

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

May 23, 2023 – SCC Jackson Campus

Attending:

Trustees

Sue Bartlett
Jeff Cloer
Vance Davidson
Luke D. Hyde
Mark Jones

Cory McCall
Gerald McKinney
Brett Rogers
Heber Najera

College Staff

Don Tomas
Thom Brooks
Nan Coulter
Lisa Kim Fisher
Tyler Goode

Absent

Ken Henke, Beth Lofquist, Gary Shields

The Board of Trustees of Southwestern Community College (SCC) met for their bi-monthly meeting on May 23, 2023 in the Charles Siler Slagle Board Room of the Conrad G. Burrell Building on the Jackson campus. Mr. Hyde and Mr. Jones attended virtually due to health conditions.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Vance Davidson called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. and read the Conflict of Interest Statement. A quorum was present for the meeting.

PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES

Mr. Davidson asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting of January 24, 2023. Mr. Hyde made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, and Mr. Cloer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Tomas reported on the 2023 Spring Commencement exercises, which were held on May 20.

Dr. Tomas informed the Committee that the NCGA House and Senate are still working on the budget and plan to hold budget conferences the following week.

Dr. Tomas reported that Dr. Jeff Cox, president of Wilkes Community College, has been selected as the new president of the NCCCS, effective June 1.

Dr. Tomas will be attending the NACCCP Summer Meeting in Greenville, NC in July.

Dr. Tomas gave a report on the efforts of the western region to collaborate on regional community college marketing to increase enrollment.

Chairman Davidson took a moment to notify the Trustees that this was Student Representative to the Board of Trustees Heber Najera's last meeting, and he commended and thanked Heber for his participation and contributions.

CURRICULUM AND STUDENT SERVICES

Chairman Davidson asked Dr. Thom Brooks, Executive Vice President for Instruction and Student Services, to report to the Board.

Under Information Items, Dr. Brooks presented the annual Workforce Continuing Education Accountability and Integrity Plan for the Board's review, and reviewed the Instruction and Student Services Division updates with the Board.

Under Action Items, Dr. Brooks presented revisions to Policy 6.03.02 – Standards of Student Conduct which refines the policy. Mr. McCall made a motion to approve the proposed revisions to Policy 6.03.02, which was seconded by Mr. McKinney and passed unanimously. Dr. Brooks then presented proposed revisions to Policy 6.04.04 – Services for Persons with Disabilities to refine both policies and move implementation processes from the policies to procedures. Following review and discussion, Mr. Cloer made a motion to approve the proposed revisions to Policy 6.04.04, which was seconded by Mr. McCall and passed unanimously.

FINANCE AND CAMPUS IMPROVEMENT

Finance and Campus Improvement Committee Chairman Cory McCall asked Vice President for Financial and Administrative Services Lisa Kim Fisher to give a report on Local Revenue Analysis and State Budget Expenditures.

Under Action Items, Ms. Fisher presented the Budget Allocations and Transfers for review and discussion. Following review and discussion, Mr. McKinney made a motion to approve the Budget Allocations and Transfers as presented, which was seconded by Mr. McCall and passed unanimously.

Ms. Fisher then presented proposed revisions to Policy 4.02.15 – Employee Tuition Exemption. Following review and discussion, Mr. Cloer made a motion to approve the proposed revisions, which was seconded by Ms. Bartlett and passed unanimously.

Under Facilities and Operations, Dr. Tomas gave an update on the Firing Range, the Fire Rescue Training Facility, and the Groves Center Expansion plans.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman Davidson informed the Committee that this week Ms. Coulter will email the 2022 Board of Trustees evaluation for all Trustees to complete by June 6.

Under Action Items, Chairman Davidson presented the full-time employee list and part-time employee list for review and approval. Mr. Hyde made a motion to approve the employee lists as presented, which was seconded by Mr. Cloer and passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Davidson informed the Board that the SCC Foundation Gala is scheduled for Saturday, September 23 at 6 p.m. at Harrah's Cherokee Resort and Casino, and he encouraged the Trustees to attend, purchase table sponsorships, donate to and participate in the cork pull and silent auction.

CLOSED SESSION

Chairman Davidson asked for a motion to enter into Closed Session under N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6) – Personnel. Mr. Cloer made the motion to enter Closed Session, which was seconded by Mr. Rogers and passed unanimously. The Board entered into Closed Session at 6:01 p.m.

The Board returned to Open Session at 6:28 p.m., having taken no action in Closed Session.

Mr. Hyde made a motion to approve a proposed amendment to extend Dr. Tomas' contract for another year. The motion was seconded by Mr. McKinney and passed unanimously.

With no other business before the Board, Mr. Cloer made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Dr. Lofquist and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

J. Vance Davidson, Chairman
Board of Trustees

Don Tomas, Secretary
Board of Trustees

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