

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

Meeting Minutes

10:00 A.M.

May 24, 2022

PRESENT:

Gregory B. Askins, Chair
Anthony Gavin Barker
Terry Hardesty
Grantland Burns
Warren Darby, Jr.
Philip G. Homan
Ralph A. Odom, Jr.
Roger P. Schrum
Orville S. Smith, III
Karen Woodward
Carolyn Swinton
William Floyd

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
Kelly Steinhilper, Vice President of Communications

ABSENT:

Daniel Young

STAFF ABSENT:

Joren Bartlett

GUESTS:

Dr. Galen DeHay, President, Tri-County 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. Galen DeHay, President, Tri-County Technical College; Ashley Jaillette, Executive Director, SC Association of Technical College Commissioners. Chairman Askins introduced and welcomed Mr. Terry Hardesty to the State Board. Mr. Hardesty is the new board member from District I.

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 readySC™ 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, Mr. Randy Johnson, and Mr. Warren Ganjehsani 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 nine readySC™ project budgets for ratification under \$200,000. There were no questions.

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

Mr. Burns entertained a motion to approve the two readySC™ capital projects over \$200,000 that were discussed during the Executive Session, and the nine Project Budgets

for Ratification and the two E-Zone Retraining Programs for Ratification. Mr. Darby moved, and Mr. Homan seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

State Board Policy 6-1-100 Customized Training Revision Approval-

Mr. Burns proposed a revision to State Board policy 6-1-100. The proposal was to change South Carolina Unemployment Office references to reflect the correct agency name of the South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce (SCDEW). Mr. Burns called for a motion to approve the policy. Mr. Barker moved, and Mr. Homan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

readySC Company Wage Guideline Approval-

Mr. Burns informed the Board that policy 6-1-100 requires that in May of each year the Board review the wage guideline that has been provided on page 8 of the agenda package. He turned the floor over to Mr. Brad Neese for further explanation of the guideline. Mr. Neese explained that staff use statistics from the Bureau of Labor and Statistics to determine the competitive wage for the given area. readySC™ has additional internal guidelines that are also used to assist in the determination of a competitive wage. Mr. Burns entertained a motion to approve the guideline that has been presented. Mr. Schrum moved, and Mr. Odom seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

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

Horry-Georgetown Technical College Capital Project for Approval – HVAC

Replacement – Conway Campus and Grand Strand Campus - Upgrade and Replace

Multiple HVAC Units-Conway Campus Stage 1: The College seeks to replace a series of HVAC systems across its Conway Campus including buildings 100, 200, 500, 600, 700, 800, 900, 1000, and 3000. The HVAC units vary in age with all units/systems being greater than 20 years old. The units are beyond their expected useful life, are no longer energy efficient, and are experiencing recurring functional problems.

Upgrade and Replace Multiple HVAC Units-Grand Strand Campus Stage 1: The College seeks to replace a series of HVAC systems across its Grand Strand Campus including buildings 200, 300, and 1000. The HVAC units vary in age with all units/systems being greater than 20 years old. The units are beyond their expected useful life, are no longer energy efficient, and are experiencing recurring functional problems. Mr. Barker provided details and updates to each project. Mr. Barker called for a motion to approve the two projects. Mr. Odom moved, Mr. Hardesty seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Policy Revision 4-2-101 for Approval- The agenda package included a revised version of Policy 4-2-101 (Permanent Improvements) for the Board's consideration. The policy, as revised, would allow staff approval for projects of up to \$2,500,000 when the sole

funding sources are capital improvement bond funds, capital reserve funds, state-appropriated funds, or state infrastructure bond funds. In addition, staff proposed a change in the renovation approval threshold to better align with the thresholds on page one of this policy. Mr. Barker called for a motion to approve the policy revision of 4-2-101 (Permanent Improvements). Mr. Burns moved, Mr. Odom seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Staff Approvals- March 23, 2022 through May 11, 2022 – Mr. Barker noted the staff approval list included in the agenda package which contained five staff approvals: two projects at the Technical College of the Lowcountry; two Projects at Central Carolina Technical College; and one at Demark Technical College. Details of all projects were provided in the agenda packet.

State Board Financial Summary – Month Ending April 30, 2022 - 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.

