

**Minutes of the SC Commission on Higher Education
Executive Committee Meeting
October 27, 2020
Via Zoom**

In Attendance:

Executive Committee Members Present

Mr. R. Wes Hayes, Chair
Dr. Bettie Rose Horne, Vice Chair
Mr. Charles Dalton
Mr. Charles Munns

Executive Committee Members Absent

Mr. Paul Batson

Other Commissioners Present

Mr. Hubert “Hugh” Mobley

CHE Staff Present

Dr. Rusty Monhollon, President & Executive Director
Ms. Laura Belcher, Operations Manager
Ms. Monica Goodwin, Chief Information Officer
Dr. John Lane, Director of Academic Affairs
Ms. Shakara Smith, Executive Assistant
Mr. Georges Tippens, Facilities Program Manager
Ms. Bunnie Ward, Director of Governmental Affairs & Communications
Mr. Bryce Wilson, Director of Fiscal Affairs
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk, Director of Student Affairs

Chair Hayes called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. It was confirmed that the meeting was being held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

1. Approval of Minutes September 24, 2020

Wes Hayes

Chair Hayes called for a motion to approve the minutes of the Executive Committee’s meeting on September 24. Commissioner Horne motioned and Commissioner Dalton seconded to approve the minutes. Chair Hayes called for the vote and the minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Review of the November 05, 2020 CHE Draft Meeting Agenda

Wes Hayes

Chair Hayes welcomed Commissioner Mobley to the meeting, then initiated the discussion of the draft agenda for the Commission’s upcoming CHE meeting on November 5, 2020.

Chair Hayes asked President Monhollon to summarize his upcoming President’s report. President Monhollon stated that his report would provide an update on the Commission’s operational plan, and welcomed Commissioners to provide any feedback. President Monhollon then affirmed that a finalized document will be formally presented to the full Commission at the December 3, 2020 meeting. He summarized some of the key components of the draft operational plan to include: moving the attainment goal of 60 percent to 2030 instead of 2025; adding an equity component to the attainment goal; and support initiatives geared to ensure access and affordability, promote students post-secondary success, and strengthen the workforce. President Monhollon further explained that the plan includes some discussion of agency operational activities, functional responsibilities, and structure.

Commissioner Munns suggested that a motion be made at the December 3rd CHE Meeting to approve the strategy of executing the public agenda through an operational plan, the details of which are left to the president and executive director. Commissioner Horne expressed the importance in addressing nontraditional underserved populations including minority populations and those in lower socioeconomic brackets. Chair Hayes requested that President Monhollon considers Commissioner Horne’s suggestion as the operational plan develops.

Lastly, President Monhollon shared that Commission staff is meeting with key legislators to discuss the 2021 legislative agenda in the context of how it supports the public agenda. Chair Hayes inquired if the transferability of students will be on the legislative agenda, to which President Monhollon responded that it is part of the discussion. Commissioner Horne discussed the importance of the transferability initiative.

Chair Hayes asked Ms. Ward to provide a preview of the legislative report update. Ms. Ward shared that she is working on some key initiatives to include; policy goals, FAFSA completion, and transferability. Ms. Ward then shared an update regarding the CHE executive budget. She stated that a presentation will be made to the Executive Budget Office later in the week and that CHE would need to submit any budget or legislative requests to the House by November 30, and provisos by December 4. Chair Hayes asked whether there were any updates on the budget for 2021, to which Ms. Ward explained the next update is anticipated to be in November.

Then Committee Chairs reviewed their committee reports for the CHE meeting. Chair Hayes stated Commissioner Horne will provide an update on the Bylaws review as part of the Executive Committee Report.

Commissioner Munns shared the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing (CAAL) will have four items on the consent agenda, and one potential informational item. Regarding EIA Centers of Excellence One Year Award, he stated that the item may not need full Commission approval, as it is regarding left over funds that the State has given CHE approval to spend. Commissioner Munns suggested President Monhollon has the authority to carry out the approval with endorsement from CAAL.

Dr. Woodfaulk, on behalf of Commissioner Batson, said the Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services would present two consent agenda items, SC Program for the Recruitment and Retention of Minority Teachers (SC-PRRMT) FY 2019-2020 Fourth Quarter Report and Proposed Regulatory Changes to the State's Scholarship Programs: SC Hope Scholarship, LIFE Scholarship and Palmetto Fellows Scholarship. Dr. Woodfaulk explained that changes included; clarification in language, allowance for the ACT to be super-scored, changes in ACT and SAT test dates, and notices provided to students regarding scholarship ineligibility. Dr. Woodfaulk then shared that the Committee would have one item for information, the SC National Guard College Assistance Program Annual Report and Presentation.

Commissioner Dalton shared that the Committee on Finance and Facilities will meet Thursday morning before the full Commission meeting. He shared that the Committee currently has nine permanent improvement projects and one lease for consideration. Commissioner Dalton stated that the Committee will also present Permanent Improvement Project Staff Approvals and the 2020-21 First Quarter Financial Statement as informational items. Chair Hayes inquired whether any of the projects were controversial, to which Commissioner Dalton responded no, and then he added most were maintenance improvement projects. Mr. Tippens added that all projects have been previously approved in Phase I.

Chair Hayes then mentioned that the proposed 2021 CHE and Executive Committee Meeting calendars will be discussed during Other Business at the November CHE Meeting. He asked if there were any comments. Commissioners Horne and Dalton expressed support for the presented schedule. Commissioner Horne shared that CAAL is currently working to sync CAAL meetings with the proposed CHE schedule, similar to the Committee on Finance and Facilities.

3. Other Business

Commissioner Horne commented regarding the need for Wi-Fi in every community and asked how this statewide initiative has impacted students, to which Ms. Ward shared an update regarding the broadband

initiative. Commissioner Horne also suggested drafting a letter of support to institutions of higher education, to which Presidents Monhollon responded that the CHE has sent two letters of support to colleges and universities over the last few months.

4. Adjourn

The Executive Committee adjourned the meeting at 11:06 a.m.