

State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education
Board Room
111 Executive Center Drive
Columbia, SC 29210

Meeting Minutes

10:00 A.M.

January 25, 2022

PRESENT:

Gregory B. Askins, Chair
Anthony Gavin Barker
Gwendolyn A. Bright
Grantland Burns
Warren Darby, Jr.
Philip G. Homan
Ralph A. Odom, Jr.
Roger P. Schrum
Orville S. Smith, III
Daniel Young

STAFF PRESENT:

Tim Hardee, System President
Amy Firestone, Vice President of Apprenticeship Carolina
Warren Ganjehsani, Chief Legal Counsel
Randall Johnson, Vice President for Finance
Rosline Sumpter, Vice President for Academic Affairs
Brad Neese, Vice President of Economic Development
Kandy Peacock, Vice President for Human Resources
Khushru Tata, Vice President for Information Technology
Karen Taylor, Project Coordinator Governmental Relations

ABSENT:

Karen Woodward

STAFF ABSENT:

Joren Bartlett
Kelly Steinhilper

GUESTS:

Dr. Galen DeHay, President, Tri-County Technical College
Ashley Jaillette, Executive Director, SC Association of Technical College Commissioners
Dr. Marilyn Murphy-Fore, President, Horry-Georgetown Technical College *via conf. call*
Mr. Harold Hawley, Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer, Horry-Georgetown Technical College *via conf. call*

NOTIFICATION OF MEDIA

The State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education complied with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act in notifying the media and posting the agenda for the State Board meeting.

CALL TO ORDER COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – Gregory B. Askins, Chair

Chairman Askins called the meeting to order and welcomed guests: Dr. Galen DeHay, President, Tri-County Technical College; Ashley Jaillette, Executive Director, SC Association of Technical College Commissioners; Dr. Marilyn Murphy-Fore, President, Horry-Georgetown Technical College; Mr. Harold Hawley, Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer, Horry-Georgetown Technical College.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORTS:

A. Economic Development and Training Committee – Grantland Burns, Chair

Project Budgets for State Board Approval: Mr. Burns entertained a motion to move into Executive Session to discuss readySCT™ projects over \$200,000 for approval. Mr. Burns moved, and Mr. Schrum seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. They entered Executive Session and Mr. Brad Neese was asked to stay.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Section 30-4-70(a)(2) of the S.C. Code of Laws provides that "A public body may hold a meeting closed to the public for one or more of the following reasons: Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements and proposed sale or purchase of property, the receipt of legal advice where the legal advice relates to a pending, threatened, or potential claim or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege, settlement of legal claims, or the position of the public agency in other adversary situations involving the assertion against the agency of a claim."

S.C. Code of Laws Section 30-4-70(a)(5) – "Discussion of matters relating to the proposed location, expansion, or the provision of services encouraging location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body..."

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Committee returned to open session. Mr. Burns reported that no action was taken during Executive Session.

Project Budgets for Ratification- Mr. Burns reviewed the two readySCT™ project budgets for ratification under \$200,000. There were no questions.

E-Zone Retraining Program for Ratification- Mr. Burns presented the one E-Zone retraining programs for ratification.

Mr. Burns entertained a motion to approve the five readySCT™ capital projects over \$200,000 that were discussed during the Executive Session, and the two Project Budgets for Ratification and the one E-Zone Retraining Program for Ratification. Mr. Odom moved, and Mr. Homan seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

B. Fiscal, Audit and Personnel Committee – Anthony Barker, Chair

Horry-Georgetown Technical College Property Lease for Approval – Mr. Barker noted that this project was previously approved by the Board. Horry-Georgetown Technical College was not able to complete the purchase by the seller's contractual deadline. The Foundation purchased the property. HGTC is requesting the approval of the Board for the College to enter a long-term lease (10-15 years) with its Foundation to secure the College's access to and use of the property. The College's intention is to immediately begin the process of acquiring this property from its Foundation in early 2022.

Tri-County Technical College Capital Projects for Approval – Erosion Mitigation

The proposed projects include the repair and replacement of exterior stairways leading to the parking areas that have had their foundations undermined due to erosion, resulting in uneven stairs & sidewalks with cracking and gaps.

