

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

Meeting Minutes

10:00 A.M.

May 28, 2019

**PRESENT:**

Gregg Askins, Chair  
Garvin Barker, *via conf. call*  
Robbie Barnett  
Gwen Bright  
Grant Burns  
Phil Homan  
Ralph Odom, Jr.  
Montez Martin  
Roger Schrum  
Karen Woodward  
Matthew Yaun

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Tim Hardee, System President  
Joren Bartlett, Vice President of Governmental Affairs  
Warren Ganjehsani, Chief Legal Counsel  
Randy Johnson, Vice President for Finance  
Brad Neese, Vice President of Economic Development  
Susan Pretulak, *retired* Vice President for Economic  
Development and Workforce Competitiveness  
Hope Rivers, Executive Vice President  
Kelly Steinhilper, Vice President for Communications  
Khushru Tata, Vice President for Information Tech-  
nology and Chief Information Officer

**ABSENT:**

Warren Helm  
Kandy Peacock  
Karen Taylor  
Daniel Young

**GUESTS:**

Dr. Forest Mahan, President, Aiken Technical College  
Dr. Michael Mikota, President, Central Carolina Technical College  
Ashley Jaillette, Executive Director, SC Association of Technical College Commissioners

**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. Forest Mahan, President, Aiken Technical College; Dr. Michael Mikota, President, Central Carolina Technical College; and Ashley Jaillette, Executive Director, SC Association of Technical College Commissioners.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORTS:**

**A. Fiscal, Audit and Personnel Committee – Matthew L. Yaun, Chair**

Capital Project for Approval- Technical College of the Lowcountry – Culinary Arts Institute- Budget Revision: Mr. Yaun stated that the project had already been previously approved. The College now seeks to increase the budget by \$2.5M to \$13,743,000. Beaufort County is providing most of the funding for this project. To obtain the remaining funds necessary to complete construction, Technical College of the Lowcountry plans to issue \$8M in revenue bonds. Beaufort County will pay \$800,000 annually to the College for the next ten years to cover repayment of the bond principal. Mr. Yaun entertained a motion for approval. Mr. Martin moved, followed by Mr. Askins. The motion passed unanimously without discussion.

State Board Financial Summary for Month Ending April 20, 2019- Mr. Yaun noted that for the first time in the five years that he has been on the Board, there is a negative number reflected in the financial summary due to a debt owed by Denmark Technical College which the System had to cover. Mr. Yaun reported that Mr. Johnson calculated the deficit to be \$80,000 by the end of the year. He estimates about a \$2M reserve hold-back out of the whole System.

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

Academic Program Proposals for Approval- Mr. Homan reported there were four academic program proposals for consideration by the Committee. He provided a summary of the program proposals that were included with the agenda materials distributed prior to the meeting. The following academic programs were recommended for State Board approval:

- Aiken Technical College – Associate in Applied Science, major in Emergency Medical Technology
- Florence- Darlington Technical College – Associate in Applied Science, major in Early Care and Education
- Horry-Georgetown Technical College – Associate in Applied Science, major in Teacher Education
- Spartanburg Community College – Associate in Applied Science, major in Culinary Arts Technology

Mr. Homan noted that Horry-Georgetown Technical College has signed a memorandum of agreement with Coastal Carolina University to allow students who complete the Associate in Applied Science, major in Teacher Education, to transfer into the College of Education. This is the first model of its kind for the SC Technical College System. Mr. Homan entertained a motion for approval for all four program proposals. Mr. Barnett made the first motion, followed by Mr. Yaun.

Mr. Odom inquired about students enrolled in the Applied Science program at Horry-Georgetown Technical College that do not decide to take advantage of the 2 + 2 transferable

degree. Dr. Rivers responded that those students could work as teachers' assistants/aids. Mr. Martin inquired about the roughly 50% graduation rate. Dr. Rivers stated that is an accurate percentage since some students will drop out and then come back later to complete the program; however, those students cannot be counted in the original graduation statistics. With no further discussion, the affirmative vote was unanimous.

