



Meeting of the South Carolina Commission
on Higher Education
12:30 p.m., January 18, 2024
1122 Lady Street, Suite 400, Columbia, SC, 29403
& Via Zoom Webinar

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
Commissioner Mick Zais

Commission Staff Present

Rusty Monhollon
Argentini Anderson
Jessica Berry
Laura Belcher
Kristin Brooks
Stephanie Charbonneau
Jamie Covell
Morgan Clinton
Scheri Eichelberger
Shardai Figgures
Monica Goodwin
Gerrick Hampton
Kathryn Harris
Matthew Hartenstine
Ellan Jenkinson, PASCAL
Andrea LaTouche
Mariana Manic
Maggie Mason-Smith, PASCAL
Yolanda McCree
Emily McPheron, PASCAL

Alfie Mincy
Frank Myers
Yolanda Myers
Kenita Pitts
Melissa Price
Dianne Schaefer, PASCAL
Christina Seale
Nia Simmons
Kara Smith
Rachel Smith, PASCAL
Yarley Steedly
Mark Swart
Georges Tippens
Amy Trepal
Bunnie Ward
Tanya Weigold
Leslie Williams
Bryce Wilson
Karen Woodfaulk
Lishu Yin

Guests

Beth Bell, Clemson University
Teresa Burns, Coastal Carolina University
Jessica Carter, Lowcountry Graduate Center
Lewis Carter, SC House of Representatives
Zachary Christian, SC Tuition Grants Commission
James Colbert, Lander University
Walter Collins, University of South Carolina
Palmetto College
April Cromer, SC House of Representatives
MD, Columbia College
Jeremy Dean, SC Inspector General's Office
Mark Del Mastro, College of Charleston
Timothy Druke, Winthrop University

Susan Elkins, University of South Carolina
Palmetto College
Lauren Ellis, Pearson
Frederick Evans, SC State University
Jermaine Ford, Florence Darlington Technical
College
Marilyn Fore, Horry-Georgetown Technical
College
Ronald Friday, SC State University
Bennie Harris, University of South Carolina
Upstate
Julian Harris, SC Inspector General's Office
Katie Harrison, SC Tuition Grants Commission

Lil Hayes, SC House Education & Public Works
Cynthia Hemphill-Reehling, Denmark Technical College
Shirley Hinson, College of Charleston
Jessica Holdman, SC Daily Gazette
Trena Houpp, University of South Carolina Columbia
Andrew Hsu, College of Charleston
Tanya King, SC Inspector General's Office
Elisabeth Kova, SC Future Makers
Maggie May, Higher Ed News
Meghan McCraw, Executive Budget Office
Shannon Means, University of South Carolina
Thayer McGahee, University of South Carolina Aiken
Gwynth Nelson, SC Institutes of Innovation & Information
AJ Newton, SC Technical College System
Erin Paysinger, Lander University
Jeff Perez, SC Independent Colleges and Universities
Hope Rivers, Piedmont Technical College
Jake Scoggins, SC Senate

Eric Skipper, University of South Carolina Beaufort
Gerald Smalls, SC State University
Kimberly Smalls, SC Institutes of Innovation & Information
Nina Staggers, SC Department of Employment and Workforce
Pamela Steinke, University of South Carolina Upstate
Rosaline Sumpter, SC Technical College System
Adam Taylor, Lander University
Karen Taylor, SC Technical College System
Graham Tew, McGuire Consulting
Suzanne Thomas, Medical University of South Carolina
Wille Todd, Denmark Technical College
Terrance Trapp, SC Inspector General's Office
Jacki Walsh, SC Department of Education
Bessie Watson, SC Inspector General's Office
Macey Webb, SC House of Representatives
Angela Williams, Midlands Technical College
Leslie Wiser, SC Inspector General's Office
Tangar Young, SC State University

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

Chair Hayes convened the meeting at 12:00 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance.

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. Discuss President and Executive Director Transition

Chair Hayes thanked everyone for attending the meeting and introduced two new Commissioners, Oran Smith and Mick Zais. Chair Hayes called on President Monhollon to provide an update. President Monhollon announced that he has submitted his resignation from the President and Executive Director position effective January 19, 2024. He thanked the Commission for the opportunity to serve in this capacity. Commissioner Seckinger motioned and Commissioner Horne seconded to go into executive session to discuss personnel. Chair Hayes called for the vote and the motion carried.

3. Executive Session

Commissioners returned from executive session and Chair Hayes confirmed that no action was taken in Executive Session.

[Continuation of Item 2, Discuss President and Executive Director Transition]

Chair Hayes accepted President Monhollon's resignation and thanked him for his service to the agency and to the State. Commissioners joined in thanking President Monhollon for his leadership. Chair Hayes asked for a motion to select an Acting President and Executive Director, to which Commissioner Mobley motioned and Commissioner Seckinger seconded to appoint Dr. Karen Woodfaulk. Chair Hayes called for the vote and the motion passed unanimously. Chair Hayes asked the Executive Committee to serve as the search committee in collaboration with the State Human Resources Office to fill the interim and full-time President and Executive Director positions. Chair Hayes welcomed other Commissioners to support the Executive Committee with the search process. He expressed that the process will move quickly.

Chair Hayes said that he would extend the timeline to receive Commissioners' feedback on the CHE's response to the Inspector General's (IG) Report, which will be submitted tentatively on Friday, January 26. He said that the report will be sent to the IG for review to determine whether the CHE's response meets his recommendations prior to him presenting during the February CHE Business Meeting.

President Monhollon thanked the Commission, staff, and the higher education community for their work. He was then excused from the meeting.

Chair Hayes called on Commissioner Snyder to discuss the CHE's budget presentation that would be given to the House Ways and Means. Commissioner Snyder provided a summary of the fiscal year (FY) 2024-25 budget presentation. Chair Hayes thanked Commissioner Snyder and staff for their work on the budget.

4. Other Business

Chair Hayes asked whether there was any other business. Commissioner Seckinger and Chair Hayes thanked Dr. Woodfaulk for serving in the Acting President and Executive Director position.

5. Public Comment

Chair Hayes asked whether there was any public comment. There was no public comment.

6. End of Business Meeting

The business meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.