Tri-County Technical College Capital Projects for Approval – Energy Consumption

Reduction The proposed projects focus on reducing energy consumption while improving the campus environment. They involve replacing the high-pressure sodium parking lot light fixtures with energy efficient LED type lights for an estimated 75% reduction in energy consumption, installation of a central chilled water loop from the central energy plant, and purchase of an additional chiller. The alternative is to not upgrade these systems and continue to use more energy and incur high utility costs.

Tri-County Technical College Capital Project for Approval- Perimeter Road Re-

Surfacing- Pendleton Campus This project involves the repair and placement of the asphalt surface and subsurface of the campus's Perimeter Road. Tri-County Technical College's main campus is compact in size at 60 acres and the main vehicular circulation consists of a road around the perimeter. Each day every vehicle entering campus must travel along one or both roads. Re-surfacing last occurred 19 years ago, and the pavement is showing heavy wear with alligator cracking along much of the roadway. The project also includes the installation of sidewalks along the exterior of Perimeter Road thus providing pedestrians a safe route to navigate the campus from the parking areas.

Staff Approvals for September through December 2021 – Mr. Barker noted the staff

approval list included in the agenda package which contained fourteen staff approvals: one Florence-Darlington Technical College (FDTC), four Horry-Georgetown Technical College (HGTC), two York Technical College (YTC), one Piedmont Technical College (PTC), one Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College (OCTC), One Tri-County Technical College (TCTC), one Spartanburg Community College (SCC), two Technical College of the Lowcountry (TCL) and one Midlands Technical College (MTC) . Details of all projects were provided in the agenda packet.

State Board Financial Summary – Month Ending December 31, 2021- Mr. Barker noted the list that was included in the agenda package and stated that there were no specific items needing attention. There were no questions.

Annual Tuition and Fee Recommendation for Approval- Mr. Barker referenced the documents included in the agenda package. He turned the floor over to Mr. Randy Johnson. He reported that the State Board annually sets the tuition range for the System for the upcoming year. Over the past few years there was a freeze on tuition. The Board has considered the HEPI as a baseline for adjustments to the colleges' tuition range. Therefore, the System Staff recommends Board approval of the increase in the minimum and maximum tuition and fees range for Academic Year 2022-2023 by the 2.7% 2021 HEPI.

C. **Instruction and Student Services Committee – Philip G. Homan, Chair**

Mr. Homan reported that there are five policies in the packet for consideration by the Committee. The five policies in the packet have been reviewed by the Chief Academic Officers, the Chief Student Services Officers and approved by the Presidents' Council. There were no substantive changes. The changes that are noted were clarifying language and an effort to align with recently updated SACSCOC policies. Mr. Homan called for a motion to approve the five policies. Mr. Odom moved, and Mr. Barker seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

ADJOURN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Chairman Askins adjourned the Committee of the Whole and called the State Board to order.

CALL TO ORDER- STATE BOARD MEETING

Chairman Askins called the State Board Meeting to Order.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE –Dr. Tim Hardee on behalf of Joren Bartlett, Vice President of Governmental Relations

Dr. Hardee reported that on January 12th he presented the annual presentation before the House Ways and Means Committee Higher Education Subcommittee. The budget request was for \$50M in recurring funds, \$60M for equipment and \$160M for deferred maintenance. This request was large however, it is spread out over the 16 Colleges. Dr. Hardee provided the group an overview of two provisos:

- *Guaranteed Transfer*- between the two and four-year institutions. This would apply to any student who graduates with the AA or AS degree with a grade of a C or better; would allow for the 60 hours to transfer and junior status.
- *SC WINS*- There was a built in \$300 book allowance for LTA, the proviso would change the language to instructional materials instead of books. An example of this would be a welding student who needs a welding helmet, jacket, gloves, or other tools outside of the required book.

Savannah River Settlement- The \$525M was designated for Aiken, Allendale, and Barnwell and 65% of these funds are designated to the three counties. These funds are allocated for water sewer projects and educational facilities. This may be an opportunity for Aiken and Denmark to address some facility needs.

