

**Minutes of the SC Commission on Higher  
Education Executive Committee Meeting  
July 13, 2020  
Via Zoom**

In Attendance:

**Executive Committee Members Present**

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

**CHE Staff Present**

Dr. Rusty Monhollon, President & Executive  
Director  
Ms. Laura Belcher, Operations Manager  
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 10:02 a.m. It was confirmed that the meeting was being held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

**1. Approval of Minutes (May 26, 2020)**

**Wes Hayes**

Chair Hayes called for a motion to approve the minutes of the Executive Committee's meeting on May 26, 2020. Commissioner Batson motioned and Commissioner Munns seconded to approve the minutes. Chair Hayes called for the vote and the minutes were approved unanimously.

**2. Review of the July 30, 2020 CHE Draft Meeting Agenda**

**Wes Hayes**

Chair Hayes initiated the discussion of the draft agenda for the Commission's upcoming CHE meeting on July 30, 2020.

Regarding the public hearing, Chair Hayes asked Dr. Monhollon to provide an update on the SC National Guard College Assistance Regulation. Dr. Monhollon explained that public hearings are necessary to pursue any changes to regulations and further explained the process.

Chair Hayes asked Dr. Monhollon to summarize his upcoming President's report. Dr. Monhollon said his report would update the Commission formally on the recommendations arising from the South Carolina Higher Education Advisory Committee's (SCHEAC) sessions. He explained that he will also provide an update on the COVID-19 related impact on higher education institutions. Chair Hayes commented that the recommendations developed by the SCHEAC were good and provided good structure for the Commission moving forward.

Chair Hayes asked Ms. Ward to provide a preview of the legislative report update. Ms. Ward shared that the following matters will be addressed; eligibility for scholarships considering ACT/SAT changes, rebranding of CHE's communications plan and website redevelopment.

Then Committee Chairs reviewed their committee reports for the CHE meeting.

Commissioner Dalton mentioned the Committee on Finance and Facilities will have three permanent improvement projects to review: two from Northeastern Technical College and one from Greenville Technical College. The Greenville Technical College project was inadvertently approved by the State Fiscal Accountability Authority (SFAA) and by the Joint Bond Review Committee (JBRC) before formal Commission approval.

Commissioner Dalton also shared that the Committee is developing a policy and procedures manual to guide the committee's work. He stated that the policy will be formally presented to the full Commission at the September CHE meeting.

Chair Hayes asked President Monhollon to provide an update on the CHE lease. Dr. Monhollon explained the rationale behind the lease failing at SFAA's June 30 meeting, thus causing the CHE to rent office space on a month by month basis.

Commissioner Munns shared the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing received 62 proposals, of which only 26 critical projects will be pushed forward at this time. He stated that twenty-four of the proposals were unanimously approved by the committee, and two items — Coastal Carolina University, B.A. & B.S., Sustainability and Coastal Resilience and B.F.A., Visual Art — passed, but were pulled from the consent agenda at the request of a Commissioner. He explained that each of the 26 institutions that brought forth a proposal provided written documentation that their Boards had recently reviewed and approved projects prior to being submitted to the Commission. Commissioner Munns also discussed three annual reports that Academic Affairs staff will present: Annual Report on Admission Standards for First Time Entering Freshman, Report on Program Modifications and Annual Evaluation of Associate Degree Programs. Chair Hayes thanked Commissioner Munns, Dr. Lane and staff for the work well done in considering project proposals.

Commissioner Batson said the Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services would put before the Commission two items on the consent agenda, the Annual Administrative Budget Request through the SC Student Loan Corporation and the SC Program for the Recruitment of Minority Teachers Quarterly Report (Quarter 3). Commissioner Batson also mentioned the informational item regarding the SC State Approving Agency.

### **3. August CHE Meeting and Discussion of Strategic Planning Retreat**

Dr. Monhollon asked that the Strategic Planning Retreat be postponed given the current pandemic conditions, and be revisited at a future date, perhaps late in September or October. Commissioner Batson confirmed that he was in agreeance with postponing the meeting. Commissioner Munns shared his support and added that the Commission should move forward in developing an operational plan to guide the work of the committees and to address more time sensitive topics, such as enrollment. Dr. Monhollon shared the initial plan of Commission staff, along with an outside facilitator, having a staff retreat to begin the framework of the Strategic Planning Retreat. Chair Hayes agreed with beginning the work and proposed that CHE staff present a draft Strategic Plan for the year that builds on the SC HEAC recommendations at the September CHE meeting. The Commissioners and Dr. Monhollon then had an extensive discussion regarding fall enrollment concerns and projections. Dr. Monhollon suggested the creation of an ad hoc committee to consider fall enrollment issues, as opposed to tasking any one of the standing committees to address the topic.

#### **4. Other Business**

Chair Hayes asked if there was any other business to consider. Commissioner Dalton confirmed the Committee on Finance and Facilities will meet the morning before the CHE Meeting. Commissioner Horne posed a question regarding how ICE's mandate against international students will be addressed. Dr. Monhollon commented that the restrictions will impact enrollment and that he would gather some projections prior to the September CHE meeting and share the information during his president's report. Commissioner Munns suggested placing the topic within CAAL's report. Dr. Monhollon recommended Dr. Lane adding a slide within CAAL's presentation that incorporated the international enrollment projections. Chair Hayes commented that the projections should be inclusive of graduate students as well.

#### **5. Executive Session**

Commissioner Batson motioned and Commissioner Munns seconded to go into executive session. The Executive Committee went into executive session from 11:29 a.m. to 11:54 a.m. for personnel purposes.

#### **6. Adjourn**

The Executive Committee adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m.