### **Economic Development and Training Committee – Robert E. Barnett, Chair**

Project Budgets for State Board Approval: Mr. Barnett motioned for the Committee to enter into Executive Session to discuss readySC™ projects over \$200,000. Mr. Barnett withdrew his motion at Chairman Askins' request. Chairman Askins then motioned to enter into Executive Session to discuss the readySC™ projects over \$200,000, a pending lawsuit, and personnel matters. Mr. Odom seconded the motion. Mr. Barnett invited Ms. Pretulak and Mr. Neese to stay for the project portion of the discussion. Chairman Askins invited Mr. Ganjehsani and Dr. Hardee to remain for the lawsuit portion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*S.C. Code of Laws Section 30-4-70(a)(2)(5) – A public body may hold a meeting closed to the public for one or more of the following reasons:*

*(2) 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....*

*(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. Barnett entertained a motion to approve the capital projects for readySC™ over \$200,000. The first motion was made by Mr. Martin, which was seconded by Mr. Burns.

Project Budgets for State Board Ratification: Mr. Barnett stated that there are two projects for ratification under \$200,000. He noted that between the two companies, 210 new jobs would be created. The total budget request was \$265,855. Mr. Barnett noted that there were no E-Zone Ratification Projects this month. Mr. Martin moved to approve

the ratifications; Mr. Odom seconded the motion. The affirmative vote passed 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 – Joren Bartlett, Vice President of Government Relations**

Ms. Bartlett distributed a funding spreadsheet and stated that the SC Technical College System had an excellent year budget wise. She reported that the House funded the System at \$116M and the Senate at \$124M. She stated that the first column shows Part 1A- Recurring Funding, the second shows Part 1B- Lottery Funding, and the third shows the Capital Reserve Fund. The House provided the System \$6M in new recurring funding, labeled as in-state tuition mitigation; however, the SC Technical College System was not listed in the tuition mitigation proviso, so the colleges are not bound by the “no raising of tuition” standard. The System receives \$47M of the \$51.1M of the Lottery Tuition Assistance Program (LTAP) funding. The rest of the funding is given to the two-year branches of the universities- USC and Spartanburg Methodist. The House funded the System’s request of \$12M for Equipment. There is an additional \$500,000 allotted for the Statewide Marketing Campaign fund. Technology money is received through CHE. The System’s portion of the \$8M is \$4.1M. The System received \$17M for SC Workforce Industry Needs Scholarship (SCWINS). The House decided the name should remain the same so as not to be too confusing and to be separate from Workforce Scholarships. readySC™ received funding partially in the lottery this year. They funded another \$9.2 in Capital Reserve and are just working with where the funds are currently. The \$9.2M will get the System started until they receive the money in the lottery for readySC™. Workforce Scholarship and Grants is the same program they have funded for the past couple of years. The funds can be used for credit or non-credit course and is distributed to the colleges via formula.

Along with the \$11M, the System will also receive another \$2.6M in recurring funds for Workforce Scholarships and Grants funds, however, it is not listed on the spreadsheet. Ms. Bartlett explained that any funds from a prior budget will not be reflected in the new budget, unless it is more or less money than what was received the prior year. It was originally funded as Workforce Pathways, but the House changed the name to Workforce Scholarships and Grants. There were funds designated by the legislature to several small special projects for a few of the technical colleges- Central Carolina, Piedmont, and Spartanburg Community College.

She directed everyone’s attention to the second page containing additional funding information through provisos. The budget included funding for the 2019 health insurance increase, a 2% raise to employees working at colleges or universities that make \$100,000 or less, and a 1% state employee retirement contribution. The budget also includes a proviso for a \$600 bonus for state employees that make \$70,000 or less. There is a provision within the proviso stating that the colleges will be required to pay for other federally funded employees which will be about a \$1.1M overall cost to the SC Technical College System.

Dr. Hardee stated that the System Office is in the process of getting out the information to the sixteen college presidents as to how the SCWINS money can be awarded. The award for LTAP is \$100 per credit hour so a full-time student would receive a \$1,200 award. Students enrolled in the SCWINS program will be awarded \$50 per credit hour, accumulating to \$600 for a full-time student. Average tuition among the colleges is \$175 a credit hour so a student who earns both LTAP and SCWINS could have \$1,800 of the \$2,100 cost covered. SCWINS will be able to provide approximately \$5M of the \$17M to go toward dual enrollment costs across the State.

Mr. Yaun inquired whether SCWINS is the focus of the special marketing campaign. Draft Hardee responded that the marketing campaign is designed to market the system as a whole with \$1.5M over the next three years. He stated that he along with the System staff had been keeping the presidents informed as to what they were pursuing; there were just two versions of SCWINS. Ultimately the System ended up with the Senate version of the Scholarship, that bears the name the House created.

