

**South Carolina Commission on Higher Education  
Committee on Governmental & Administrative Affairs (GAA)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room  
1122 Lady Street, Suite 300, Columbia, SC 29201  
1:00 p.m. (or 30 minutes upon adjournment) on April 2, 2015**

**Committee Members in Attendance:**

Admiral Charles Munns  
Ms. Diane Kuhl  
Ms. Terrye Seckinger  
Mr. Clark Parker  
Mr. Tim Hofferth  
Dr. Jennifer Settlemyer

**Others in Attendance:**

Ms. Julie Carullo, CHE  
Dr. Argentini Anderson, CHE  
Ms. Tanya Rogers, CHE  
Ms. Beth Bell, Clemson University  
Dr. Kathy Coleman, Clemson University  
Mr. Mike LeFever, SC Independent Colleges & Universities

Chair Admiral Munns called the meeting to order at 1:50 pm. The meeting was held following the full Commission which adjourned later than anticipated.

**1. Introduction**

**2. Approval of minutes of February 2, 2015**

Commissioner Kuhl asked to discuss information in the last paragraph of Item 5 of the minutes under consideration concerning the committee's coordination with the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing with respect to clarification of staff responsibility and licensing requirements. After discussion, it was affirmed that Commissioner Kuhl will follow up on the matter with Commissioner Horne, chair of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing. Chair Munns then called for approval of the minutes which were approved.

**3. Discussion, Review of CHE 2015 Legislative Agenda Advocacy Items and Legislative Update and Review for Consideration of Recommended CHE Action, if applicable:**

The committee discussed the veterans' bills, the bond issue and also proposed legislation regarding the separation of the State Technical College System from CHE program approval oversight. Chair

Munns shared that the veterans' bill and the bond issue, both CHE legislative agenda items, were longer-term issues to be addressed; however, the separation from the Technical College System needs to be addressed immediately. Ms. Julie Carullo affirmed that there were not other items to be added to the aforementioned issues.

Commissioner Kuhl suggested that the item relating to "teaching of the constitution" should be added to the GAA agenda. She believes that CHE needs to facilitate this issue because each institution has a different approach. Commissioner Seckinger shared with the committee that the bill has a loyalty clause included which may be a problem as a requirement. Ms. Carullo confirmed the status of the bill under discussion in the House (H.3151) and explained that the statutory provisions need to be modernized because it originated in the 1920s. Ms. Carullo noted that there is not a bill in the Senate on this issue. However, an amendment by Senator Grooms regarding higher education and the teaching of the constitution has been attached to a bill passed by the Senate (S.437). She explained that the bill to which the amendment was attached relates to a requirement of high school students to pass the U.S. citizenship exam as part of their curriculum. Upon questioning, Ms. Carullo confirmed for the committee that CHE collected and delivered information on this matter to Senator Grooms previously as requested. Dr. Kathy Coleman offered comments on the legislation under consideration and suggested that institutions should work with CHE staff to create an acceptable solution that works for all institutions. Commissioners discussed that staff should work with institutions in facilitating a solution for language.

**Commissioner Seckinger moved and Commissioner Settlemyer seconded a motion that CHE will wait for the General Assembly to act. Once the GA has acted, CHE staff will work on facilitation of implementation.**

The following legislative items remain for CHE legislative agenda: veterans' initiatives and the bond bill, as well as the upcoming legislation in subcommittee concerning academic program approval and the technical college system. Staff will coordinate with Commissioners regarding any action items with respect to the upcoming subcommittee on higher education and related to the defunding of CHE in the House budget recommendations.

#### **4. Status Review of Policy Memos for Confidentiality and Licensure Default**

Commissioner Seckinger provided the committee with a CHE policy manual draft that she was developing, noting work on this document was still in process.

#### **5. Discussion and Consideration, Proposal for CHE Discussion of a Board Governance Model.**

Chair Munns updated the committee on the history behind the proposal for consideration of a board governance model. The Commission does not have such a governance model in place. Commissioner Seckinger informed the committee that currently there is no policy manual to govern the Board and speak to the Agency. She reported that she has been speaking to the members in the state about having a global template regarding governance structure. She recommended the book, *Boards That Make a Difference*, by John Carver. Commissioner Seckinger has been working on a template for CHE Board (see above item 4), indicating that she has completed one-third of the draft which she anticipated completing and forwarding to the committee by May 15, 2015. The committee will

provide comments and/or suggestions via email, and then there will be an ends process review at the committee's June meeting.

Commissioner Seckinger then shared that she spoke with Mr. Paul Meyer, a consultant who works with governmental boards, and he can help the committee and Commission with policy structure. She shared his proposal with the committee. Ms. Carullo reminded the committee that CHE as a state agency must follow the state's procurement law in securing a consultant. Commissioner Seckinger proposed that the Board review the proposal, and in June, select the appropriate parts of the proposal that they would like to pursue.

## **6. Retreat, CHE pending events**

The committee discussed having a pre-planned agenda for CHE's fall retreat recommended by the committee with input from the commissioners and the universities. Staff will follow up to solicit feedback for the Committee's use in this process. The committee discussed the length of the retreat and possible topics to include governance of the agency. The committee will work on this item with proposed agenda determined by the June meeting.

Chair Munns shared with the committee that the SC Chamber as part of its Competitiveness Agenda has a meeting on August 8, 2015, and CHE should be involved. It was noted that Dr. Sutton had previously communicated with Chamber President Ted Pitts and Ms. Carullo will follow up with the Chamber regarding participation in this event.

The committee briefly discussed future CHE meetings with the Council of Presidents, and a meeting in October was suggested.

Commission Hofferth expressed his concern that CHE does not have legal counsel on staff considering that there are two lawsuits against the agency presently pending. He also believes that the board should have access to legal representation. Ms. Carullo shared that several years ago CHE explored hiring legal counsel on staff, but its request to do so was denied by the Attorney General. She noted that the agency must coordinate with the state's Attorney General on this matter or in retaining counsel as was the case with the pending litigation. Commissioner Seckinger suggested that CHE should have someone on retainer and should consider adding a retainer for an attorney as a line item on the budget. Staff will explore further. Commissioner Hofferth also stated that the Commission should fill the public relations position which is presently vacant.

**7. Next meeting:** June 4, 2015, 1:00 p.m.

## **8. Other Business**

## **9. Adjournment**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.