



BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Shiflet Hall Conference Room

December 2, 2022– 10:30 A.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Hugh Bland, Board Chairman, called the meeting to order.

II. WELCOME GUESTS and MEDIA

Mr. Bland, Board Chair, introduced Ms. Lindsey Hodge of the Index Journal.

III. INVOCATION

Edgar Lamb, a member of the Board, gave the invocation.

IV. ROLL CALL

Mr. Keown conducted the roll call. In attendance were Hugh Bland, Edgar Lamb, Tom Love, Ron Davis, Gary Coleman, Bert Bagley, Yvonne Knight-Carter, and Owen Smith.

A quorum was declared.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Love made the motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Lamb seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the agenda.

VI. APPROVAL OF 8.9.22 MINUTES

Mr. Love made the motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the minutes.

VII. APPROVAL OF 11.1.22 MINUTES

Mr. Love made the motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Coleman seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the minutes.

Mr. Lamb made the motion to approve the Board meeting dates for 2023. Mr. Bagley seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the meeting dates.

VIII. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Keown provided an update to the Board of Trustees.



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The 225 celebration of John De La Howe went well. During the celebration, we received a Senate Resolution. After the meeting we will take a picture with the Resolution. The Education Center will host a meat cutting adult class and we have been in contact with a state director to see if it would be possible to receive funds to create a meat processing center. Our students recently attended the FFA National Convention. The FFA has 560,000 members and is the largest youth organization in the world. Our very own student, Sierra Tinsley won third in the Nation at the FFA National Convention for dairy handling. Our dairy judging team placed bronze. Our tractor safety team won first place out of sixty teams at the state fair. Our students have participated in several field trips such as the Sunbelt Ag Expo and a trip to the Biltmore farm.

Two of our Ag teachers have won prestigious awards. Mr. Hunter Morton was awarded the Teachers Turn The Key Scholarship Award at the National Association of Agricultural Educators Convention. Mrs. Libby Templeton has been named the President of the SCAAE.

The Foundation Board of Directors has a new member, Dr. Pat Apperson. He is a retired Clemson professor, adjunct professor in Australia, and brings agribusiness experience to the Board. The new executive director for the Foundation is Mrs. Stacie Smith. On November 10th, John Deere executives came on campus for a tour. Our school is starting a SAE Scholarship to help a student begin a SAE project. We have received the IDEA Grant and the Perkins Grant which are federal funds. We have not received these grants since we opened. We received \$82,000 from the IDEA Grant and \$50,000 from the Perkins Grant.

Bicycle Across South Carolina was held successfully on our campus with over four hundred bicyclist and over five hundred individuals on campus. AgFirst bank executives will visit our campus on January 9th at 10 AM and will leave around 2 PM. Mr. Bobby Edmonds donated \$4,000 to help offset the National FFA Convention Trip. This year we took twenty-two students the most out of South Carolina.

Mr. Bagley and Mr. Mims attended the budget hearing with Mr. Keown. This hearing went well, and we asked for an additional two million operating budget. The next hearing will be in February.

Students came in to tell the Board of Trustees about their experience at the National FFA Convention.

IX. REVIEW OF DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS



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The Board Members received departmental reports from the school prior to the scheduled December meeting. They took this time to discuss any questions or concerns they had from the written reports. Each department head present gave an update on their department for the school year.

Education Center-Mrs. Miller

Mrs. Miller provided the Board of Trustees with an update on community outreach. The learn and burn workshop hosted by the Education Center has been canceled. The art and agriculture workshop was a success and a wreath making workshop will be held later this month. This summer will be full of camps, and we are looking for three summer interns. We have had several fieldtrips this school year including a trip of fifty middle schoolers. Lincoln Elementary School also came for an equine lesson. The Be Pro Be Proud Truck came to our campus in September and Mrs. Miller has attended several stem days. Clemson Extension retirees had a meeting on our campus in October. Our campus also had a women's outdoor retreat to use our ropes course. The Education Center hosted a meat workshop with an expert meat cutter where our students had the opportunity to attend.

