



Minutes of the SC Commission on Higher Education
Executive Committee Meeting
November 28, 2023
10:00 a.m.
Via Zoom

In Attendance:

Executive Committee Members Present

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

CHE Staff Present

Dr. Rusty Monhollon, President & Executive Director
Ms. Laura Belcher, Senior Advisor
Ms. Monica Goodwin, Director of Data-Research & IT
Ms. Shakara Smith, Executive Assistant
Mr. Georges Tippens, Deputy Director & General Counsel
Ms. Bunnie Ward, Director of Strategic Initiatives & Engagement
Mr. Bryce Wilson, Director of Fiscal Affairs
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk, Director of Student 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 October 24, 2023

Wes Hayes

Chair Hayes called for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 24, 2023, Executive Committee meeting. Commissioner Horne motioned and Commissioner Batson seconded to approve the minutes. Chair Hayes called for the vote and the minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Consideration of Battelle Savannah River Alliance Proposal

Chair Hayes called on President Monhollon to summarize the Battelle River Alliance proposal. President Monhollon reported that the General Assembly appropriated \$40 million for the Battelle River Alliance to be distributed between Clemson University, South Carolina State University, and University of South Carolina to support workforce development needs. He explained that the three institutions were mandated by Proviso 11.24 to develop a plan for using the funds, which would be reviewed and considered by the Commission. He explained that the plan would then go to the Joint Bond Review Committee (JBRC) and State Fiscal Accountability Authority (SFAA) for further consideration. President Monhollon recommended the proposal for consideration.



Commissioner Mobley asked if there were any issues with the Executive Committee considering the budget, to which Chair Hayes and Mr. Tippens agreed that it is appropriate for the Executive Committee to consider the item based on the current CHE bylaws. Commissioner Snyder inquired about next steps following approval, to which President Monhollon explained that the funds will be released to CHE and the CHE will then allocate the funds to the three institutions for their use.

Commissioner Snyder suggested that Mr. Wilson provide a quarterly report on how the funds are being used. Commissioner Dyer asked why The Citadel is not participating in the alliance as it has an engineering program, to which President Monhollon responded that he did not know. Mr. Tippens said that the requested quarterly report would be more aligned coming from the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing rather than the Committee on Finance and Facilities based on the content of the proposal. Commissioner Mobley motioned and Commissioner Horne seconded to approve the item. Chair Hayes called for the vote and the item was approved unanimously.

3. Review of the December 7, 2023 CHE Draft Meeting Agenda

Chair Hayes called on President Monhollon to summarize his forthcoming report to the Commission. President Monhollon stated that his report will provide an update on the House Legislative Oversight Committee (HLOC) and Inspector General (IG) reviews. He said that he will also provide an update on staff activities.

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

Chair Hayes reported that the Executive Committee report will include consideration of the Battelle Savannah River Alliance Proposal.

Commissioner Dyer reported that the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing (CAAL) has four items for consideration on the consent agenda. Commissioner Dyer briefly summarized the items.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Center of Excellence Proposal
- B. Committee Charter
- C. USC REACH Act Module
- D. FY 22-23 REACH Act Report

Commissioner Mobley reported that the Committee on Access and Equity and Student Services has one item for consideration and two items for information only. Commissioner Mobley summarized the agenda items. He announced that there will be a special-called Committee on Access and Equity and Student Services meeting to consider the Committee's charter prior to the CHE Business meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. SC Program for the Recruitment and Retention of Minority Teachers Quarter I Report
- B. Committee Charter
- C. SC National Guard College Assistance Program Annual Review

Commissioner Batson reported that the Committee on Finance and Facilities will consider eight permanent improvement projects and its draft committee charter. He said that there will be one item for information only. Commissioner Batson summarized the consent agenda items.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Permanent Improvement Project Approvals
 - 1. Clemson University
 - a. Williamson Road Parking Garage
 - Establish Project
 - b. Lehotsky Hall Replacement

- Phase II Budget Increase
- c. Women’s Sport Program Expansion (Gymnastics/Lacrosse)
 - Change Source of Funds
- 2. Coastal Carolina University
 - a. Land Acquisition for Future Health and Human Performance Building
 - Establish Project (Phase I)
- 3. College of Charleston
 - a. 176 Lockwood Exterior Repairs
 - Increase Budget (Phase II)
 - b. Buist Residence Hall 2024 Renovation
 - Increase Budget (Phase II)
- 4. South Carolina State University
 - a. Supplemental Housing – Modular Lease
 - Establish Project (Phase I/Phase II)
- 5. Winthrop University
 - a. Purchase Campus Walk Apartments
 - Establish Project (Phase I)

B. Permanent Improvement Project Staff Approvals during November (For information, no action)

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

FOR INFORMATION

- A. Committee Charter
- B. Transfer Update
- C. Workforce Development (For information, no action)
- D. CHE Engagement Activities (For information, no action)
- E. Mission, Vision, Values Review Update (For information, no action)
- F. Legislative & Budget Update (For information, no action)

4. Other Business

Chair Hayes asked whether there was any other business to consider. There was no further business to consider.

5. Adjourn

The Executive Committee adjourned the meeting at 10:53 a.m.