



Meeting of the South Carolina Commission
on Higher Education
11:00 a.m., February 27, 2024
Via Zoom Webinar Only

Members

Commissioner Wes Hayes, Chair
Commissioner Bettie Rose Horne, Vice Chair
Commissioner Edgar Dyer
Commissioner Paul Batson
Commissioner Jenni Bryson
Commissioner Gene Fant
Commissioner Hugh Mobley

Commissioner Terrye Seckinger
Commissioner Cleveland Sellers
Commissioner Oran Smith
Commissioner Doug Snyder
Commissioner Dino Teppara
Commissioner Patrick White

Members Excused

Commissioner Mick Zais

Commission Staff Present

Argentini Anderson
Jessica Berry
Laura Belcher
Kristin Brooks
Jamie Covell
Morgan Clinton
Scheri Eichelberger
Shardai Figgures
Monica Goodwin
Corey Gheesling
Gerrick Hampton
Kathryn Harris
Matthew Hartenstine
Ellan Jenkinson, PASCAL
Andrea LaTouche
Mariana Manic
Yolanda McCree
Emily McPheron, PASCAL
Alfie Mincy
Rick Moul, PASCAL

Frank Myers
Yolanda Myers
Rick Moul
Kenita Pitts
Melissa Price
Christopher Robinson
Dianne Schaefer
Christina Seale
Nia Simmons
Kara Smith
Rachel Smith
Crystal Standifer
Yarley Steedly
Georges Tippens
Bunnie Ward
Tanya Weigold
Leslie Williams
Bryce Wilson
Karen Woodfaulk
Lishu Yin

Guests

Beth Bell, Clemson University
Steph Berquist, Citizen
Teresa Burns, Coastal Carolina University
Bonnie Carson Durham, University of South
Carolina Upstate
Will Carswell, Francis Marion University
Lewis Carter, SC House of Representatives
Tammy Clubbs, South Carolina State University
James Colbert, Lander University
Walter Collins, University of South Carolina
Palmetto College
Alexander Conyers, SC State University

Dan Cooper, Tri-County Technical College
Mark Del Mastro, College of Charleston
Susan Elkins, University of South Carolina
Palmetto College
Rob Essaf, Clemson University
Frederick Evans, SC State University
Patsy Fields, Aiken Technical College
Jermaine Ford, Florence-Darlington Technical
College
Genell Gause, Florence-Darlington Technical
College
Tim Hardee, Technical College System

Bennie Harris, University of South Carolina
Upstate
Julian Harris, Office of the Inspector General
Katie Harrison, SC Tuition Grants Commission
Heather Keever, SC Department of
Administration
Jeremy King, Clemson University
Celena Kusch, University of South Carolina
Upstate
Patricia Lee, Williamsburg Technical College
Brain Mallory, University of South Carolina
Palmetto College
Shannon Means, University of South Carolina
Elizabeth Milam, Clemson University
Chris Miller, Clemson University
Rebecca Mouzon, Francis Marion University
Thayer McGahee, University of South Carolina
Aiken
Chris Miller, Clemson University
Gwynth Nelson, SC Institutes of Innovation &
Information
AJ Newton, SC Technical College System
Ashley Owens, Francis Marion University
Al Panu, University of South Carolina Beaufort
Erin Paysinger, Lander University

Jenell Peoples, University of South Carolina
Cam Reagin, University of South Carolina Aiken
Hope Rivers, Piedmont Technical College
Jake Scoggins, SC Senate
Edward Serna, Winthrop University
Gerald Smalls, SC State University
Kimberly Smalls, SC Institutes of Innovation &
Information
Allison Steadman, Francis Marion University
Kelly Steinhilper, SC Technical College System
Rosaline Sumpter, SC Technical College System
Adam Taylor, Lander University
Karen Taylor, SC Technical College System
Suzanne Thomas, Medical University of South
Carolina
Jacki Walsh, SC Department of Education
Alissa Warters, Francis Marion University
Macey Webb, SC House of Representatives
Alan West, Coastal Carolina University
Angela Williams, Midlands Technical College
Lloyd Willis, Lander University
Karen Wingo, SC Department of Administration
Tangar Young, SC State University
News 19

All Attended either In-Person, by Phone, or via Video Conference

Chair Hayes convened the meeting at 11:00 a.m. and welcomed all in attendance. He asked that Commissioner Dyer chair the meeting as he and the vice chair are recovering.

I. 1. Introductions and Roll Call to Establish Quorum

Ms. Belcher introduced the Commissioners. She confirmed a quorum of the Commission and announced that the meeting was being held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

2. Executive Session

Commissioner Seckinger motioned and Chair Hayes seconded to go into executive session to discuss personnel. Acting Chair Dyer called for the vote and the motion carried. Commissioners returned from executive session and Acting Chair Dyer confirmed that no action was taken.

3. Consideration of Acting President & Executive Director

Acting Chair Dyer motioned to suspend, for this instance, the CHE Bylaw 48-hour provision, to which Commissioner Batson seconded. Chair Dyer asked Ms. Belcher to do a roll-call vote and the motioned

carried unanimously. Commissioner Smith motioned that the Board accept the recommendation of the Executive Committee. Commissioner Seckinger asked whether the appointment would be for six months, to which Commissioner Hayes confirmed that there is not a specific timeline but confirmed that the process for securing a permanent President and Executive Director will commence quickly. Commissioner Seckinger asked whether a consultant could be used, if needed, to assist with rebuilding the agency while the Acting President and Executive Director is in place, to which Commissioners recommended allowing the Acting President and Executive Director to determine the need. Chair Hayes said that he would discuss the suggestion with the Acting President and Executive Director. Commissioner Seckinger asked whether the agency will return to its original structure between 2016-2018, to which Chair Hayes said that has not been discussed but the Board will work with the Acting President and Executive Director in the restructure of the agency, if needed.

Chair Hayes made a motion on behalf of the executive search committee to nominate Dr. Gregory Little as acting president and executive director of the CHE, with the understanding that the Commission will immediately begin the process of searching for the permanent president and executive director. The vote received unanimous support from the board. Commissioner Smith withdrew his motion in favor of Chair Hayes' motion. Acting Chair Dyer asked whether there were any further questions. Commissioner Seckinger asked whether the selected candidate would start immediately, to which Chair Hayes confirmed that he would work with State Human Resources to begin the onboarding process so that he may start as soon as possible. Acting Chair Dyer motioned to vote by acclamation and Commissioner Batson seconded. Acting Chair Dyer asked for the vote and the motion carried by acclamation. Acting Chair Dyer confirmed that an offer will be extended to Dr. Little. Chair Hayes thanked Dr. Woodfaulk for her leadership as Acting President and Executive Director and the staff for their hard work. Dr. Woodfaulk thanked Commissioners for the opportunity and thanked the staff for their continued hard work.

4. Other Business

Acting Chair Dyer asked whether there was any other business. There was no other business to consider.

5. Adjourn

The business meeting adjourned at noon.