

**Bladen Community College**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
**Minutes of May 26, 2015**

**Members Present:** Dennis Troy, chair; Frank Gemma, vice chair; Mary Andrews; Albert Beatty; Landon Bordeaux; Bruce Dickerson; Wayne Edge; Ricky Leinwand; Hayes Petteway; Charlotte Smith; and Joan Washington.

**Members Absent:** Shirley Bridger; and Tara Godfrey, SGA president.

**Others Present:** William Findt; Sondra Guyton; Jeff Kornegay; Sandra Lewis; Barry Priest; Jay Stanley; Gary Grady, attorney; and Tiina Mundy, recorder.

At 6:03 p.m., chairman Dennis Troy welcomed members of the board of trustees to the East Arcadia Center and announced that a quorum of the members was present, called the meeting to order, and asked if any trustee had a conflict or an appearance of conflict of interest. There were none.

Mr. Troy gave a prayer.

Ms. Mundy called the roll.

The minutes for the April 28, 2015, meeting were approved with a motion by Ms. Washington and second by Ms. Andrews.

**Student Government Report:**

The student government report was given by Mr. Barry Priest. Student Government president Tara Godfrey graduated on May 21, 2015 and told Mr. Priest that it had been an honor and a pleasure to serve as the SGA president for BCC. She is thankful for her experience and will be a strong advocate for the college. Elections for the 2015-2016 SGA officers were held earlier in May. Elected were: president – James Johnson; vice president – Katiesha Hayes; secretary – Noel Rogers; public information officer – Aaron Cox; senators – Tyler Cron and Sandra Locklear. There will be elections in the fall for additional senate positions. Mr. Priest reported that the officers are elected by students and receive a scholarship for the academic year.

**Faculty Senate Report:**

Mr. Jeff Kornegay gave the faculty senate report for Mr. Ray Sheppard. The faculty attended a professional development workshop on May 26 regarding implementing high order thinking skills in the curricula. The presenter was Dr. Victoria Nesnick, faculty member at Hofstra University and a faculty development consultant.

Mr. Kornegay announced that classes have ended for the spring semester and that nursing ADN pinning and graduation ceremonies were held on Monday, May 18, and Tuesday, May 19. He stated that both ceremonies were well attended.

Mr. Kornegay stated that science and math day for eighth grade students from the Bladen County School System was held at the college on May 18 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Eighth grade students from East Arcadia attended. The students participated in activities that included chemistry, dissection of cow eyes and sheep brains, microbiology, and forensic science. The college's career and college promise program was discussed with the students. The college plans to offer the science and math day next year.

Mr. Kornegay announced that registration for the summer semester will be held on Wednesday, May 27, 2015, and that summer classes begin on Monday, June 1, 2015.

### **BCC Foundation Report:**

Dr. Findt reported the fall Foundation fundraiser has been scheduled for Thursday, October 1, 2015, at Camp Clearwater, White Lake.

The ambassadors have been selected for the 2015- 2016 academic year.

### **Academic and Student Affairs:**

Ms. Sandra Lewis presented information on the activities of the East Arcadia Center. A survey was created and sent out into the community to assess the interest and needs of the community. The survey was distributed in the surrounding area, as well as to 14 area churches.

The computers in the computer lab of the center have been updated to the latest software version. The hours of the center have been revised and publicized, Monday and Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday from 1:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Ms. Lewis has been approved to proctor exams for UNC Online Proctoring Network, which allows students to take their UNC tests at East Arcadia.

Ms. Lewis attended the East Arcadia Fire Department May Day celebration on May 16, and distributed information about programs offered at the center.

On May 20, she and Dr. Findt met with area pastors to talk about the center and the programs that will be offered. It was suggested that financial aid sessions be held for potential students for the fall. Sessions are being planned.

A lending library will be established for students and community members. The center is seeking donations for the lending library.

There will be an open house on Thursday, May 28, 2015, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The community is encouraged and invited to see the center.

Currently for the summer the following programs are being offered through continuing education: high school equivalency (formerly GED), phlebotomy technician, pharmacy technician, and welding. An effective teacher training is being scheduled for July 6, 7, 8, 13, and 14.

There are eight curriculum classes scheduled at the center for the fall semester. Four will be offered through the internet from the main campus and two will be held at the center, and ACA classes will be available for students to take online. Information will be sent to various community areas of interest.

The small business center is also scheduling seminars at the center for July and future months.

