

**Bladen Community College**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
**Minutes of February 22, 2019**

**Members Present:** Dennis Troy, chair; Frank Gemma, vice chair; Mary Andrews; Pam Benton; Brian Campbell; Bruce Dickerson; Ricky Leinwand; Hayes Petteway; and Joseph Rozier.

**Members Absent:** Ray Britt; Larry Hammond; and James McVicker.

**Others Present:** Amanda Lee; Jeff Kornegay; Sondra Guyton; Barry Priest; Jay Stanley; and Missi Hester, recorder.

At 5:43 p.m., Chairman Dennis Troy called the meeting to order and asked if any trustee had a conflict or an appearance of conflict of interest. There were none.

Mr. Petteway gave a prayer.

Mr. Troy welcomed Dr. Amanda Lee and Mr. Brian Campbell to their first Bladen Community College board of trustees meeting. They were given a round of applause.

Ms. Hester called the roll.

The open session minutes of the January 22, 2019, meeting were approved with a motion by Mr. Petteway and second by Ms. Benton. The motion carried.

**Student Government Association Report:**

Barry Priest provided a report for the Student Government Association. Mr. Priest stated that Ms. Crystal Dowd does a tremendous job with the SGA and he thanked her for her work with the group. He reported that the SGA held a coat drive to benefit Bladen County residents in need and the coats have been delivered to Bladen Crisis Center. An American Red Cross blood drive will be held on campus during the spring semester. Mr. Priest informed the board that the SGA also participated in the Martin Luther King, Jr. parade in Elizabethtown on Monday, January 21.

Mr. Priest stated that the SGA is currently planning additional events to be held during the spring semester. He reported that the SGA will be traveling to Raleigh to tour the legislative building and to attend a House and Senate session. Mr. Priest said the group is also planning the annual Spring Fling event. SGA elections will be held in the fall.

**Faculty Senate Report:**

Jeff Kornegay presented the faculty senate report. He stated that BCC biology instructor Mr. Cheston Saunders was awarded an innovative curriculum grant from the North Carolina Science Teachers Association in the amount of \$1,000. The purpose of the grant

is to fund development of curriculum courses and to purchase supplies designed to increase student performance and retention in anatomy and physiology courses.

Mr. Kornegay reported that on Monday, February 25, award winning author Mr. Randell Jones will give a reading in the college library at 11:00 a.m. The presentation is part of the Writer's Series at Bladen Community College and is made possible by a grant from the NC Humanities Council, a statewide nonprofit and affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities and BCC. Mr. Kornegay informed the board that WECT Chief Meteorologist Gannon Medwick would be giving a presentation in the college auditorium on Thursday, February 28 at 11:00 a.m. The presentation will be hosted by the college math and science department, distance learning department, and the history club. Both presentations are free and open to the public and Mr. Kornegay invited the group to both.

Mr. Kornegay stated that the faculty senate is now accepting non-perishable items for the college food pantry. Donation boxes have been placed in various locations on campus and the tentative location for the food pantry is in the atrium of the library.

#### **Bladen Community College Foundation Report:**

Jay Stanley began the foundation report by stating that the scholarship luncheon is scheduled to be held during the month of March and Dr. Amanda Lee will be the speaker for the event. Mr. Stanley reported that Ms. Billie Priest Hall will serve as president of the college alumni association.

Mr. Stanley stated that Ms. Evelyn Merritt and the Merritt family have agreed to transfer an additional \$10,000 into the endowment. The Merritt scholarship will total \$20,000 when this transfer is complete. A benefit motorcycle ride to additionally fund the scholarship was also discussed.

#### **Academic and Student Affairs Committee Report:**

Barry Priest presented the spring 2019 curriculum enrollment report and financial aid information. He reported that 1,115 students are registered for classes. He shared with the group the number of students enrolled in each of the college's programs of study. Mr. Priest told those in attendance that to date, enrollment of high school students in the career and college promise program is 291 which exceeds enrollment for spring 2018. He stated that high school students make up 31 percent of the college's enrollment.

Mr. Priest stated that over 76% of students are enrolled in one or more distance education courses. Fifty-five percent of students enrolled at the college are Bladen County residents and twenty-nine percent of students reside in Robeson County. He shared additional information regarding student enrollment by gender, ethnicity, age, and region.

Mr. Priest stated that the estimated FTE for 2018-2019 is 1,155. The previous years' FTE was 1,122. The college received full summer funding for summer classes.

