

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

**Clement Dining Room and via conference call, Sandhills Community College  
June 8, 2020, 5:00 pm**

**PRESENT:** Trustees George Little, Chairman; Larry Caddell, Vice Chairman; Joe Clendenin, Secretary; Gary Evans; Tim Carpenter; Irish Pickett; Helen Probst Mills; Gene Horne; Dr. Sandy Stewart; Linda McCaskill; Dr. Larry Upchurch; Raymond Villalobos, SGA President

**STAFF:** Dr. John Dempsey; Brenda Jackson; Heather Lyons; Ron Layne; Dr. Rebecca Roush; Elizabeth Thomas; Dr. Kirk Lynch; Wendy Dodson; Dr. Julie Voigt; Doug Smith; Joe Brown; Germaine Elkins

Mr. Little called the meeting to order at 5:10 pm. Because of the COVID-19 issue, some trustees attended the meeting in-person and others attended via conference call. 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. Mr. Caddell asked to be recused from the discussion of banking services. Mr. Little proceeded to the next item of business.

A special report was presented by Lindsey Farmer, Dr. Julie Voigt, and Heather Lyons, regarding COVID-19. Ms. Farmer reviewed the results of a wellness survey sent to faculty and staff. Feedback from the survey was positive, with the main concern being safety measures on campus now as employees return to work. Dr. Voigt reported on the results of a student survey which cited students were completing course work, 84% reported owning a laptop computer, and 47% reported owning a smart phone device. Results also reported that many students have no access to wi-fi and that others are dealing with job loss during the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Lyons reported that the campus has been working with a skeleton crew since April 1. Beginning July 1, a full staff will return, with the exception of those considered high risk.

Dr. Dempsey asked Ms. Thomas to give a report of the college's cash position. Ms. Thomas stated that state funding remains uncertain due to COVID-19.

Mr. Caddell asked for modification of the agenda to include a water issue under Project Approvals in the Building and Grounds Committee Report. A motion was made by Mr. Clendenin to approve the modification of the agenda. Mr. Caddell seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Little asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 6, 2020, Board of Trustees meeting. Mr. Clendenin made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Mr. Horne seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Caddell reported for the Buildings and Grounds Committee. Mr. Caddell called on Ms. Elkins, who made a request for the approval of two naming opportunities: the Doug and Ellen Leslie Nursing Education Faculty Wing and the Paul and Mary Borrell Nursing Classroom. A motion was made by Mr. Clendenin to approve both naming opportunities. Mr. Carpenter seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Caddell called on Mr. Carpenter to explain the Moore County guidelines regarding the connectivity of water to the new medical building and the resulting impact on the campus. Southern Pines Town staff have put forward an amendment to the back-flow section of the water use ordinance for approval at their June meeting. If approved, a double-check valve will be installed. Dr. Dempsey thanked Mr. Carpenter for meeting with representatives from Moore County to acquire water access, and at a significant cost savings.

Ms. Jackson reported that a June 1, 2020, meeting took place at the Larry Caddell Center in Carthage. Four contractors were in attendance and are working on proposals. Bids will be accepted on June 22 for the construction of a 3,600-square-foot metal building. Mr. Layne has been working with Ms. Korte and Golden Leaf regarding the project. The project will require Board approval once awarded to a contractor.

Mr. Caddell presented an update on the status of the sale of the Westmoore property. The property will go before the Moore County Planning Board on August 1, 2020, and will go before the Moore County Commissioners in September for rezoning approval.

Dr. Dempsey reported that he sent a letter to Mr. Frye regarding the purchase of land located next to the college, owned by the Frye family. Due to unfavorable returns on investments, Dr. Dempsey offered Mr. Frye a reduction in the dollar amount that was originally offered. Mr. Frye responded with a counter-offer, which was more than the original asking price of the property but allowed the college three years to pay for the property. The college will not pursue the purchase of the property at this time.

