

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

**Sledge Board Room, Sandhills Community College
June 7, 2021, 5:00 pm**

PRESENT: Trustees George Little, Chairman; Larry Caddell, Vice Chairman; Joe Clendenin, Secretary; Gary Evans; Tim Carpenter; Art Blue; Irish Pickett; Helen Probst Mills; Gene Horne; Connie Lovell; Vincent Gordon; Avery Campbell, SGA President; Michelle Marshall, SGA Vice President

STAFF: Dr. John Dempsey; Brenda Jackson; Heather Lyons; Ron Layne; Dr. Rebecca Roush; Libba Thomas; Germaine Elkins; Dr. D.J. Farmer; Dr. Julie Voigt; Teresa Sheets; Dr. Kirk Lynch

Mr. Little called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. 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. Little proceeded to the next item of business.

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

Mr. Little asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 13, 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.

Mr. Horne presented the Finance Committee Report. Mr. Horne called on Ms. Jackson to review the status of insurance renewals. Ms. Jackson reported that although McGriff Insurance is in the process of calculating insurance renewals, they are not fully available at this time. Based on information submitted thus far, some rates appear to be slightly increased. Once final rates are received, Ms. Jackson will review the rates with Dr. Dempsey and Mr. Little, and an email will be sent to Board members for review and approval. The renewal date is July 1, 2021.

Mr. Horne called on Ms. Thomas to speak on the Moore County budget request. Ms. Thomas said there was a slight increase based on the agreed formula. The College received over \$700,000 for deferred maintenance. The overall budget looks good. Mr. Horne made a motion to approve the Moore County budget request. Mr. Gordon seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Probst Mills asked if any charging stations would be placed on campus. Ms. Jackson said that one charging station is currently in place in the Causey Hall parking lot. Two new stations will be added with the construction of the new Health Sciences building.

Dr. McKnight, Ms. Jackson, and Dr. Dempsey met with Hoke County Commissioners and presented the budget request. Ms. Thomas submitted information regarding the Hoke County budget. Mr. Horne made a motion to approve the Hoke County budget request. Mr. Evans seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Horne asked for approval of the Annual College Foundation budget request. College management has approved a budget request of \$320,000. Mr. Horne made a motion to approve the Annual College Foundation budget request. Mr. Evans seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Horne reviewed the Financial Report and State and County bond funds through April 30, 2021, with no Board action required.

Mr. Caddell reported for the Buildings and Grounds Committee. Mr. Caddell submitted that recommended changes to the Master Facilities Plan have been completed. Ms. Jackson added that Mr. Carpenter has recommended that an architectural design document be drafted by the end of the calendar year. Ms. Jackson submitted information regarding the reopening of the Bradshaw Performing Arts Center (BPAC). A schedule of upcoming events was made available to Board members. Mr. Caddell met with Randy Saunders, who now has a contract for the purchase of land adjacent to the College. Mr. Saunders has agreed to a 50-foot easement as well as a 20-foot easement on the back of the property. Mr. Saunders is now waiting on Board approval, after which he will submit a contract and deed with a drawing. Mr. Caddell will contact Mr. Saunders following Board approval and will convey the Board's appreciation. Mr. Caddell made a motion to accept Mr. Saunders' offer of a 50-foot easement with an additional 20-foot easement in the back of the property adjacent to the College, to include documentation to be sent to attorney John May by Mr. Saunders for review. Mr. Gordon seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Elkins presented a new naming opportunity, the Breakthrough Construction Center. The Weiss Family Foundation gave the College a grant to be used towards the construction program at the Larry Caddell Center. Mr. Caddell made a motion to name the new building the Breakthrough Construction Center. Mr. Horne seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Evans reported for the Personnel Committee, submitting three new hires for approval. Mr. Evans made a motion to approve the three new hires. Ms. Probst Mills seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Evans asked that everyone review the Personnel Information. No action was required.

Dr. Roush reported for the Educational Programs Committee. Dr. Roush cited that Ed Spitler had shared with the Board at the Forest Creek retreat interest in starting two new construction-related curriculum programs. The programs will be called Building Construction Technology, which

will focus on heating and cooling, carpentry, and plumbing, and Construction Management Technology, focusing on project management and planning. Dr. Roush asked for formal approval for these two programs to be implemented. Mr. Carpenter made a motion to approve the Building Construction and Construction Management Technology programs. Ms. Lovell seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Clendenin reported that the Planning Committee has not met. He called on Mr. Layne to report on the athletics program. Mr. Layne presented a very favorable profile of the academic progress within the athletics program for the current year, noting that athletes completed a 2.0 or better average. Mr. Layne commended the athletes for staying the course while fulfilling their athletic responsibilities.

Ms. Pickett submitted that the Student Affairs Committee has not met and does not have a report. Dr. Dempsey introduced Avery Campbell, new SGA President. Ms. Lyons introduced Mishell Marshall, who is the new Student Government Association (SGA) Vice President.

Ms. Campbell reported on current events within the SGA, to include welcoming returning and new students. All members of the SGA have been inducted.

Ms. Elkins presented the Foundation Report. As of July 1, 2021, Cassidy Asbury will be promoted to Director of Foundation Outreach. Ms. Asbury will also assume duties as the Foundation's athletics fundraising liaison. Ms. Asbury is also responsible for the annual golf tournament, which is scheduled for August 31, 2021. The tournament will be played at Pine Needles and Mid Pines. The art exhibit created by artist Patrick Dougherty is underway. There will be a ribbon cutting to showcase the sculpture on June 22, 2021, at 11 a.m. in the Sandhills Gardens. A clean audit was presented to the Foundation Board during the April 19, 2021, meeting. Four new Board members were also welcomed during the April meeting. The next Foundation Board meeting will take place on October 18, 2021.

Dr. Dempsey presented the President's Report. Dr. Dempsey announced that George Little has been nominated for the M. Dale Ensign Trustee Leadership Award. The award is to recognize the tremendous contributions made by a trustee or chairman. Dr. Dempsey asked the Board to sign a letter to signify Mr. Little's nomination. Dr. Dempsey shared that Rod Brower, SCC's Chief Information Officer, is featured in the current edition of Sandhills Magazine. The 2021 ACCT Leadership Congress will take place in San Diego, California, on October 13 through 16. Ms. Lyons asked that interested Board members ask for a form to submit their request to receive an email account for access to all things Sandhills. Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of a new baseball field on the SCC campus. Dr. Dempsey offered praise to Twana McKnight for her efforts to improve the graduation rate of African American males. He also commended D.J. Farmer for his excellent support and for the success of the 2021 commencement activities. Also recognized were Dr. Julie Voigt and Dr. Rebecca Roush for their tireless work during the time of COVID to maintain schedules and find solutions regarding the needs of students. Dr. Dempsey offered praise for Ms. Jackson and for Ms. Thomas for the continued diligence and expertise put into each endeavor.

Dr. Dempsey pledged to bring the College endowment to \$60m by the 60th anniversary of the College.

Mr. Caddell made a motion to support the letter regarding the nomination of Mr. Little to be awarded the M. Dale Ensign Trustee Leadership Award. Mr. Horne seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. Following the motion, Board members signed the letter of nomination.

Ms. Probst Mills made a motion to empower and commission Dr. Dempsey to raise the balance of funds needed to reach the goal of the \$60m endowment by June 30, 2023. Ms. Pickett seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

With no further business, the meeting concluded at 6:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

George Little, Chairman of the Board

Joseph Clendenin, Secretary of the Board