



Minutes of the SC Commission on Higher Education  
Executive Committee Meeting  
January 23, 2024  
10:00 a.m.  
Via Zoom

In Attendance:

**Executive Committee Members Present**

Mr. R. Wes Hayes, Chair  
Dr. Bettie Rose Horne, Vice Chair  
Mr. Eddie Dyer  
Mr. Paul Batson  
Mr. Hugh Mobley  
Mr. Doug Snyder

**CHE Staff Present**

Dr. Karen Woodfaulk, Director of Student Affairs  
Ms. Laura Belcher, Senior Advisor  
Dr. Jessica Berry, Program Manager  
Ms. Monica Goodwin, Director of Data-Research & IT  
Mr. Georges Tippens, Deputy Director & General Counsel  
Ms. Bunnie Ward, Director of Strategic Initiatives & Engagement  
Mr. Bryce Wilson, Director of Fiscal Affairs

Chair Hayes called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. It was confirmed that the meeting was being held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

**1. Approval of Minutes**

**Wes Hayes**

Chair Hayes called for a motion to approve the minutes of the November 28, 2023 and January 10, 2024 Executive Committee meetings. Commissioner Batson motioned and Commissioner Snyder seconded to approve the minutes. Chair Hayes called for the vote and the minutes were approved unanimously.

**2. Review of the February 1, 2024 CHE Draft Meeting Agenda**

Chair Hayes announced that Inspector General (IG) Lamkin will be present during the next CHE Meeting to deliver his report on the agency. He said that the agency will provide the IG with a draft response for his review to ensure it meets the recommendations from the report.

Chair Hayes said that his report will be brief. He stated that he will join the CHE's all-staff meeting to thank staff for their continued hard work and to formally announce Dr. Woodfaulk as Acting President and Executive Director.

Chair Hayes called on Acting President Woodfaulk to summarize her forthcoming report to the Commission. She said that she will announce a new hire in the Office of Data Management, Planning, & IT and will also share an update on recent activities.



Chair Dyer expressed that he would like to progress program reviews and recommended that the agency review the skillsets of current staff to see if there were persons internally that could help in the Office of Academic Affairs and Licensing. He stated that Dr. Gheesling shared with him that he had prior experience as a consultant in the West Virginia State University's recent academic restructuring plan. Ms. Ward shared that it would be important to keep in mind the current duties/responsibilities of staff members. Commissioners suggested that Chair Dyer discuss this with the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing before presenting to the Commission.

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

Chair Hayes said that there would not be any items for consideration from the Executive Committee.

Commissioner Dyer reported that the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing (CAAL) would have one item for consideration on the consent agenda. Ms. Belcher briefly summarized the item.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

##### **A. AY2022-23 REACH Act Compliance Report**

Commissioner Mobley reported that the Committee on Access and Equity and Student Services would not have any items for consideration.

Commissioner Batson reported that the Committee on Finance and Facilities will consider eight permanent improvement projects and one additional item for action. He said that there will be one item for information only. Commissioner Batson briefly summarized the items.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

##### **A. Permanent Improvement Project Approvals**

1. Clemson University
  - a. Computer Court CURF Property Acquisition
    - Revise Scope (Phase II)
2. College of Charleston
  - a. 58 George Street Renovation
    - Increase Budget (Phase II)
3. Greenville Technical College
  - a. Bldg. 802 Roof Replacement and Building Air Conditioning
    - Increase Budget (Phase II)
4. Lander University
  - a. Student Dining Hall Renovation
    - Increase Budget (Phase II)
5. Medical University of South Carolina
  - a. Acquisition of College of Health Professions, A, B, Ashley Rutledge Garage and Donation of 12 Property
    - Change Source of Funds
6. Spartanburg Community College
  - a. P. Dan Hull Building Reroof Project
    - Increase Budget (Phase II)
7. Technical College of the Lowcountry
  - a. Interior Renovation for Advancement of Health Sciences Student Services
    - Phase II Budget Increase
8. Trident Technical College
  - a. Berkely Campus Renovation – Transportation and Logistics Center
    - Increase Budget (Phase II)
9. Winthrop University
  - a. Music Conservatory & Byrnes Auditorium Renovation
    - Phase II Budget Increase

**FOR INFORMATION**

B. Permanent Improvement Project Staff Approvals during December 2023 and January 2024  
(For information, no action)

Commissioner Snyder reported that the Committee on Strategic Initiatives and Engagement will have three items for information only. He summarized the items.

**FOR INFORMATION**

- A. Agency Budget
- B. Legislative Update
- C. External HLOC Studies

Commissioner Snyder recommended that the Executive Committee provide an update on the President and Executive Director search, to which Chair Hayes agreed to provide an update. Chair Hayes asked that executive session be added to the CHE Meeting agenda in case it is needed. Mr. Tippens said that he will also share an update on some legal matters if the Commission calls an executive session.

Commissioner Dyer welcomed other Commissioners to join the CHE Budget presentation meeting to the House Ways and Means Higher Education Subcommittee on January 30.

**3. Other Business**

Chair Hayes asked whether there was any other business to consider. Mr. Wilson said that he will give the quarterly report during the Committee on Finance and Facilities report.

**4. Adjourn**

The Executive Committee adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.