

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL CALLED MEETING**  
**Southwestern Community College**

**March 21, 2017 – SCC Jackson Campus**

**Attending:**

Trustees

Terry Bell                      Libby Knight  
Jeff Cloer                      Lambert Wilson  
Doug Cody  
Vance Davidson  
Jean Ellen Forrister  
Mark Jones

College Staff

Don Tomas  
William Brothers  
Nan Coulter  
Mitch Fischer  
Tyler Goode  
Lynda Parlett

**Absent**

Karl Gillespie, Paul Holt, Jeremy Hyatt, Gary Shields, Madison Shuler

The Board of Trustees of Southwestern Community College (SCC) met for a Special Called meeting on March 21, 2017 in the Charles Siler Slagle Board Room of the Conrad Burrell Building on the Jackson campus.

Chairman Terry Bell called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and read the Ethics and Conflict of Interest statement.

**SYSTEM UPDATE**

Dr. Tomas gave an update on proposed legislation from the State Board of Community Colleges, specifically:

- N.C.G.S. § 115D-13 Terms of Office of Trustees
- N.C.G.S. § 115D-18 Organization of Boards
- N.C.G.S. § 115D-19 Removal of Trustees

These proposed changes are due to alleged incidents of malpractice at another North Carolina community college over a three-year period.

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Dr. Tomas reported on pending legislation at the NCGA, including high-achieving scholarships for college transfer students, high school student enrollment in continuing education courses that lead to state industry certification, and allowing persons with concealed carry permits to carry weapons on state community college and university campuses. The North Carolina Association of Community College Presidents (NCACCP) will be meeting March 29 – 31, 2017 in Raleigh and will be discussing and crafting responses to these proposed bills. Dr. Tomas will keep the Board of Trustees updated on

these legislative issues via email. He also reported that the Governor's proposed budget is fairly favorable towards community colleges.

### **PROGRAM UPDATE**

Dr. Tomas informed the Board that the SCC Mechatronics program has developed a robot to assist local law enforcement First Responder and SWAT teams to safely assess critical incident environments, and will be presenting one of these robots to the Macon County Sheriff's Office SWAT team in a ceremony scheduled for Monday, April 3, 2017 at the SCC Mechatronics lab in Bryson City. All Trustees are invited to attend.

### **HEALTH SCIENCES BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE**

Dr. Tomas and Mr. Brothers gave an update on the Health Sciences Building project, and informed the Board that he would be making a similar presentation to the Jackson County Board of Commissioners on Wednesday, March 22, 2017. All Trustees are invited and encouraged to attend.

With no other business before the Board, Mr. Wilson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Jones seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

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Terry Bell, Chairman  
Board of Trustees

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Don Tomas, Secretary  
Board of Trustees