

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES BI-MONTHLY MEETING
Southwestern Community College

November 14, 2023 – SCC Jackson Campus

Attending:

Trustees

Sue Bartlett (virtual) Luke D. Hyde
Jeff Cloer (virtual) Cory McCall
Jack Debnam Jerry McKinney
Ken Henke Betty Waldroop

College Staff

Don Tomas Zach Dezarn
Scott Baker Curtis Dowdle
Mitch Boudrot Lisa Kim Fisher
Thom Brooks Tyler Goode
Nan Coulter Vicki Holzkecht

Absent

Howard Allman, Mark Jones, Beth Lofquist, Brett Rogers, Gary Shields

Guests

John T. Delores, student in National Park Service PRLEA Class #11; Katlyn Harper, alumna of PSTC Class #86

The Board of Trustees of Southwestern Community College (SCC) met for their bi-monthly meeting on November 14, 2023 in the Slagle Board Room of the Conrad G. Burrell Building on the Jackson campus. A quorum was present.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Luke D. Hyde called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m. and read the Conflict of Interest Statement. A quorum was present for the meeting.

PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES

Mr. Hyde asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting of September 26, 2023. Mr. McKinney made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, and Mr. McCall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Tomas introduced Jack Debnam, appointed by the Jackson County Board of Commissioners to serve the remainder of Vance Davidson's term. He also introduced Zyla Young, new Student Representative to the Board of Trustees, who was sworn in it at the end of this meeting.

Dr. Tomas informed the Board that the Aspen Institute has invited the College to apply for the 2025 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence.

CURRICULUM AND STUDENT SERVICES

Curriculum and Student Services Committee Chair Ken Henke asked Dr. Thom Brooks, Executive Vice President for Instruction and Student Services, to report to the Board.

Dr. Brooks asked Mr. Curtis Dowdle, Dean for Public Safety Training, to introduce the student speakers. Mr. Dowdle introduced John T. Delores, student in National Park Service PRLEA Class #11, and Katlyn Harper, alumna of PSTC Class #86. Both spoke of their experiences in their programs and how they are prepared for their careers.

Dr. Brooks reported on the Fall 2023 Curriculum enrollment, reviewed the Instruction and Student Services Divisional Updates, and gave an update on Workforce Continuing Education - Investing in FTE Growth/Career Step.

Dr. Brooks announced that the Fall 2023 Commencement Exercises will be held December 13 at 6 p.m.

FINANCE AND CAMPUS IMPROVEMENT

Finance and Campus Improvement Committee Chair Cory McCall asked Vice President for Financial and Administrative Services Lisa Kim Fisher to give a report on Local Revenue Analysis and State Budget Expenditures.

Under Action Items, Ms. Fisher presented the Budget Allocations and Transfers. Following review and discussion, Mr. McCall made a motion to approve the Budget Allocations and Transfers as presented, which was seconded by Ms. Waldroop and passed unanimously.

Under Facilities and Operations, Dr. Tomas gave an update on the Firing Range, the Fire Rescue Training Facility, and the Groves Center Expansion plans.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

Chairman Hyde asked Mr. Scott Baker, Vice President for Information Technology, to report to the Board on the IT Department and SCC's Cybersecurity efforts. Mr. Baker updated the Board on the IT Department operations, which is a state and federal requirement, and he introduced Ms. Vicki Holzknicht, SCC Cyber Security Analyst. Ms. Holzknicht gave an overview of the College's center for internet security and cyber security efforts, which are mandated by the State Board of Community Colleges and the North Carolina Community College System.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman Hyde reviewed the 2022 SCC Board of Trustees Self-Evaluation with the Board. The evaluation measures how the Board works together, with the President, and in the community.

Under Action Items, Chairman Hyde presented the full-time employee list and part-time employee list for review and approval. Mr. McCall made a motion to approve the employee lists as presented, which was seconded by Mr. Cloer and passed unanimously.

Dr. Tomas presented the 2024 Board of Trustees meeting schedule, and following review and approval, Ms. Waldrop made a motion to approve the 2024 Board of Trustees meeting schedule, which was seconded by Mr. McKinney and passed unanimously.

OATH OF OFFICE

Executive Assistant to the President and Board of Trustees Nan Coulter administered the Oath of Office to Zyla Young, student rep to the Board of Trustees.

With no other business before the Board, Mr. Hyde adjourned the meeting at 6:17 p.m.

Elizabeth Lofquist, Vice Chair
Board of Trustees

Don Tomas, Secretary
Board of Trustees