Eligibility – SCWINS/Workforce Scholarships and Grants for Approval- Mr. Barker turned the floor over to Dr. Tim Hardee and Mr. Randy Johnson to present the SCWINS/Workforce Scholarship and Grant programs for approval. Dr. Hardee stated the State Legislature approved funding for scholarships and grants in areas where there were workforce shortfalls throughout the state. The scholarships and grants would be limited to South Carolina residents enrolled in critical workforce programs that lead to industry-recognized credentials (IRC), certificate, diploma, or degree in the following areas:

- 1.) Healthcare
- 2.) Computer Technology and Information Technology
- 3.) Advanced Manufacturing
- 4.) Hospitality/Tourism Management
- 5.) Construction
- 6.) Transportation, Distribution and Logistics
- 7.) Criminal Justice and Corrections
- 8.) Early Care and Education
- 9.) Human Services
- 10.) Agriculture and Natural Resources
- 11.) Business Management and Administration

Dr. Hardee stated the needs in each workforce programs may change from institution to institution due to the workforce needs in their area. Mr. Barker called for a motion to approve 2022-23 Workforce Scholarship and Grants and SCWINS program eligibility. Mr. Schrum moved, Mr. Odom seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Human Resource Policies for Approval- Mr. Barker referenced the documents included in the agenda package. He presented the proposed revisions to several Human Resource policies. The Board was provided a summary of the revisions-with the agenda package. Mr. Barker called for a motion to approve the five Human Resource policies. Mr. Smith moved to accept the proposed revisions and Ms. Woodward seconded the motion. The motion 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 –Dr. Tim Hardee on behalf of Joren Bartlett, Vice President of Governmental Relations

Dr. Hardee reported to the Board that this Legislative session has been very different than those in the past. Historically, the Legislative Body has always supported the Technical College System and they continue to do so. There is difference in the budget between the House and Senate versions in three main areas: - the House Budget \$78M Workforce Scholarships and Grants, Zero in Recurring funds, and individual projects. The Senate Budget \$16M Workforce Scholarships and Grants, \$7M Recurring funds, and individual projects. The areas that are the same in each version are as follows: Lottery Tuition Assistance- \$51M, Equipment- \$20M; and SCWINS- \$17M. The recurring funds at \$7M do not cover the needs of the system in full due to unfunded mandates and the tuition mitigation. An example of the unfunded mandates would be the 3% cost of living increase for all State Employees. The individual colleges only receive around 30% of the cost-of-living increase. The colleges must provide the other 70% of the mandated cost-of-living increases. Dr. Hardee provided the names of the six conference committee members: Representative Simrill, Representative Murrell Smith, Representative Rutherford, Senator Peeler, Senator Setzler and Senator Alexander. This group will meet the week 12th of June.

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

Ms. Ashley Jaillette informed the group that the SCATCC board retreat, was held the weekend of May 13th-15th, 2022. They visited the Volvo training center, where they viewed demonstrations and was given a tour of the facility. At the retreat they finalized their strategic plan for the next five years and discussed the proposed 2022-23FY budget. She also announced the 2022 award winners. The winners are as follows: Commissioner Leadership, Garry Powers, Midlands Technical College, Equity, Tri-County Technical College, Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Willie L. Todd, Jr., Denmark Technical College, Faculty Member, Kevin Mitchell, Trident Technical College, and Professional Board Staff, Michael

Zanfardino, Midlands Technical College. These recipients will be recognized and awarded in person at the South Carolina Association of Technical College Commissioners Annual Commissioners' Academy scheduled for February 1, 2023.

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. Dr. DeHay also advised the group that the presidents, system office staff and Dr. Hardee have met several times to discuss a variety of Legislative outreach and strategies for their respective Legislative delegations. The Presidents' Council Retreat is scheduled for early June. The Retreat will be held in Anderson. He also discussed the Hispanic Initiative to provide increase access for the fast-growing demographic throughout the State. Dr. DeHay entertained any questions. Dr. Hardee thanked Dr. DeHay for all his hard work over the past year 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 March 23, 2022. Mr. Schrum moved and was seconded by Mr. Homan. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES FOR REVIEW

Chairman Askins stated that minutes of the March 10, 2022, April 14, 2022, and April 28, 2022 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.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT – Ralph A. Odom, Jr., Phil Homan, and Grantland Burns

