

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

**May 21, 2024 – SCC Jackson Campus**

**Attending:**

Trustees

Howard Allman      Cory McCall  
Sue Bartlett        Jerry McKinney  
Jack Debnam        Brett Rogers  
Ken Henke           Betty Waldroop  
Luke D. Hyde        Zyla Young

College Staff

Don Tomas           Lisa Kim Fisher  
Thom Brooks        Tyler Goode  
Nan Coulter         Evan Hatch

**Absent**

Jeff Cloer, Mark Jones, Beth Lofquist, Gary Shields

The Board of Trustees of Southwestern Community College (SCC) met for their bi-monthly meeting on May 21, 2024 in the Slagle Board Room of the Conrad G. Burrell Building on the Jackson campus.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Luke D. Hyde called the meeting to order at 4:54 p.m. and read the Conflict of Interest Statement. A quorum was present for the meeting.

Chairman Hyde asked the Board to review the revised meeting agenda and requested a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Debnam made a motion to approve the revised agenda, which was seconded by Mr. Allman and passed unanimously.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Mr. Hyde then asked for a motion to go into Closed Session in accordance with G. S. 143-318.11(a)(6) Personnel. Ms. Waldroop made the motion to go into Closed Session, which was seconded by Mr. McKinney and passed unanimously. The Board entered into Closed Session at 4:56 p.m.

The Board returned to Open Session from Closed Session at 5:40 p.m.

Mr. Debnam made a motion to extend Dr. Tomas' employment contract by one year, grant Dr. Tomas 10 additional leave days to use at his discretion, and increase Dr. Tomas' base salary as discussed in Closed Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Allman and passed unanimously.

## **PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES**

Mr. Hyde asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting of March 26, 2024. Mr. Allman made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, and Mr. McCall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Tomas gave a brief update on appointments to the SCC Board of Trustees by the N.C. General Assembly.

Dr. Tomas announced that the Spring 2024 Commencement Exercises were held on Saturday, May 18, and thanked those Trustees who attended,

## **CURRICULUM AND STUDENT SERVICES**

Chair of the Curriculum and Student Services Committee Ken Henke asked Dr. Thom Brooks, Executive Vice President for Instruction and Student Services, to report to the Board.

Dr. Brooks provided the annual report on the Workforce Continuing Education Accountability and Integrity Plan, and presented the Instruction and Student Services Division updates.

Under Action Items, Dr. Brooks presented a proposal to apply for continuation of accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) for the upcoming accreditation reaffirmation cycle. This proposal is a response to N.C. House Bill 8, which prevents colleges from seeking accreditation or reaffirmation with the same accreditation organization for two consecutive cycles. Following review and discussion, Mr. Allman made a motion to seek reaffirmation with SACSCOC in the next accreditation cycle as presented, which was seconded by Ms. Bartlett and passed unanimously.

## **FINANCE AND CAMPUS IMPROVEMENT**

Finance and Campus Improvement Committee Chair 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. Ms. Fisher also reported on the results of the 2023 fiscal year audit, which was excellent and had no recommendations.

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

Under Facilities and Operations, Dr. Tomas gave an update on the Fire Rescue Training Facility, the Groves Center expansion, the proposed indoor firing range at PSTC, the proposed library and Oaks Hall renovation project, and the Dental Assisting renovation plans.

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Dr. Tomas announced that Mr. Shields' and Dr. Lofquist's terms on the Board of Trustees will expire on June 30, 2024, and he thanked them for their invaluable service to the College. Both Mr. Shields and Dr. Lofquist were absent, so Dr. Tomas will present them with certificates of appreciation at a later time.

Mr. Hyde appointed Mark Jones, Jeff Cloer, and Jerry McKinney to serve on the 2024 Nominations Committee to select the slate of Board officers for 2024-2025.

Mr. Hyde presented the full-time employee list and part-time employee list for review and approval. Mr. Rogers made a motion to approve the employee lists as presented, which was seconded by Mr. Allman and passed unanimously.

Under Other Business, Dr. Tomas introduced the new Executive Director of Institutional Advancement Mr. Evan Hatch to the Board. Mr. Hatch replaces Mr. Brett Woods, who retired in December 2023.

With no other business before the Board, Mr. Allman made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Henke and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

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Luke D. Hyde, Chair  
Board of Trustees

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Don Tomas, Secretary  
Board of Trustees