



Minutes of the SC Commission on Higher Education
Executive Committee Meeting
May 25, 2021
Via Zoom

DRAFT

In Attendance:

Executive Committee Members Present

Mr. R. Wes Hayes, Chair
Dr. Bettie Rose Horne, Vice Chair
Mr. Paul Batson
Mr. Charles Dalton
Mr. Charles Munns

Other Commissioners Present

Mr. Hugh Mobley

CHE Staff Present

Dr. Rusty Monhollon, President & Executive Director
Dr. Argentini Anderson, Director of Academic Affairs
Ms. Laura Belcher, Operations Manager
Ms. Monica Goodwin, Chief Information Officer
Dr. John Lane, Director of Academic Affairs
Ms. Shakara Smith, Executive Assistant
Mr. Georges Tippens, Facilities Program Manager
Ms. Bunnie Ward, Director of Governmental Affairs & Communications
Mr. Bryce Wilson, Director of Fiscal Affairs

Chair Hayes called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. It was confirmed that the meeting was being held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

1. Approval of Minutes April 27, 2021

Wes Hayes

Chair Hayes called for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 27 Executive Committee meeting. Commissioner Horne motioned and Commissioner Dalton seconded to approve the minutes. Chair Hayes called for the vote and the minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Review of the June 3, 2021 CHE Draft Meeting Agenda

Wes Hayes

Chair Hayes called on President Monhollon to summarize his upcoming President's report. President Monhollon stated that his report would include updates regarding work that the CHE has been undertaking. Chair Hayes requested an update regarding cybersecurity, to which President Monhollon responded that he would provide an update in collaboration with Academic Affairs staff which would include growth of the program and the work that has been completed in collaboration with Fort Gordon.

Chair Hayes asked Ms. Ward to provide a preview of the legislative report update. Ms. Ward shared that President Monhollon would testify before the SC House Ways and Means Committee today. She provided an update regarding where we are in the budget process and shared a brief legislative update including three higher education bills that have passed. Ms. Ward said that she would provide an update regarding



CHE Communications including the launch of CHE's monthly newsletter on June 1. Chair Hayes asked if the transfer proviso remained in the budget, to which Ms. Ward confirmed. Commissioner Dalton asked whether the provision that would increase the threshold on deferred maintenance project from \$1 million to \$5 million remained in the budget, to which Ms. Ward also confirmed.

3. REACH Act

Chair Hayes stated that during the Executive Committee report he would discuss the August Retreat and REACH Act and called on President Monhollon to elaborate further. President Monhollon welcomed discussion regarding how the CHE would ensure compliance with the REACH Act. He explained that the law requires students to take a three credit course dealing with American History and the Constitution, and prescribes readings and documents that must be included as part of the course. President Monhollon explained that this item would be presented to the full Commission as an informational item. Chair Hayes requested that the REACH Act be discussed as a separate agenda item towards the end of the meeting and that President Monhollon lead that discussion, to which President Monhollon agreed. Commissioner Batson asked if the Technical College System should be included in the REACH Act requirement, to which President Monhollon explained that the Act states all public institutions of higher learning, which includes the technical colleges.

4. August Retreat/Business Meeting

Chair Hayes called on President Monhollon to discuss the proposed August Retreat agenda. President Monhollon said that the first full day of the retreat would include discussion regarding the Public Agenda Implementation Plan and Enrollment Trends and the Future of Higher Education, then a social gathering with presidents later in the evening. President Monhollon stated that the second day would include Board/Agency Development and a list of potential presenters followed by the CHE business meeting in the afternoon. Commissioner Munns proposed that data on educator training be a topic on the agenda this year. Commissioner Horne added that CHE should also consider the nursing shortage for discussion, as well.

Chair Hayes asked which presidents would be invited to the dinner, to which President Monhollon said that it is to be determined by the Committee. Commissioners agreed upon inviting a small group of presidents, no more than five to the dinner. President Monhollon stated that staff would reach out to presidents and develop a more structured agenda to share with Commissioners at the June Commission meeting.

Then Committee Chairs reviewed their committee reports for the CHE meeting.

Commissioner Dalton shared that the Committee on Finance and Facilities would have six permanent improvement projects to discuss. He said that item 4 from UofSC, New Health Sciences Campus-Medical Education and Research Facilities, could potentially lead to further discussion. Commissioner Dalton also stated that a report on deferred maintenance would be provided, and that the Committee would meet at 10:00 a.m. prior to the Business meeting.

Commissioner Munns shared that the Committee on Academic Affairs & Licensing would have two items that could potentially be pulled from the consent agenda. He stated that one Commissioner voted against one proposal and abstained from voting on a second proposal. Commissioner Munns said that the Committee would have fifteen academic programs on the consent agenda and that the Committee would also discuss their process for considering licensure requests during the July CAAL meeting. Commissioner Munns then shared that the Committee received two proposals from Southeast Institute, but the consideration of the proposals has been postponed until after July.

Commissioner Batson shared that the Committee on Access & Equity would have one action item, Consideration of SC Student Loan Corporation FY 2021-2022 Administrative Budget Request, which the Committee unanimously approved. He said that the Corporation requested a 2.9 percent increase to the budget to offset personnel and technology needs for administering the program. Commissioner Batson stated that three items would be shared for information.

5. Other Business

Chair Hayes asked if there were any other business to discuss. Commissioner Horne requested that President Monhollon express to the full Commission the validity of each organization listed under the external speakers on the August Retreat draft agenda, to which President Monhollon shared that all organizations listed are non-profits and described each organization. Commissioner Horne said that SHEEO is a familiar organization, but she and possibly other Commissioners, had not heard about other organizations listed.

Chair Hayes announced the evaluation process for assessing President Monhollon. He said that President Monhollon would provide his own written assessment of his work and that each Commissioner would have the opportunity to complete a survey to evaluate President Monhollon. Chair Hayes stated that President Monhollon would be evaluated during an executive session at the August CHE Meeting toward the end of the meeting.

6. Adjourn

The Executive Committee adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.