Mr. Askins stated that he named the Nominating Committee made up of himself Mr. Odom, Mr. Homan, and Mr. Burns. After discussion and reviewing the by-laws, the Committee unanimously recommended that Roger Schrum to serve two-year term as Chairman. Mr. Askins opened the floor for any other nominations to be made. There were no other nominations. Mr. Askins called for a motion to elect Mr. Schrum as Chairman. Mr. Odom moved. Mr. Burns seconded and the motion passed unanimously without objection.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDATIONS-CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. Project Budget for State Board Approval
- B. Project Budgets for State Board Ratification

- C. Board Ratifications for E-Zone Retraining Program
- D. Horry-Georgetown Technical College Capital Project for Approval – HVAC Replacement – Conway Campus
- E. Horry-Georgetown Technical College Capital Project for Approval – HVAC Replacement – Grand Strand Campus
- F. Policy Revision 4-2-101 for Approval
- G. Eligibility – SCWINS/Workforce Scholarships and Grants for Approval
- H. Human Resources Policies for approval
- I. State Board Meeting Minutes for March 23, 2022

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT – Tim Hardee, System President

State Department of Education Partnership- Ms. Molly Spearman and Mr. David Mathis reached out to the Technical College regarding expanding Dual Enrollment to high school students. Through a \$5M federal grant the State Department of Education and The Technical College System will work together to expand the Dual Enrollment program to additional students.

Short-Term Training- Governor McMaster has been very supportive of short-term training programs. Last November he awarded the System \$17M for the short-term training programs. He has recently awarded an additional \$5.3M that will come to the System on July 1, 2022. He and his staff are working with the State legislature to encourage support for \$62M in the house budget for the short-term training program.

Jobs for American Graduates (JAG)- The JAG program previously housed with the Department of Employment and Workforces has moved to the System office. The Governor has provided the System \$4M that would cover the program for the next two years. The plan is to expand the program from fifteen high schools to thirty high schools.

Leadership Academy- Leadership Academy is a professional development program the System provides to the sixteen colleges and system office. Dr. Sumpter invited Dr. Hardee to the completion ceremony earlier this week.

Graduation- Dr. Hardee informed the group that each of the Technical Colleges held graduation ceremonies. The system graduated approximately 14,000 students. The colleges averages around 14,000 each year. Dr. Hardee concluded his report and provided the State Board with a list of activities since March 2022.

OTHER MATTERS

Mr. Askins appointed Mr. Terry Hardesty to the Economic Development Committee.

Mr. Askins discussed the Commission on Higher Education and the inequity of the formula regarding Need Based funding formula. Mr. Odom made a motion that the State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education adopt a resolution declaring that (1) the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education’s current formula for allocating South Carolina Need-based Grants Program funding is inequitable to the students attending the state’s technical colleges compared to those attending four-year higher education institutions; (2) the Commission on Higher Education has been aware of this inequity for a considerable period of time, but has failed to vote in open session or otherwise take appropriate action to remedy this inequity, despite having had ample opportunity to do so; and (3) the State Board supports the South Carolina Technical College System in taking whatever measures are

deemed necessary to address this inequity going forward. Mr. Homan seconded and the motion passed unanimously without objection.

Mr. Askins called for a motion to enter executive session to discuss an employment/contractual matter. Mr. Hardesty so moved, and Mr. Odom seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Askins asked Dr. Hardee to remain in the room and for Kandy Peacock and Warren Ganjehsani to remain on standby outside the room.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Section 30-4-70(a) 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:

(1) Discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee, a student, or a person regulated by a public body or the appointment of a person to a public body....

(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."

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Mr. Askins affirmed no votes were taken during the executive session. Mr. Askins informed the Board that a letter of resignation had been received from the System President, effective June 30, 2022. Mr. Askins proposed a motion to re-hire Dr. Hardee at his present salary, effective August 1, 2022, contingent upon Agency Head Salary Commission approval. Further, Mr. Askins proposed that Randy Johnson serve as Interim Executive Director for the month of July. Mr. Smith so moved, and Mr. Barker seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Johnson agreed to serve in that capacity for the month of July 2022.

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. He informed the group that the foundation continues to have changing balances in line with stock market fluctuations. Mr. Burns called for a motion

to set aside \$10,000 fee plus expenses for a consulting contract for Dr. Hardee for the month of July. Mr. Homan moved, and Mr. Odom seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

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

July 27, 2022

Date Approved by the State Board