

South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting

May 4, 2023

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**DRAFT MINUTES**

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE & FACILITIES

MAY 4, 2023

COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Committee Members

Mr. Charleston Dalton, Chair  
Mr. Paul Batson  
Mr. Edgar Dyer  
Mr. Patrick White  
Mr. Hugh Mobley  
Mr. Dino Teppara

Other Commissioners

Dr. Bettie Rose Horne  
Dr. Cleveland Sellers  
Mr. Ben Satcher, Jr.  
Mr. Doug Snyder

Guests

Beth Bell  
Laura Stoner  
Graham Neff  
Tyler Saas  
David Watson  
Carol Routh  
Eric Saban  
David Frost  
Julianne Cooke  
Dr. Marilyn Fore  
Harold Hawley  
Dave Attard  
Christy Brandon  
John Catalano  
Jennifer Lopresti  
Michael Hughes  
Shane Crooper

Staff

Dr. Rusty Monhollon  
Mr. Georges Tippens  
Mr. Bryce Wilson  
Mrs. Yolanda Myers  
Mrs. Mariana Manic  
Ms. Leslie Williams  
Mr. Christopher Glenn  
Ms. Laura Belcher  
Dr. Mariam Dittmann  
Ms. Kathryn Harris  
Mr. Corey Gheesling

Clemson University  
Clemson University  
Clemson University  
Clemson University  
Clemson University  
Clemson University  
Clemson University  
Clemson University  
Coastal Carolina University  
Coastal Carolina University  
Horry-Georgetown Technical College  
Horry-Georgetown Technical College  
Medical University of South Carolina  
South Carolina Technical College System  
Palmetto College  
Executive Budget Office  
Executive Budget Office  
Unknown Affiliation

For the record, notification of the meeting was made to the public as required by the Freedom of Information Act.

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Dalton called the meeting to order at 11:20 a.m. and noted the establishment of a quorum of Committee Members. He noted that Vice Chair Dolny had an excused absence.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

Chair Dalton called for the approval of the minutes from the March 2, 2023 meeting. Commissioner Batson motioned, Commissioner Dyer seconded, and the motion passed it unanimously.

**3. Chair's Report**

Chair Dalton welcomed everyone in attendance. He notified the rest of the Committee and attendees that he has been nominated to serve on the Board of Santee Cooper by the Governor. After long and hard consideration, he has accepted the nomination and is currently in the process of being confirmed. He noted that in all likelihood that this may be his last meeting as a member of the Commission. He thanked

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everyone for the past four plus years and expressed gratitude for the opportunity. As a result of his nomination and being informed that Vice Chair Dolny has submitted her resignation from the Commission, the Committee will take up officer elections during other business.

#### **4. Permanent Improvement Project Approvals**

The following projects were presented for recommendation and approval:

##### **A. Clemson University**

- i. Jervey Athletic Center Renovations and Performance & Wellness Center Addition  
– Establish Project (Phase I)

Clemson University sought a recommendation from the Committee on Finance and Facilities to renovate and build an addition to Jervey Athletic Center, an 85,000-square foot, 51-year-old facility that provides services to student athletes. Commissioners inquired about the source of the gifts funding the project to which Clemson staff replied they were coming from IPTAY. Commissioners also asked about project timing. Clemson staff stated they plan to return for Phase II approval in Fall 2023 and have part of the project ready by Fall 2024. Finally, Commissioners inquired about Clemson's fee for debt service. Clemson staff stated they intend to not increase the fee for next academic year but could not definitively say they would not.

Commissioner Dyer – Moved to Approve  
Commissioner Batson – Seconded  
The motion carried unanimously.

- ii. Chiller Plants Expansions and Upgrades  
– Increase Budget (Phase II)

Clemson University sought a recommendation from the Committee on Finance and Facilities to begin construction to expand and upgrade its east, south, and west chiller plant facilities. After receiving an overview of the project, Commissioners asked about the location of the Central Chiller Plant, which will be decommissioned and whether the Douthit Hills Residence Halls are supplied by this system. Clemson staff responded that the Central Chiller Plant is located in the heart of campus in the old physical plant building and that they believe Douthit Hill receives chilled water from this system.

Commissioner Batson – Moved to Approve  
Commissioner White – Seconded  
The motion carried unanimously.