Sondra Guyton provided a report regarding the college's workforce development initiatives. Ms. Guyton reported an increase in adult high school enrollment and small business center workshops.

Ms. Guyton stated that the mechatronics program is going well. The program is divided into four semesters for a total of 848 hours. Sixteen Smithfield employees enrolled in the mechatronics program during the fall 2018 semester. All of these individuals completed part one of the program and enrolled in the second portion for the spring 2019 semester. Additional Smithfield employees were interested in the program and have enrolled at the college. A total of 39 Smithfield employees are currently enrolled and out of the number, 30 are participating in the apprenticeship program that pays for their registration fees and books.

Ms. Guyton provided an update regarding the Southeastern Carolina Crossroads rehabilitation center. Ten computers have been installed at the center to enroll students into the online high school credential course. Ten participants have also received the National Career Readiness Certificate(NCRC).

Ms. Guyton stated that she and Sheriff McVicker have presented a plan to the Bladen County Commissioners regarding a plan for a commercial driving pad to be used for emergency service training and truck driving training. She stated the county has been given 125 acres of land located directly behind the old prison at White Lake. The project budget is approximately \$6.5 million dollars and would be owned by the county. The budget for the project has not yet been funded.

Mr. Kornegay presented the mechatronics engineering technology curriculum program for review and approval. He provided a copy of the curriculum courses needed to complete the program that includes courses in mathematics, natural sciences, engineering sciences and technology.

Upon completion of the mechatronics engineering technology program students will have earned an Associate's in Applied Science Degree and will be qualified for employment in industrial maintenance and manufacturing including assembly, testing, startup, troubleshooting, repair, process improvement, and control systems.

Mr. Petteway moved to approve the mechatronics engineering technology curriculum program as presented. Ms. Andrews seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

**Building/Facilities/Grounds Committee Report:**

Jay Stanley gave a report on the STEM and workforce development building projects. Mr. Stanley reminded the group that the college received the notice to proceed with the workforce development building project on August 8, 2018. Three change orders have been received and the date of completion is currently set for September 12, 2019. Forty-nine percent of the construction time has passed and 47 percent of the construction has been completed. Mr. Stanley stated that additional change orders are expected.

Mr. Stanley stated that the STEM/Advanced Manufacturing building project began October 8, 2018. Forty-five percent of the construction time has passed for this project and twenty-two percent of the work has been completed. Mr. Stanley reported that the State Construction Office has requested a schedule from CSI regarding the project. Construction must be completed on the STEM/Advanced Manufacturing building by April 2020.

**Fiscal Affairs Committee Report:**

Mr. Stanley presented a college finance report regarding county capital projects and fund balances as of February 22, 2019. He stated that the auditorium roof project has been completed at a total cost of \$243,772.50. The County of Bladen provided \$340,000.00 for the project leaving an unused balance of \$96,227.50 that can be repurposed for additional projects. Restrooms in buildings 3 and 17 have been renovated. Additional restroom renovations in building 3 are needed.

Mr. Stanley stated that the state and institutional funds budgets are in order.

Mr. Petteway provided a report on the foundation investment committee. He stated that the investments are up \$105,000 despite a volatile stock market. Mr. Petteway told those present that he and others from the college would be meeting with Skip Sizemore of the Sizemore Group to discuss the investments on Tuesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Personnel Committee Report:**

No personnel committee report was brought before the Board.

**President's Report:**

Dr. Amanda Lee thanked the board and Dr. William Findt for a successful transition into her new role as president of Bladen Community College.

Dr. Lee reported that the college has received a letter requesting documentation concerning the East Arcadia Center from Ms. Santana Miller, attorney for the East

Arcadia Town Council. Dr. Lee stated that she is working with the college attorney, Mr. Gary Grady, regarding the request. She informed the group that the college has worked to perform any necessary repairs to the interior of the Center.

Dr. Lee informed the group that the college has not been selected to receive the Minority Male Success Initiative Grant for the upcoming year. She stated that the application submitted for the grant was stellar and the college has inquired as to why the grant was not approved. Dr. Lee told the group that the college intends to move forward and is looking for alternate funding sources to support initiatives focused on assisting individuals who benefitted from the grant.

**Old Business:**

No old business was brought before the Board.

**New Business:**

No new business was brought before the Board.

**Unfinished Business:**

No unfinished business was brought before the Board.

At 7:05 p.m., Chairman Troy thanked everyone for attending. The meeting adjourned with a motion by Mr. Petteway and a second by Ms. Andrews.

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Dennis Troy, Chairman

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Amanda Lee, Secretary