SC ASSOCIATION OF TECHNICAL COLLEGE COMMISSIONERS' REPORT – Ashley Jaillette, Executive Director

Ms. Jaillette stated that Billy Routh sends his regards he is at the State House. She distributed an invitation to each board member for the February 2, 2022 Legislative Reception. She stated each board member should have also previously received an email with information for the day of learning and the Award and Recognition luncheon on February 2, 2022. The National ACCT group will be in Washington, D.C. for the Legislative Conference.

COUNCIL OF TECHNICAL COLLEGE PRESIDENTS' REPORT – Galen DeHay, Chair Presidents' Council

Dr. DeHay reported that Presidents' Council has been quite busy as reflected in the minutes provided for the Board's review. He informed the group that the Presidents' Council Legislative Committee met again due to the estimates received from the BEA. This included the work completed with the provisos previously mentioned by Dr. Hardee and the increase to the budget requests. Dr. DeHay also advised the group that the partnership with the EMS Association and the start of the pilot program with the EMS regional offices. Based on the success of this pilot program this will hopefully be a program that can be applied system wide. Dr. Hardee thanked Dr. DeHay for all his hard work as a Chairman of the Presidents' Council. Dr. DeHay has taken a different approach and has addressed issues that are state-wide in nature. The criminal justice program guaranteed transfer issues, and the EMT/Paramedic training are just a few items he has worked on as the Chairman of the Presidents' Council.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

Chairman Askins entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the State Board meeting on November 16, 2021. Mr. Odom motioned and was seconded by Mr. Barker. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES FOR REVIEW

Chairman Askins stated that minutes of the October 14, 2021, November 11, 2021 and December 14, 2021 Presidents' Council meeting were included with the agenda materials distributed prior to the meeting for review. He encouraged the Board members to review the minutes if they were not already doing so.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDATIONS-CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Askins entertained a motion for State Board approval of the Committee of the Whole recommendations. Mr. Smith moved and was seconded by Mr. Odom for adoption of all Committee of the Whole Recommendations. The motion carried and the following recommendations were adopted without discussion:

- Five Project Budget for State Board Approval
- Project Budgets for State Board Ratification
- Board Ratifications for E-Zone Retraining Projects
- Annual Tuition and Fee Recommendation for Approval
- Horry-Georgetown Technical College Property Lease for Approval
- Tri-County Technical College Capital Projects for Approval – Erosion Mitigation
- Tri-County Technical College Capital Projects for Approval – Energy Consumption Reduction
- Tri-County Technical College Capital Projects for Approval- Perimeter Road Re-Surfacing- Pendleton Campus
- Policy and Procedures for Review/Approval
- State Board Meeting Minutes for November 16, 2021

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Tim Hardee, System President

Enrollment Update- Dr. Hardee informed the Board that he is pleased to report that System wide the enrollment is up around 7% from the previous year. The final numbers should be available mid-March.
State of the State Address- Dr. Hardee informed the group that four of the students who participated in the GEER program would be recognized during the address. This is to highlight the success of this program during the pandemic.

Legislative Luncheon- Dr. Hardee reminded the group of the next board meeting on March 23, 2022 and invited the Board Members to attend the legislative luncheon on the State House Grounds after the meeting.

Department of Education- On February 8th, 2022 Superintendent Molly Spearman will announce a partnership with the System and a \$8.5M award to five colleges to assist students in the most rural parts of the State and a \$3.5M award for a partnership between the Technical College System and Adult Education. These funds would assist Adult Education participants who have received their GED with financial assistance with short-term training programs.

Dr. Hardee also provided the board with a list speaking engagements and meetings he has attended since the last State Board meeting.

ADJOURN STATE BOARD

With no other matters to discuss, Chairman Askins adjourned the State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education meeting.

CALL TO ORDER – FOUNDATION MEETING

Chairman Askins turned the floor over to Mr. Burns. Mr. Burns stated there was not a need for a Foundation meeting at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other matters to discuss, Mr. Askins entertained a motion to adjourn Mr. Smith moved, and Mr. Homan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously

Date Approved by the State Board



Gregory B. Askins, Chairman



Tim Hardee, Executive Director