



BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Shiflet Hall Conference Room

June 17, 2022 – 10:30 a.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Tom Love, Vice Chairman, called the meeting to order.

II. WELCOME GUESTS and MEDIA

Mr. Love introduced Ms. Lindsey Hodges from the Index Journal and Mr. Keith Belli from Clemson University.

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, Craig Kesler, Ron Davis, Bert Bagley, Yvonne Knight-Carter, and Owen Smith.

A quorum was declared.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Davis made the motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Bagley seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the agenda.

VI. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 11th MINUTES

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

APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 25th MINUTES

Mr. Bagley made the motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Lamb seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the minutes

APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 1st MINUTES

Mr. Lamb made the motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the minutes



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VII. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Keown provided an update to the Board of Trustees. Mr. Keown first debriefed the Board on our strong partnerships with the Corps of Engineers. John de la Howe wants to eventually add a swimming beach, a landing, and a dock. These activities look promising for our campus. Ms. Brown took a group of our students to visit the Corps of Engineers. The Bicycle across America event will take place on our campus from October 13th through the 16th. We will have around eight hundred people on our campus and this event is hosted by the Post and Courier. The French Huguenot reunion will be held on our campus on August 7th. We are continuing our relationships with Farm Bureau.

Mr. Keown virtually met with state leaders from USDA, FSA, and NRCS. Our goal is to become fifty percent self-sustainable. Our goal is to create a meat processing center on our campus for educational purposes that would also help the community, serve the region, and create jobs in the area. They are coming to tour in mid-July. There is a possibility that money from the Federal Relief from Covid could possibly fund this project. Mr. Keown is talking with USDA and a Clemson extension agent about a meat processing center. We could be state certified and process cows for our own cafeteria or USDA certified, where we could process beef, poultry, and swine nationally.

We had our First SC State camp here on our campus. Our students traveled to the Pendleton's Farmer Society, where seven of our Aggies were inducted. The Duke Energy Foundation has donated \$130,000 to our Foundation. The first week of school will start a week earlier. We are looking at a modified schedule because it is hard to work a farm schedule out without students here in the summer. Ag First donated \$25,000 to a greenhouse, and the state awarded \$225,000 to complete the greenhouse. The bid process will start soon. We also received an additional \$25,000 donation from Ag First.

We graduated twenty-one seniors who accepted over 475,000 dollars in scholarships. In addition, Jason Connor and his family, a recent graduate, who was our student body president, just donated \$30,000 for a scholarship. It will be called the Connors Family Educational Scholarship.

We believe this campus is the best-kept secret, and our job is to expose it more. On November 5th, we will host the 225 year celebration of John de la Howe with the Alumni reunion.

The Foundation Board of Directors met yesterday and has raised \$200,000 for the year. We have a restricted account and an unrestricted account. The Foundation has done a lot of tedious work on the bylaws and created the



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policy and procedure manual. We are looking to hire an executive director for the Foundation because the Enabling Legislation requires us to have one. The Board of Trustees has to approve all restricted funds. Our state budget has increased from 4.9 million to 5.6 million this year. The final drawing for De la Howe Hall is complete, and we are hoping to have the project completed by November 2023. The money for this project was approved before Covid-19, and with inflation, the money we were awarded could possibly not cover the entire project.

The State Department of Administration now runs all of our procurement. We pay \$97,000 to cover all of our shared services. We have asked for \$250,000 for power poles to be on our own power grid. We have asked for \$250,000 for gates for our campus and \$50,00 for cafeteria improvements. We have settled two lawsuits and have one remaining.

We have three residential dorms to finish. JLA was chosen for the three final dorms and the three residential homes. We want to grow our student population; with this in mind, we are looking at turning Shiflet Hall into a dormitory. We could fit roughly sixty kids in this building, bringing our total to 160 students.

In closing, Mr. Keown thanked the Board of Trustees for a successful school year.

A motion was made to allow Mr. Keown to pursue conversation with USDA and grant writers to pursue a meat processing center for educational purposes. Mr. Davis made the motion. Mr. Lamb seconded. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

VIII. REVIEW OF DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

The Board Members received departmental reports from the school prior to the scheduled June 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.

School-Mr. Thompson

Mr. Thompson was not able to attend the meeting. Ms. Brown represented the school to have classes for the 2022-2023 school year approved.