Human Resources and Residential Life- Ms. Martin

Ms. Martin began her report by briefing the Board with an update from human resources. Mrs. Stacie Smith and Mr. Eric McCall are two new employees. One part-time residential advisor will move into a full-time position. Ms. Martin attended the Sunbelt Ag Expo to recruit as well as a career day at ABAC. As for residential life, we are in need of a part-time animal feeding chaperone. Our agency had to dissolve the position because the employee was already employed for another state agency and their agency would not approve for them to work here part-time. The residential life department helped with the 225 event and dorms were open for tours.

Security- Officer Steve Osborne

Officer Osborne gave the BOT an update on security for the campus. We are having issues with Guard One and their contract. The State Fiscal Authority is going to help us. We will host an active shooter drill in December and an anti-vaping campaign. One student was charged with unlawful communication. The Marines will conduct their training again on our campus in April.

Outreach and Student Services- Mrs. Keasler

Ms. Keasler was not present at the Board meeting.



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Wellness Center -Ms. Horne

Mrs. Horne provided an update on the Wellness Center. There have been no positive cases of Covid-19 on campus, but we have had two positive cases off campus and two positive cases of the flu. There was a Covid test recall, but the company brought more tests. Seniors will take a CPR certification class in the spring and the wellness center is hoping to have a mental health workshop in the spring.

Public Information-Mr. Baughman

Mr. Baughman provided the Board with an update. Mr. Baughman is working on a documentary about the Bicycle Across South Carolina Event. Our new podcast, Carolina's Field, Forest, and Water will be released in January. Our school has had a fantastic opportunity to be featured in SC Biz Magazine. Our feature is a three-page spread. Mr. Baughman attended the SC Public Records Conference and is working to make all of our records in full compliance with state guidelines.

School-Mr. Thompson

Mr. Thompson provided an update for the Board of Trustees. The school staff has added several new employees to the staff. Ms. Joyce Cunningham is the new special education coordinator. Mr. William McCarley is now with the maintenance department. Mr. Johnathon McCall is our new ag lab manager. Our students will be involved in the McCormick Christmas parade as well as the Greenwood Christmas parade. Our adjustment to a block schedule has been beneficial. Soon our students will have an apply to college day where most application fees will be waived. Our Beyond an Aggie Career Day at SRP Park and the college fair in Augusta went extremely well. In our student breakdown we have fifty-three percent female and forty-seven percent male. Forty-seven percent of our school are seniors this year. Our graduation rate is one hundred percent. Our students did great on the WIN Test. Our students have received more certificates than some districts.

Facilities and Maintenance- Mr. Mims

Mr. Mims provided an update surrounding maintenance and facilities. The elevator for the dairy barn is on backorder. Asbestos and mold abatement is complete in HESSIE MORRAH, HESTER, CHARLESTON, and STAFF HOUSE 8. The A/E firm is finalizing the drawings. Verizon had to move the tower because it was too close to a structure. A new survey site was completed. The alternate



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water supply is currently being installed. The hotel rooms are now completed and will be sixty dollars a night. We are in the process of getting a new greenhouse. The process will be different since money for the project was donated to the Foundation. We are working DP3 Architects on the greenhouse. We are in the beginning stages of developing drawings on the power pole replacement. We are working with McCall Thomas Architects for the power pole replacement. JLA Architects received the bid for the security fencing. Mr. Mims, Margret Jordan, and DP3 Architects, have met several times regarding De la Howe Hall. There are two bid packets out for windows and overall construction. We are working with the State Historic Preservation Office to get approval for windows to be replaced.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Love made the motion to enter executive session. Mr. Lamb seconded the motion to enter executive session. The Board of Trustees voted unanimously to enter executive session at 12:27 P.M.

Mr. Bagley made the motion to exit executive session. Mr. Lamb seconded the motion. The Board of Trustees voted unanimously to exit executive session at 1:13 P.M.

XI. REPORT ON EXECUTIVE SESSION

No action was taken during executive session.

XII. OTHER BUSINESS

XIII. NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING – Friday, March 3rd at 10:30 a.m.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bagley made the motion to adjourn the Board of Trustees meeting. Mr. Lamb seconded that motion and the meeting adjourned at 1:14 P.M.



**SC Governor's School
for Agriculture**
AT JOHN DE LA HOWE

3/13/2023

Date Approved by Board of Trustees

[Handwritten Signature]

Mr. Hugh Bland, Chairman

Vacant, Secretary

Scottlyn McCullough

Scottlyn McCullough, Recording Secretary