Ms. Steinhilper met with the PIOs on May 23, 2019. She and her staff will be distributing the information regarding SCWINS to the presidents soon. The Scholarship will allow for the expansion of dual enrollment offerings within the technical colleges since they will now have a way to pay for it. The State's workforce industry is very supportive of a scholarship that addresses areas across the State that have shortages. The hope is that SCWINS will help point students into those areas of shortages, in turn creating more a greater workforce pipeline.

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

Ms. Jaillette reported that the next SCATCC Board meeting will be June 5, 2019 at Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd. They will be voting on their new slate of officers and reviewing their budget for the next fiscal year.

In May the SCATCC announced the award winners for 2019. The winners are as follows:

- Commissioner- Dr. Yvonne Barnes, Trident Technical College
- Equity- Trident Technical College
- CEO- Dr. Patty Lee, Williamsburg Technical College
- Faculty Member- Michael Hudson, Williamsburg Technical College
- Professional Board Member- Helen Sughrue, Trident Technical College

The deadline for the Southeast award is June 10, 2019.

### **COUNCIL OF TECHNICAL COLLEGE PRESIDENTS' REPORT – Forest Mahan, Chair Presidents' Council**

Dr. Mahan stated that Presidents' Council has met twice since the last State Board meeting. During the April 11<sup>th</sup> meeting they discussed the legislative update and nominated their new slate of officers. The new officers for FY 2019-2020 are:

- Chair- Michael Mikota, President, Central Carolina Technical College

- Chair-Elect- Marilyn Murphy Fore, President, Horry-Georgetown Technical College
- Treasurer- Ron Rhames, President, Midlands Technical College

Dr. Mahan stated that Dr. Rhames will finish his last year of his three-year term as Treasurer. Dr. Mahan reported that it was his last State Board meeting. He introduced Dr. Mikota and stated that he will be attending the July meeting as the new Chair.

The presidents also reviewed the By-laws, which have not been updated since 2003, at the April meeting. Drs. Booth and Thornley provided their feedback along with some other presidents. The updates will be presented and voted on at the retreat on June 14<sup>th</sup>.

The presidents also met briefly via TechNet on May 9<sup>th</sup> to receive an update on the fiscal 2019-2020 budget. They discussed the conference committee and the outcomes of the provisos. The CBOs will meet with the presidents on Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at Midlands Technical College Airport Campus to discuss the funding formula. A few of the newer presidents requested a bit more information about the topic so a special meeting was scheduled to review and discuss the possible impacts it could have on the colleges.

The Presidents' Council Retreat will take place June 13-14, 2019 in Aiken. Dr. Mahan has asked Senator Tom Young and Representative Bill Clyburn to speak the first day. The presidents plan to review their successes from the previous fiscal year to use as a springboard for 2020. They will also review their strengths and areas needing improvement during the SWOT analysis. They want to ensure that they are collaborating to continue to meet the demands of the workforce and assist in supporting base funding.

Chairman Askins stated that it had been a pleasure serving with Dr. Mahan this past year and that they would miss him next year.

### **MINUTES FOR APPROVAL**

Chairman Askins entertained a motion to approve the State Board minutes from the State Board meeting held in Newberry on March 26, 2019. Mr. Barnett moved, and was followed by Mr. Homan. The affirmative vote passed unanimously.

### **MINUTES FOR REVIEW**

Chairman Askins asked that the Board review the Presidents' Council minutes from the March 14, 2019 and April 11, 2019 meeting.

### **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDATIONS-CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Yaun moved, followed by Mr. Martin, for adoption of all Committee of the Whole Recommendations. The affirmative vote was unanimous. The following recommendations were adopted:

- Capital Project for Approval, Technical College of the Lowcountry, Culinary Arts Institute- Budget Revision
- Academic Program Proposal for Approval, Aiken Technical College, Associate

in Applied Science, major in Emergency Medical Technology

- Academic Program Proposal for Approval, Florence-Darlington Technical College, Associate in Applied Science, major in Early Care and Education
- Academic Program Proposal for Approval, Horry-Georgetown Technical College, Associate in Applied Science, major in Teacher Education
- Academic Program Proposal for Approval, Spartanburg Community College, Associate in Applied Science, major in Culinary Arts Technology
- Project Budgets for State Board Approval
- Project Budgets for State Board Ratification
- State Board Meeting Minutes for March 26, 2019

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Tim Hardee, System President**

Dr. Hardee referred to his Executive Director's Report that was included in the agenda package.

