

State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education

**Meeting Minutes**

Board Room  
111 Executive Center Drive  
Columbia, SC 29210

10:00 A.M.

September 27, 2022

**PRESENT:**

Roger P. Schrum, Chair  
Gregory B. Askins  
Anthony Garvin Barker, *via conf. call*  
E. Grantland Burns  
Philip G. Homan  
Ralph A. Odom, Jr.  
Orville S. Smith, III, *via conf. call*  
Daniel Young  
William Floyd  
Terry Hardesty  
Karen Woodward  
Carolyn Swinton, *via conf. call*

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Tim Hardee, System President  
Amy Firestone, Vice President of Apprenticeship Carolina  
Warren Ganjehsani, Chief Legal Counsel  
Brad Neese, Vice President of Economic Development  
Kandy Peacock, Vice President for Human Resources  
Rosline Sumpter, Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Khushru Tata, Vice President for Information Technology  
Greg Little, Vice President of Strategic Planning and Innovation  
Kelly Steinhilper, Vice President of Communications

**ABSENT:**

Warren Darby, Jr.

**SYSTEM STAFF ABSENT:**

Randall Johnson  
Mary Oakman

**GUESTS:**

Ashley Jaillette, Executive Director, SC Association of Technical College Commissioners  
Ron Rhames, President, Midlands Technical College  
Richard Davis, Workforce Development Manager, SC Commission on Higher Education

**NOTIFICATION OF MEDIA**

The State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education complied with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act in notifying the media and posting the agenda for the State Board meeting.

**CALL TO ORDER – Roger Schrum Chair**

Chairman Schrum called the meeting to order and welcomed guests.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORTS:**

**A. Economic Development and Training Committee – Grantland Burns, Chair**

Project Budgets for Ratification- Mr. Burns reviewed the two readySCT™ project budgets for ratification under \$200,000. There were no questions.

E-Zone Retraining Program for Ratification- Mr. Burns presented one E-Zone retraining programs for ratification.

Mr. Burns entertained a motion to approve the two Project Budgets for Ratification and the one E-Zone Retraining Programs for Ratification. Dr. Woodward moved, and Mr. Young seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**B. Fiscal, Audit, and Personnel Committee – Garvin Barker, Chair**

Chairman Schrum gave the floor to Mr. Barker. He reported that the Committee has two items for review.

Staff Approvals for July 15, 2022 – September 9, 2022- Information Item- Mr. Barker noted the staff approval list included in the agenda package which contained eleven staff approvals.

State Board Financial Summary – Month Ending August 31, 2022- Information Item- Mr. Barker noted the summary that was included in the agenda package.

**C. Instruction, and Student Services Committee- Nick Odom, Chair**

Mr. Odom reported there was one academic program proposal for consideration by the Committee.

He provided a summary of the program proposal that was included with the agenda materials distributed prior to the meeting. The following academic program was recommended for State Board approval:

- Technical College of the Lowcountry- Associate in Applied Science, Cybersecurity

Mr. Odom entertained a motion for approval. Mr. Hardesty motioned and was seconded by Mr. Homan. The motion passed unanimously.

**ADJOURN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Chairman Schrum adjourned the Committee of the Whole and called the State Board to order.

### **CALL TO ORDER- STATE BOARD MEETING**

Chairman Schrum called the State Board Meeting to Order.

### **SC ASSOCIATION OF TECHNICAL COLLEGE COMMISSIONERS' REPORT – Ashley Jaillette, Executive Director**

Ms. Ashley Jaillette informed the group that the SCATCC Board met on September 7, 2022. She stated Dr. Little was a guest at the meeting. Dr. Hardee also attended the meeting and spoke about the Legislative budget request for the coming fiscal year. The group discussed the upcoming ACCT conference in October, and they are looking forward to the dinner for the SCATCC attendees. She informed the group that the annual audit of the Association has been completed and will be presented to SCATCC's board in December. The association is also in the process of updating its financial system. SCATCC will also be sending out thank you letters to the State Legislators, thanking them for their continued support of the 16 Technical Colleges on behalf of the Association and will also be sending out a form letter for the Commissioners to do the same. The annual day of learning will be held on February 1st, 2023, at the Palmetto Club. The format will follow the same format from previous years, except for the Legislative portion will be a luncheon. She informed the group that she will be sending out an inquiry later for topics to be discussed.