A motion was passed to allow Real World 101 and 102 to the John de la Howe curriculum. Mr. Bagley made the motion. Mr. Lamb seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

A motion was made for "Aggieship I" and "Aggieship II" to be added to the John de la Howe curriculum. Mr. Love



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made the motion. Mr. Lamb seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

A motion was made to approve the calendar dates for the 2022-2023 school year. Mr. Lamb made the motion. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Maintenance- Mr. Mims

Mr. Mims was absent from the Board of Trustees Meeting.

Mrs. Miller- Education Center

Mrs. Miller gave an update surrounding the Education Center. The Education Center is continuing with monthly workshops and summer programs. We hosted our first SC State camp, and it was well-received. The next SC State camp will take place in July. The SC Farm Bureau Leadership conference has agreed to take place on our campus again, and we will host around thirty students. The Education Center has hired three interns, and all three are education majors from SC Beaufort, SC State, and Lander. We have also invited several students back to help with our camps. Our summer camps have proven beneficial to our enrollment. Last summer, we received two students from summer camp, and we have already received one student from camp who is heavily interested in attending and filled out her application last night. The Education Center road and parking are complete, and we are working on signs. In May we brought back the Farm City Day with McCormick County schools.

Kaycee Keasler- Student Services and Recruitment

Ms. Keasler updated the Board of Trustees regarding student services and recruitment. Ms. Keasler started at the beginning of May. She graduated with an Ag Education degree from Clemson University. We have had ninety-seven inquiries and ninety-four applicants, and we have accepted forty students. We have four students in review and four more applying. We are at seventy-five students for next year. We have two preview days planned for this summer, as well as attending an event at tractor supply in Anderson, FFA Convention, summer camps, and junior beef roundup, where Mrs. Keasler will hand out biscuits. For next year, we have more female students than males. We also have a large portion of tenth graders applying. Mrs. Keasler is reaching out to Farm Bureau and 4-H agents to make contacts. Our next



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year's enrollment goals are seventy-five residential and thirty-day students. We also are planning to lose twenty-eight students from graduation. Mrs. Keasler will also visit schools across the state. For orientation, we are working on filling out forms for our students.

Dana Martin- HR and Residential Life

Next, Ms. Martin updated the Board of Trustees on HR and residential life. In the HR department, we will have several new employees. In May, we hired a new maintenance tech. In June, we will have a new custodian start, as well as a mechanic under the farm. We have a new farm foreman and have five summer interns- three for the Education Center and two for the farm. We have two male residential advisor positions open, as well as two female residential advisor positions available. In addition, we have a registrar position, an activities coordinator, and a weekend animal feeder position. We are trying to hire everyone before the start of school. We need full-time and part-time residential advisors to open the school.

For residential life, we are extremely busy. We participated in Ag Fest as well as two extended breaks in April. We hired a full-time RA in Columbia and an administration specialist in May. Residential life has moved into Shiflet Hall from LS Brice, and things are running smoothly having a separate space. The alumni are going to revamp Nichols. Residential life will spend two and a half weeks doing training. Lethe also won hall of the year.

Osborne

Officer Osborne could not attend the Board meeting due to equine camp.

Wellness Center - Anne Horne

Mrs. Horne provided an update on the Wellness Center. The wellness center is looking to host a mental health workshop that will last for eight hours. The new AEDs are placed in the proper locations. All health forms have been mailed out to returning students. Mrs. Horne is working on scheduling a training for new employees. Mrs. Horne also wants to order cabinets with locks for medicines in the residential halls.

Farm and Grounds- Andrew Warner

Mr. Warner was not able to attend the Board of Trustees meeting because he was out on Army Reserve.



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IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

No motion was made to enter executive session.

X. REPORT ON EXECUTIVE SESSION

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Davis made a motion to discuss the draft alcohol policy. Mr. Love seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion. The Board of Trustees discussed the alcohol policy. A motion was made to table the motion surrounding the alcohol policy until more information is given. Mr. Bagley made the motion. Mr. Keasler seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING – Friday, September 9th at 10:30 a.m.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Lamb made the motion to adjourn the Board of Trustees meeting. Mr. Bagley seconded that motion and the meeting adjourned at 12:44 pm.



**SC Governor's School
for Agriculture**
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9-8-2022

Date Approved by Board of Trustees

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "H. Bland", written over a horizontal line.

Mr. Hugh Bland, Chairman

Vacant, Secretary

A handwritten signature in blue ink, "Scottlyn McCullough", written over a horizontal line.

Scottlyn McCullough, Recording
Secretary