

**SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER
EDUCATION** Meeting held via Zoom conference call
12:30 pm
Minutes of the Meeting
May 7, 2020

Commissioners Attending

Mr. Wes Hayes, Chair	Mr. Charles Dalton	Mr. Ben Satcher
Dr. Bettie Rose Horne, Vice Chair	Ms. Linda Dolny	Ms. Terrye Seckinger
Mr. Paul Batson	Mr. Edgar Dyer	Dr. Cleveland Sellers
Mr. Jim Battle	Mr. Devron Edwards	Mr. Mark Smith
Ms. Julie Godshall Brown	Mr. Chuck Munns	Mr. Patrick White

Guests Attending

Ms. Beth Bell, Clemson University	Ms. Brenda Hart, Senate Finance Committee
Dr. Yvonne Barnes, Trident Technical College	Ms. Trena Houpp, University of South Carolina Columbia
Mr. Clay Barton, SC Dept. of Education	Mr. Roy Jones, SC Student Loan Corporation
Dr. John Catalano, University of South Carolina Union	Dr. Karen Roof, The Citadel
Ms. Jacqui DiMaggio, Greenville Technical College	Ms. Christine Smalls Brown, Medical University of South Carolina
Mr. Tim Druke, Winthrop University	Dr. Willie Todd, Denmark Technical College
Dr. Dan Ennis, Coastal Carolina University	

Commission Staff Present

Dr. Rusty Monhollon	Mr. Andrew Roof
Dr. Jennifer Almeda	Mr. Georges Tippens
Ms. Laura Belcher	Ms. Bunnie Ward
Ms. Monica Goodwin	Mr. Bryce Wilson
Dr. Christopher Robinson	Dr. Karen Woodfaulk

All attended by phone

Chair Hayes convened the meeting at 12:30 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance. It was confirmed that the meeting was being held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

1. Introductions & Roll Call to Establish Quorum

Ms. Belcher introduced the guests in attendance. A quorum was confirmed.

2. Approval of Minutes

Wes Hayes

- A. March 5, 2020 Meeting**
- B. April 2, 2020 Meeting**

With a motion, second and unanimous vote, both the March 5 and April 2 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

3. Chairman's Report

Wes Hayes

Chair Hayes provided his report.

4. President and Executive Director's Report

Rusty Monhollon

Using a PowerPoint presentation, Dr. Monhollon reported, division-by-division, the agency's activities in contribution to the state's COVID-19 response.

- A. Consideration of Temporary Waiver of State Scholarship Regulations Governing Test Dates for Initial Eligibility and Continuous Enrollment**
- B. Consideration of Temporarily Waiving a Provision of the SC Teachers Loan Program Regulations**

Dr. Monhollon explained the two regulation waivers. He asked that the Commission endorse each staff recommendation.

5. Legislative Report

Bunnie Ward

Ms. Bunnie Ward provided her legislative report. She especially noted that the General Assembly would resume session on Tuesday, May 12, 2020, to take up a continuing resolution to extend the FY 19-20 budget, so as to maintain funding of the state's ordinary expenses and operations. She also noted the activities of Communications staff respecting the agency-hosted Virtual College and Career Decision Month program.

6. Committee Reports

6.01 Report of the Executive Committee

Wes Hayes

- A. Inclusion of Council of Presidents Guidelines in CHE Bylaws *(For Approval)***
- B. Consideration of Revised Commission Meeting Schedule *(For Approval)***

Dr. Monhollon recounted the process by which the Council of Presidents Guidelines were developed, revised, and ratified. He then explained the proposed revisions to the Commission meeting schedule. Chair Hayes asked for discussion. Hearing none, he stated the items were brought forwards as a motion from the Committee and therefore did not require a second, and the items passed unanimously.

6.02 Report of Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

Charles Munns

Commissioner Munns gave a synopsis of the Committee's meeting earlier that morning; otherwise, the Committee presented no report.

6.03 Report of Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services

Paul Batson

Commissioner Batson announced the Committee would meet upon adjournment of the Commission. He stated the Committee had no report.

6.04 Report of Committee on Finance and Facilities

Charles Dalton

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Permanent Improvement Project Approvals

1. Aiken Technical College
 - A. Aiken-CEAM Expansion and Renovation for Welding Area
 - Establish Phase II Construction Budget
2. Central Carolina Technical College
 - A. CCTC Main Campus Green Space Project
 - Establish Phase I
3. Greenville Technical College
 - A. Greenville – New Arts & Sciences Building Construction
 - Establish Phase I
4. Spartanburg Community College
 - A. Land Acquisition Phase I – Whelchel Property 1
 - Establish Phase I
 - B. Land Acquisition Phase I – Whelchel Property 2
 - Establish Phase I
5. University of South Carolina Columbia
 - A. Intramural Recreation Fields Land Acquisition
 - Establish Phase II Acquisition Budget
6. Winthrop University
 - A. High-Voltage Electrical Substation & System Upgrade
 - Establish Phase II Construction Budget

B. Lease Approval

1. Clemson University
 - A. One Research Drive
 - New Lease

Commissioner Dalton noted that while the Committee on Finance and Facilities recommended the seven proposed capital projects and one requested lease approval at its committee meeting on May 5, in light of the uncertainty caused by Covid-19 surrounding state and institutional finances, he was presenting a motion to recommit the seven capital projects and one lease request to the Committee on Finance and Facilities for review at a later date. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Batson and passed unanimously. Commissioner Batson commented that colleges would not be required to go through the vetting process again.

C. List of Permanent Improvement Projects Processed by Staff during March and April 2020

(For Information, No Action Required)

D. Report on FY 2019-20 Third Quarter Financial Statements

(For Information, No Action Required)

Commissioner Dalton presented the item 6.04.C for information purposes. Mr. Bryce Wilson, the agency's Chief Financial Officer, briefly overviewed for the Commission item 6.04.D. *Report on FY 2019-20 Third Quarter Financial Statements*. There was brief discussion of the agency's quarterly budget utilization.

8. Other Business

Commissioner Smith initiated a discussion of the re-opening of college and university campuses for the Fall 2020 semester.

Commissioner Smith motioned for the Commission to issue a strong statement of support for each college and university, due to their educational contribution and strong economic role, to open campuses to students in the fall, in alignment with the Governor's executive orders and with all due considerations to safety.

Commissioner Brown expressed some concern and suggested amending the motion to read: to support colleges and universities *in their efforts* to re-open in the fall. Commissioner Horne agreed with Commissioner Brown. Commissioner Seckinger suggested the Governor's opinion be sought.

Chair Hayes suggested the motion be amended to direct staff to craft a statement pursuant to Commissioner Smith's motion as amended by Commissioner Brown. Commissioner Dolny agreed.

Commissioner Battle recommended the motion include language to clarify the Commission's conjunction with the Governor's plan.

Commissioner Smith's motion, as amended first by Commissioner Brown, then by Chair Hayes, and finally by Commissioner Battle, received a second and was passed.

9. Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

10. End of Business Meeting

Commissioner Satcher motioned that the Commission recognize and express appreciation for the state's three research institutions and their collaboration with DHEC to confront COVID-19 issues, specifically in the fields of clinical research and testing. Seconded by Commissioner Dolny, the motion passed unanimously

With a motion, second, and unanimous vote, Chair Hayes adjourned the meeting at 3:06 p.m.