### **MINUTES FOR REVIEW**

Chairman Schrum stated that minutes from July 14, 2022, and August 11, 2022, Presidents' Council meetings were included with the agenda materials distributed prior to the meeting for review. Mr. Schrum encouraged the Board members to read them.

### **COUNCIL OF TECHNICAL COLLEGE PRESIDENTS' REPORT – Ron Rhames, Chair Presidents' Council**

Dr. Rhames reported that Presidents have been busy with the start of the new school year and most of the colleges have seen an increase in enrollment. He stated he believed the no-cost tuition has helped with the increase in enrollment. He also advised the group that the presidents are excited about the rollout of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion initiative. He also stated the Presidents' Council is excited about the Enrollment Management program being rolled out by the System Office and how this initiative will impact all the Colleges in the system in a positive manner. He also informed the Board of a recent group from Midlands Technical College's National Championship for Skills USA competition for the Building Construction Program. The team consisted of five students and MTC also had one student who came in third place at this National competition.

### **MINUTES FOR APPROVAL**

Chairman Schrum entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the State Board meeting on July 27, 2022, and August 31, 2022. Mr. Askins noted a correction to the minutes dated July 27, 2022, under the

Adjourn State Board header, the words “and was seconded by Mr. Schrum” needs to be removed. Mr. Askins motioned and was seconded by Mr. Homan. The minutes were approved as amended with no further discussion.

### **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDATIONS-CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairman Schrum entertained a motion for State Board approval of the Committee of the Whole recommendations. Mr. Burns moved; Mr. Homan seconded the motion. The motion carried and the following recommendations were adopted unanimously without discussion:

- Project Budgets for State Board Ratification
- Board Ratifications for E-Zone Retraining Program
- Technical College of the Lowcountry- Associates in Applied Science, Cybersecurity
- State Board Meeting Minutes, July 27, 2022, and August 31, 2022

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT – Tim Hardee, Executive Director**

Dr. Hardee started his report by sharing a list of the events and meetings he has attended since the July meeting. Dr. Hardee updated the board on the enrollment for the Fall Semester. The final numbers will not be available until October 15, 2022, however, the enrollment to date is up 9.7% across the system. Two years ago, the system was down approximately 6% and last year’s enrollment was flat. Northeastern and Orangeburg-Calhoun are currently seeing a decrease in their enrollment numbers. There are five colleges that are showing an increase of 20% in enrollment for this semester. The five colleges are Central Carolina, Denmark, Horry-Georgetown, Williamsburg, and York. The final numbers regarding enrollment should be available at the November meeting. Dr. Hardee stated that the Public Information Officers at each College are doing a great job of promoting the no cost tuition. He also stated the different grants and scholarships that are currently available also may be driving the increase in enrollment.

October 3, 2022 Governor McMaster will host an EV summit in Greenville. The Electric Vehicle industry has grown at an exponential rate in South Carolina. Dr. Hardee has been invited to speak on a panel at the summit.

Dr. Hardee announced to the Board that Mr. AJ Newton has been hired as the VP of Governmental Affairs. Mr. Newton will start on October 17, 2022. The Legislative agenda will be presented to the Governor’s Office on October 18, 2022.

On November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022, the system will host a dinner for the sixteen college presidents and School district superintendents from across the state. The goal of the dinner is to foster relationships and build partnerships between k-12 and the Technical College System. Secretary of Commerce, Harry Lightsey has been invited to be the keynote speaker.

### **ADJOURN STATE BOARD**

With no other matters to discuss, Chairman Schrum called for a motion to adjourn the State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education meeting Mr. Burns moved and Mr. Askins seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**CALL TO ORDER – FOUNDATION MEETING**

Chairman Schrum turned the floor over to Mr. Burns. Mr. Odom made a motion to enter an executive session to discuss an employment/contractual matter. Mr. Homan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*Section 30-4-70(a) of the S.C. Code of Laws provides that "A public body may hold a meeting closed to the public for one or more of the following reasons:  
... Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements and proposed sale or purchase of property, the receipt of legal advice where the legal advice relates to a pending, threatened, or potential claim or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege, settlement of legal claims, or the position of the public agency in other adversary situations involving the assertion against the agency of a claim."*

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**


Mr. Schrum affirmed no votes were taken during the executive session. He noted that the next State Board meeting has been moved from November 22<sup>nd</sup> to November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022.


**ADJOURNMENT**

With no other matters to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

11/15/2022

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Date Approved by the State Board

  
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Roger Schrum, Chairman

  
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Tim Hardee, Executive Director