services for 10% of the student body, to include veterans, spouses, and their dependents, all from an education-benefits standpoint.

In Ms. Elkins' absence, Dr. Stewart reported that the Foundation Board met in April 2024, to include approval of the Foundation Budget Request. Fundraising year-to-date is in excess of \$2.5m. Ms. Elkins will submit a detailed report during the August 2024 Board meeting.

Dr. Stewart presented the President's report. Meeting dates set in the bylaws were discussed, prompting the Board to consider a change in bylaws. Mr. Clendenin made a motion to change the bylaws as related to meeting dates. Mr. Horne seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Stewart recognized Ms. Danaka Bunch, Staff Council President for 2 years. Ms. Bunch introduced Ms. Tess Regan as the new Staff Council President. Ms. Regan is the Director of SCC's Advanced Manufacturing program. Dr. Stewart introduced Mr. Alex Patti, who will serve as the Faculty Assembly President, also for a 2-year term.

Dr. Stewart offered updates on the status of the SCC golf team, who has currently traveled to Chautauqua, NY for the National Championship. Competition will begin on Tuesday, June 4, 2024. Dr. Stewart encouraged everyone to attend a Bogeys baseball game. Games are now played in the evenings under an illuminated ballfield.

Offering a legislative update, the Propel NC bill remains intact and fully funded. Over 200 businesses and organizations across North Carolina have written in support of the Propel NC bill, to include local entities throughout Moore County.

Dr. Stewart also noted that the Automotive and Technologies program as it relates to collision and repair faces a challenge. Historically these programs would receive total-loss vehicles from insurance companies, but this has changed. It is now a struggle to obtain a more modern vehicle to work on in these classes. Collaborating with Senator Tom McInnis, legislation has been drafted to give community college automotive programs the first right of refusal when the state has a vehicle that has been essentially deemed to be a total-loss vehicle.

Mr. Caddell proposed that two alternate members be added to each Board of Trustees committee. In the event that a committee member cannot attend a committee meeting, the alternate could be called upon to attend to ensure a quorum. Mr. Horne made a motion to approve the addition of

two alternate committee members to each Board of Trustees committee. Mr. Evans seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gordon conveyed his appreciation and heartfelt thanks for the opportunity to serve as a Sandhills Community College Trustee.

Mr. Caddell asked for a motion to go into closed session to discuss real estate matters related to the proposed Cooperative Innovative High School and personnel matters. Mr. Evans made a motion pursuant to G.S. 143-3148.12(b) to go into closed session. Ms. Lovell seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board went into closed session at 6:30 p.m.

The closed session ended at 8:40 p.m.

The Board adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Caddell, Chairman of the Board

Joseph Clendenin, Secretary of the Board