**RBC Heritage Tournament-** Dr. Hardee showed a video of footage from the RBC Heritage Tournament that began April 15, 2019. The video discussed the importance of investing in the SC Technical College System and the commitment made by the Heritage Foundation to invest \$100,000 annually for the next three years for Siemens Mechatronic Certification for the System. This is a good way for the RBC Heritage to expand their philanthropic efforts on a statewide basis. It is also beneficial for the SC Technical College System to partner with such a well-known respected entity.

**SC Propane Association Donation-** Dr. Hardee presented an article from the SC Propane Association's monthly magazine. Corky Clark, Executive Director of the SC Propane Association, donated \$50,000 to the SC Technical College System. The money will be used to fund a training session on June 3, 2019 at Central Carolina Technical College for all HVAC instructors. ESPN will have also air advertisements on their app for the SC Technical College System's HVAC programs to attract new students throughout South Carolina.

**2019 Spring Retention Institute-** Dr. Rivers hosted a retention institute at the Columbia Museum of Art on May 22, 2019 in which 161 faculty members across the State attended. Retention is a big issue for the SC Technical College System right now especially considering the current 3% unemployment rate in SC. Since there are fewer students, the System is working hard to retain them. The average number of graduates across the System is about 16,000 a year. The event featured national speakers as well as speakers from colleges across the state who have excellent retention rates. Dr. Hardee noted that this is a good example of a special project request that the vice presidents are asked to submit in their budget requests.

**Community College Leadership Program-** Dr. Hardee stated that the SC Technical College System has had a Community College Leadership Program with the University of South Carolina that Dr. Hudgins coordinated when he was president. Fourteen students graduated from the cohort last week. They completed six courses about community college totaling eighteen hours' worth of credit and received certificates. Many will go on to enter the Ph.D. program USC offers.

**Perkins Funding-** Dr. Hardee stated that he and Dr. Rivers will be at the State Department of Education (DOE) tomorrow to meet with Superintendent Molly Spearman and her staff to discuss Perkins. Currently, SC receives about \$20M in federal funds for Perkins. The money is reauthorized every five years. When the last reauthorization took place, 72% of the funds went to secondary education and 28% went to postsecondary education. He noted that the money is split 50/50 in Georgia and 60/40 in North Carolina. His hope is to discuss a more equitable split of the money. A large amount of the funds goes toward student service programs that are offered throughout the SC Technical College System. Dr. Hardee will report on the outcome of the meeting with DOE at the State Board meeting in July. He thanked Dr. Woodward for her valuable suggestions regarding working with the DOE.

**Acknowledgement of Legislative Support-** Dr. Hardee distributed a current list of House and Senate members while noting that the SC Technical College System had an extremely successful legislative year. He noted in fact; this is the most successful year that the System has had in the last ten years. He encouraged the Board members to pick out three or four legislators to call and thank for their support of the System. Mr. Barnett noted that he felt the Legislative Luncheon went very well. He stated that he received so many comments from House members as to how much they appreciated the System Staff holding the food for them and waiting around until they got out of session. Mr. Burns inquired whether there were particular points he wanted the Board members to highlight in their phone calls. Dr. Hardee stated the importance of emphasizing what benefits students the most- \$51M in LTA funds, \$17M for SCWINS and the \$12M for equipment. Overall, students will have greater access and affordability for college through the money that was allocated to the SC Technical College System. Mr. Askins requested that Dr. Hardee sent a list of bullet points to the Board members.

**Vice President of Economic Development-** Dr. Hardee presented Brad Neese as the new Vice President of Economic Development. He stated that he is looking forward to Mr. Neese continuing the great work the division has done. Mr. Neese thanked Dr. Hardee and the Board for the opportunity. He commented that he has a fantastic team that is poised for the future. He stated that he would be remiss if he did not say that the System is set for the future based on the amazing work of Susan Pretulak. He is looking forward to working with the Board.

## **OTHER MATTERS**

Chairman Askins commended Dr. Woodward for her induction into the 2019 SC Educator Hall of Fame.



**ADJOURNMENT**

With no other matters to discuss, Chairman Askins entertained a motion to adjourn. Mr. Yaun moved, followed by Mr. Odom. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

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Date Approved by the State Board

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Gregory B. Askins, Chairman

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Tim Hardee, Executive Director