##### **B. Coastal Carolina University**

- i. PGA Golf Management Program Academic Learning Lab Construction  
– Increase Budget (Phase II)

Coastal Carolina University sought a recommendation from the Committee on Finance and Facilities to construct a new academic learning lab at Hackler Golf Course. Commissioners inquired whether the PGA and graduates supported the program. Coastal Carolina University staff stated that while the program is one of seventeen in the country, it does not receive financial support from the PGA. Staff added that most graduates work for golf courses or become instructors

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and do not become professional golfers. Commissioners also asked about the space allocation to which staff replied the first floor will be the pro shop and eating area while the second floor will contain the learning spaces.

Commissioner Mobley – Moved to Approve  
Commissioner Batson – Seconded  
The motion carried unanimously.

- ii. Shift Western End of University Boulevard  
– Increase Budget (Phase II)

Coastal Carolina University sought a recommendation from the Committee on Finance and Facilities to begin the process of shifting 0.4-centerline miles of the western end of University Boulevard to the south edge of campus. After hearing an introduction from university staff, Commissioners asked about maintenance. University staff responded that it shares maintenance costs with Horry-Georgetown Technical College; the university allocates \$50,000 per year while the college allocates \$25,000.

Commissioner Mobley – Moved to Approve  
Commissioner Teppara – Seconded  
The motion carried unanimously.

**C. Horry-Georgetown Technical College**

- i. Construction of GT Workforce Training Center  
– Establish Project (Phase I)

Horry-Georgetown Technical College sought a recommendation from the Committee on Finance and Facilities to begin the planning stage to construct a 25,000-square foot marine technology center for its Georgetown Campus. Horry-Georgetown staff noted that the building will serve three needs, boatbuilding, outboard maintenance, and state workforce needs. Staff also opined that their outboard program has a two-semester waiting list and that they also expect high demand for the boatbuilding program, which will be the first such program in the state. Commissioners asked about the number of boatbuilders in the state, to which college staff responded there are approximately 120 in South Carolina and nearby in Georgia and North Carolina. Commissioner then asked about the construction funding. College staff noted that they are seeking a \$6 million appropriation from the state for the program, which has been included in both the House and Senate versions of the budget and have \$1,000,000 secured from business interests. The rest will come from the College Plant Account.

Commissioner Batson – Moved to Approve  
Commissioner Dyer – Seconded  
The motion carried unanimously.

**5. Lease Approval**

**A. Clemson University**

- i. One Research Drive  
–Five-Year Lease Renewal, with one five-year optional extension

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Clemson University sought a recommendation from the Committee on Finance and Facilities to renew a five-year lease for its College of Engineering, Computing, and Applied Sciences at One Research Drive, which is owned and operated by an affiliated entity of Clemson's foundation. Commissioners asked about the use of the space, to which staff responded it will be used for both research and student support. Commissioners also inquired about the grant revenue funding source. Staff responded that the grant funds are unrestricted indirect cost revenue. Finally, the Commissioners asked whether they were approving a five- or ten-year term. Clemson staff responded they are seeking approval of an initial five-year term with the option, but not obligation, to extend that term by an additional five years as outlined in the lease proposal.

Commissioner Mobley – Moved to Approve  
Commissioner Dyer – Seconded  
The motion carried unanimously.

**6. Other Business**

**A. Permanent Improvement Project Staff Approvals**

Georges Tippens provided an overview of the projects staff approved during March and April as an informational item.

**B. CHE Quarter 3 Budget Report**

Mr. Bryce Wilson provided the Committee an update on expenditures vs actuals through March 31, 2023.

**C. Other Business**

The Committee held new elections for Chair and Vice Chair due to Commissioners Dalton and Dolny stepping down from the Commission. Commissioner Dyer motioned, and Commissioner Mobley seconded nominating Commissioner Batson as Chair. The motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Batson then nominated Commissioner Dyer to serve as Vicechair, which was seconded by Commissioner Mobley. The motion carried unanimously.

Staff informed the Committee that Clemson provided additional information sufficient to move its demolition project from last meeting from a conditional recommendation to a full recommendation.

Commissioner Dyer renewed his request to show institutional revenue and expenditure data on the CHE website for transparency purposes. He mentioned staff has worked with institutions on this issue but believes that staff has access to the data without needing to coordinate with the institutions. Chairman Dalton called for a motion from the Committee. Commissioner Dyer motioned for staff to move forward with producing and publishing the data, which Commissioner Batson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 12:23 p.m.