Mr. Horne presented the Finance Committee Report. Mr. Horne called on Ms. Jackson to review the status of insurance renewals. Ms. Jackson reported that insurance renewals are not fully available at this time, but a slight increase in cost has been confirmed by the insurance broker. Once the new rates are made available, a voice poll may be necessary for Board approval. Mr. Little asked for a motion to accept the new rates subject to the review of the Executive Board. Mr. Caddell made a motion to approve the review of insurance rates by the Executive Board. Mr. Horne seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Horne asked for the ratification of the voice poll regarding banking services. Ms. Thomas thanked Board members for responding so quickly to the voice poll. Mr. Horne made a motion to approve the ratification of the voice poll awarding banking services to FirstBank. Dr. Upchurch seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Caddell recused himself from voting.

Ms. Thomas presented information regarding the Moore County Budget, confirming that this year's budget is the same as last year. Mr. Horne made a motion to approve the Moore County Budget. The motion was seconded by Dr. Upchurch, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Thomas presented information regarding the Hoke County Budget, reporting that the only increases in budget were for part-time salaries and funding for the emergency notification system. Mr. Horne made a motion to approve the Hoke County Budget. Mr. Evans seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Horne reported that on April 20, the Foundation Board approved the college budget request of \$320,000. College management approves this amount to be sufficient for annual operations. Mr. Horne made a motion to approve the Foundation annual budget college request. Dr. Upchurch seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Horne reviewed the Financial Report and State and County bond Funds through April 30, 2020, with no Board action required.

Mr. Evans reported for the Personnel Committee and reviewed personnel changes. Mr. Evans made a motion to approve two personnel hires. Mr. Horne seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

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

Ms. Jackson and Ms. Dodson presented a special COVID-19 update. State funds were made available so that employees could be paid through June 30, 2020. Employees will return to work in a slow fashion beginning July 1, 2020. Plans are in place, adhering to CDC guidelines, to ensure the safety of everyone on campus.

Dr. Stewart reported for the Educational Programs Committee. Dr. Stewart called on Dr. Roush to present information and updates. Dr. Roush had no current updates but said there would be information available in August concerning certain programs.

Mr. Clendenin reported for the Planning Committee. Mr. Clendenin called on Ms. Farmer to present an update on the College Strategic Plan (CSP). Ms. Farmer confirmed that a request was made to move Board approval from October to February for the CSP. Due to COVID-19 issues, there has been a three-month delay with certain processes, including the completion of the intensive review process, and the master facilities plan.

Mr. Clendenin made a motion to move the approval of the CSP from the October Board Meeting to the February Board Retreat. The motion was seconded by Mr. Evans, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Clendenin presented information regarding the Annual Athletic Report. Dr. Dempsey commented that the athletic program has been successful academically and on the court. Mr.

Layne referred to the academic performance as shown in the Annual Athletics Report. Mr. Layne also explained the difficulty associated with the recruiting of female athletes into the golfing program, citing the moratorium of the golf program moving forward. Sand volleyball will be added to the athletics program in the fall.

Ms. McCaskill submitted that the Student Affairs Committee has not met and does not have a report to submit at this time.

Ms. Elkins presented the Foundation Report. The Foundation Board held its semi-annual meeting on April 20, 2020. The Foundation launched an email campaign to raise funds for student assistance, which resulted in the funding of laptops and various student needs. Ms. Elkins thanked the Board for the approval of the two naming opportunities in Foundation Hall.

Dr. Dempsey commended Raymond Villalobos, SGA President, for his outstanding contribution to the SCC Board of Trustees meetings. Mr. Villalobos has been accepted into North Carolina State University as well as the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Mr. Villalobos shared information regarding the joint program he will be enrolled in at both universities.

Dr. Dempsey announced the departure of Ms. McCaskill from the Sandhills Board of Trustees. Dr. Dempsey thanked Ms. McCaskill for her invaluable contributions to the Board during the past 12 years. Mr. Little read a Resolution of Appreciation citing Ms. McCaskill's service and dedication to the Board. Mr. Little asked for a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. Caddell seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Connie Lovell will serve as a new trustee on the Sandhills Community College Board of Trustees. Mr. Lovell is a Foundation Board director.

Mr. Little asked if there were additional comments or issues for discussion.

With no further business, the meeting concluded at 6:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

George Little, Chairman of the Board

Joseph Clendenin, Secretary of the Board