

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES BI-MONTHLY MEETING
Southwestern Community College

September 28, 2021 – SCC Jackson Campus

Attending:

Trustees

Sue Bartlett	Beth Lofquist
Jeff Cloer	Cory McCall
Vance Davidson	Heber Najera
Jean Ellen Forrister	Brett Rogers
Ken Henke	Gary Shields
Luke D. Hyde	Lambert Wilson
Mark Jones	

College Staff

Don Tomas
Thom Brooks
William Brothers
Nan Coulter
Tyler Goode

Absent

Jeremy Hyatt

The Board of Trustees of Southwestern Community College (SCC) met for their bi-monthly meeting on September 28, 2021 in the Charles Siler Slagle Board Room of the Conrad G. Burrell Building on the Jackson campus and via Google Meet due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Lambert Wilson called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. and read the Conflict of Interest Statement. A quorum was present for the meeting.

OATH OF OFFICE

Vice Chairman Vance Davidson administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Student Representative to the Board of Trustees Heber Najera. Mr. Najera introduced himself and thanked the Board for his opportunity to serve.

PREVIOUS MEETINGS' MINUTES

Mr. Wilson asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting of July 27, 2021. Mr. Cloer made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, and Dr. Lofquist seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Tomas reported that he has no budget news from the North Carolina General Assembly to share. Dr. Tomas reviewed a bulletin from the College's legal counsel Campbell Shatley regarding President Biden's COVID-19 Action Plan pertaining to community colleges. He reported that currently 86% of the College's full-time faculty and staff are vaccinated against COVID-19. Dr. Tomas also informed the Committee of a recent notice regarding the Federal Government requirement that all Federal Government contractors' employees be 100% vaccinated against COVID-19. The College is a Federal contractor to the Lyndon B. Johnson Job Corps Training Center. Dr. Tomas reported that all LBJ Center employees will be required to be vaccinated by November 22, 2021, which includes the College's instructors at LBJ. Guidance from the College's legal counsel is pending on this issue.

Dr. Tomas reported that the proceeds from the SCC Foundation Gala and Silent Auction, which was cancelled due to COVID-19, were between \$70,000 and \$75,000. He thanked the Trustees for their support, and Tyler Goode for the work of the Public Relations department in publicizing and promoting the Gala.

CURRICULUM AND STUDENT SERVICES

Dr. Brooks reported to the Committee on the summer 2021 Workforce and Continuing Education and Fall 2021 Curriculum enrollment.

Dr. Brooks gave an update on the SCC Promise program and its impact on fall enrollment and FAFSA applications.

Dr. Brooks gave a report on COVID-19's impact on instruction and student services. Some faculty and students have had to quarantine, and has had some impact on instruction but not the overall operation of the College as a whole. Faculty and staff are very well vaccinated, but a few breakthrough cases have occurred. Unvaccinated faculty have developed instruction contingency plans in case of infection or quarantine.

There were no Action Items.

FINANCE AND CAMPUS IMPROVEMENT

Mr. Hyde asked Vice President for Financial and Administrative Services William Brothers to give a report on Local Revenue Analysis and State Budget Expenditures.

Under Action Items, Mr. Brothers presented the Budget Allocations and Transfers for review and discussion. Following discussion, Mr. Hyde made a motion to approve the Budget Allocations, which was seconded by Mr. Shields and passed unanimously.

FACILITY UPDATE

Mr. Brothers gave an update on Facilities, reporting on the status of the Health Sciences Center, the Firing Range, and the Fire Rescue Training Facility. Mr. Brothers reported that the Health Sciences Center is now occupied and instruction has begun. A few items are left on the punch list which are being closed out. At the Firing Range, the new targeting system is operational. Mr. Brothers reported that the State Construction Office is working on the contracts for the Fire Rescue Training Center for amendment and/or approval.

Dr. Tomas thanked the Business Services division and senior administration for their excellent work managing last year's budget. The College reverted only 1% of the annual budget back to the State.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Under Action Items, Chairman Wilson presented the Full Time and Part Time Employees Lists for review and approval. Following review, Dr. Lofquist made a motion to approve the Full Time and Part Time Employee Lists which was seconded by Mr. Cloer and passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Under Information Items Dr. Tomas announced that due to the resurgence of COVID-19, the College has postponed the Health Sciences Center Open House scheduled for October 1 to Spring 2022. The SCC Board of Trustees Retreat scheduled for October 22 will also be postponed until Spring 2022, with the last week of February and a suggested snow date currently being considered. The rescheduled date will be finalized at the November 2021 bi-monthly meeting of the Board.

Mr. Davidson thanked the Trustees for their support of the SCC Foundation Gala, and thanked Mr. McCall for his donations to the Sponsor Thank-You baskets.

With no other business before the Board, Ms. Forrister made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Davidson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

Lambert Wilson, Chairman
Board of Trustees

Don Tomas, Secretary
Board of Trustees