



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

Shiflet Hall Conference Room

March 12, 2021 – 10:30 a.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. WELCOME GUESTS and MEDIA

Mr. Tim Keown, President, introduced Mr. Gerald Moore and Dr. Sharon Wall of the Student-Centered Education Consulting Group who joined the meeting via Zoom. Also joining remotely was Lobbyist Mr. Bob Coble and Kristy Quattrone from the Governor's office. Megan Milligan from the Index Journal was present.

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, Gary Coleman, and Owen Smith.

A quorum was declared.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

VI. APPROVAL OF December 4, 2020 MINUTES

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

VII. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

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



SC Governor's School for Agriculture

AT JOHN DE LA HOWE

Mr. Keown welcomed and introduced Kristy Quattrone, who currently resides over all of the state agency boards. Kristy welcomed the board of Trustees and showed her appreciation for their dedication this year. Ms. Quattrone then went over being appointed and the process of continuing your service, which includes sending a resume and letter of intent to Kristy for the governor. Next, Mr. Keown went over the new social distance guidelines from the governor and about our campus vaccine clinic.

Following the discussion on Covid, Mr. Keown then transitioned into the statewide events that our students participated in. The Miss FFA pageant was held at the Abbeville Opera house and had over forty-two participants, with one of our students placing third runner up. The contestants participated in an on-campus tour that resulted in six applications. The Ag Fest event resulted in over four hundred people attending our school's campus and had several students place at events. Mr. Keown then transitioned into news surrounding the school, starting with an update on the farm. Clemson University closed their hog facility and donated all of their equipment and hogs to us. Our students built a facility to house the hogs at the dairy barn and had all forty-three hogs spoken for. A new 4-row corn planter was purchased for row crops in the spring. The FFA Legislative Day was canceled for the state, but our students went independently and were the first visitors on the house floor since Covid.

As for renovations on the property, the lighting project of 167 light poles for safety was completed. The second entrance is now locked, and the Welcome Center is operating one hundred percent of the time now. Savannah, Abbeville, and McCormick residential halls will be completed in August. The next halls to be renovated will be Charleston, Hessie Morrah, and Hester. A one-time request of 5.8 million for De la Howe Hall was presented to the Senate and the House. All core classes, as well as offices and the auditorium, will be located in this building.

Mr. Keown then transitioned into news surrounding the Foundation. A \$15,000 donation was given to the school, \$5,000 specifically for the library. This donor wants to become a life sponsor. The Foundation also received a \$1,000 scholarship from PABC. The Foundation members were appointed by Dr. Wall in her term, Mr. Keown in his term, and two members of our Board of Trustees serve the Foundation and were appointed by Mr. Bland.

The next topic discussed was upcoming events. On May 12th, Sarah Frey will visit campus for a book signing. Ms. Frey is the most successful female farmer in North America and is one of the largest providers of pumpkins to Walmart.



SC Governor's School for Agriculture

AT JOHN DE LA HOWE

Following this, upcoming news was discussed. One student is playing baseball, and one student is running track at McCormick High School. The biggest issue currently involves students traveling. We have students wanting to drive off campus during the week. We had a mandatory parent meeting that concluded with no middle ground. Half of the parents wanted the students to be able to leave campus and the other half wanted them to stay on campus. With this new issue we are working on a new travel policy that is not ready for board approval just yet. We are working with our lawyer and the other governor's schools to come up with a new policy. To combat this, we have amped up after school activities.

VIII. ENABLING LEGISLATION – Mr. Bob Coble

Mr. Coble provided an update on legal matters. Mr. Coble discussed hiring an attorney that deals with 501(c)(3)'s and mentioned that Jim Rourke is approved by the Attorney General.

We are working on ensuring the Foundation complies by enabling legislation section 7. The purpose of enabling legislation was to determine how the board would work and to avoid the Foundation and the Board of Trustees not having the same goals. The main point being the Board of Trustees and Mr. Keown needs to control what the Foundation does. Moving forward, the Board of Trustees would appoint the Foundation's Board of Directors.

The Foundation has four steps that must be done to move forward. First, the Foundation has to create a development office and executive director. Then, if the Board of Trustees agrees, the Foundation can have its own employees. The employees must be a state employee but should be able to have the Foundation reimburse for a portion for that employee.

Secondly, the endowment fund must be a separate legal entity and must comply legally. They are currently looking through documents that established the Foundation. We have to make sure the mission is still in compliance with what was originally filed. Thirdly, the executive director and Board of Directors need to be appointed, and then they need to adopt a budget approved by the Board of Trustees.

Finally, the Foundation needs to update by-laws, and the by-laws need to be approved by the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees must wait to approve the Foundation's Board of Directors until the MOU is drafted. Gifts in kind would have to be approved or not by the Board of Trustees.



SC Governor's School for Agriculture

AT JOHN DE LA HOWE

IX. STUDENT-CENTERED EDUCATION CONSULTING GROUP REPORT

Mr. Gerald Moore provided an update on behalf of the Student-Centered Education Consulting group. Dr. Wall is working heavily with Mr. Thompson on accreditation and helping in strategic planning. Mr. Moore is currently working on in-service training with the faculty.

X. REVIEW OF DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

The Board Members received departmental reports from the school prior to the scheduled March meeting. They took this time to discuss any questions or concerns they had from the written reports. Mr. Kesler requested an aerial view of the enhanced lighting. Also, there were \$400 worth of returned checks for meal plan reimbursement. The school is still receiving Medicaid because of several student's socioeconomic status. We have free and reduced lunch like a typical school district. Additionally, Shiflet Hall hotel will be rented out for \$60 a night, yet some have stayed free in exchange for services. The next discussion revolved around the BOT's wanting to donate in honor of Mr. Dobbins' Wife. The Board of Trustees then voted to base teacher pay off of the Aiken County pay scale from the proviso, on page 4, section 3, bullet point C of the enabling legislation. Mr. Lamb made the motion to base teacher pay off of Aiken County pay scale. Mr. Love seconded the motion. The Board unanimously voted to approve. Under the school's departmental report, the Board was presented with a tool for evaluating teacher performance. Mr. Love made the motion to approve the teacher evaluation tool. Mr. Coleman seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Love made the motion at 11:49 a.m. to enter executive session. Mr. Lamb seconded this motion. The Board voted unanimously to enter executive session.

At 1:04 p.m. Mr. Lamb made the motion to exit executive session. Mr. Love seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously to exit executive session.

XII. REPORT ON EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Bland reported that no action was taken in executive session.

XIII. OTHER BUSINESS

XIV. NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING – Friday, June 18th at 10:30 a.m.



SC Governor's School for Agriculture

AT JOHN DE LA HOWE

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Love made the motion to adjourn the Board of Trustees meeting. Mr. Kesler seconded that motion and the meeting adjourned at 1:20 P.M.



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

6-18-2021

Date Approved by Board of Trustees

Mr. Hugh Bland, Chairman

Vacant, Secretary

Kinsley Miller, Recording Secretary