Ms. Andrews welcomed Ms. Lewis and stated the community has been responsive to the offerings of the center. Mr. Troy stated that the center is an important resource for the community and needs to remain open.

Dr. Findt thanked Ms. Lewis for her efforts. The pastors' meeting held on May 20, 2015, was well received and the pastors are very engaged in activities of the center. He also thanked Ms. Joyce Daniels for her work at the center. Ms. Lewis and Ms. Daniels are working together to keep the center open for as many hours as possible. The perception that the center is only for East Arcadia residents has been addressed to ensure that people realize that the center is an extension of our main campus and open to all area residents.

Mr. Priest gave the summer registration report. Early registration for summer and fall was held in April and was very successful. There were 232 paid students for summer early registration. There were 415 students enrolled last summer. The registration on May 27 should increase the numbers over last year. Registration will remain open until the first day of class, which is June 1. The college has typically used summer as a recruiting tool and offered classes without additional funding. The college now receives funding for Tier 1 courses. The summer session is an eight week term.

Ms. Guyton provided a report regarding the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and Golden LEAF grants applications.

On April 30, Mark Sorrells and Marilyn Chism from the Golden LEAF Foundation met at the college with the college Golden LEAF grant writers to review the \$540,000 proposal for the STEM and Advanced Manufacturing Training Facility. On May 4, a letter was received from EDA stating the college's application had been declined due to "lack of competitiveness". There were nearly 50 applications from across the south and

the college did not have enough new jobs committed by industry to support the 2.4 million grant request.

EDA did feel that the college had a good application and that it should be resubmitted in June and to try to gain greater job commitments from local industries. Chuck Heustess, executive director of the Bladen County Economic Development Commission, has volunteered to draft letters and customize them for each industry.

EDA requires the industry to be listed as a project beneficiary if the industry commits more than 15 jobs. Although EDA does not hold industry accountable to this commitment, industries are hesitant to sign a commitment due to legal implications should they fail to do as they promised. The college needs these job commitments to justify the need for this grant and to also strengthen the need for the Golden LEAF grant.

The construction cost for the proposed building has been reviewed and the \$3 million initially proposed for the building has been reduced to \$1.2 million. If the college receives the Golden LEAF grant of \$540,000, \$50,000 from the county, and \$10,000 from local businesses, there will be \$1.8 million total for construction and enough to construct a 12,500 square foot building as originally proposed.

Ms. Guyton reported on the college's industry and small business programs. These are two programs that the legislature supports.

The college's small business center has two areas of concentration. One is the development of small business seminars and the other is counseling of potential or current small business owners.

There has been a wide variety of small business seminars that have been offered at the main campus, East Arcadia Center, and in Clarkton. In the 2014-2015 academic year, there have been 66 scheduled programs and 53 of them have had participants thus far with a current enrollment of 341 attendees, averaging six attendees per seminar. In comparison to the previous year, 2013-2014, 35 events were held with 167 attendees. Average attendance was five attendees per seminar. The higher numbers are attributed to several factors: development of seminars for cosmetology students in the fall and spring; development of seminars at the East Arcadia Center; offering desired non-profit seminars on Saturdays; and the agribusiness series and business plan competition held January through March which was a one-time offering. A specific strategic goal to offer more seminars at more locations has been met by expanding to the East Arcadia Center and Clarkton.

Another area of concentration for the Small Business Center is counseling of clients who are interested in starting a small business or who currently own a small business. Currently, 28 clients have been counseled with 92 counseling hours attributed to them for an average of three hours per client. Compared to 2013-2014, 39 clients were counseled with 83 hours which averages two hours per client. Counseling hours per client increased this year for two reasons: developing a business plan required participants to attend

counseling and clients completing business plans this year required more face-to-face time to accomplish the task.

In 2014-2015 customized training, five projects are currently in progress at E.J. Cox Peanuts Company, Danaher, Gildan, Lineage Logistics Company, and Southern Peanuts Company.

In addition to customized training projects, \$10,000 has been budgeted this year to provide training related to quality, CPR, leadership, food safety, and OSHA training to various industries throughout the county. Thirty classes have been scheduled this year and 157 students have been trained for 1,875 training hours.

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

Mr. Jay Stanley reviewed the information from the trustee board meeting on May 19, 2015, concerning the college's bond priorities for proposed state bond. The governor's proposal includes \$1.5 billion for highways and \$1.5 billion for state agencies, community colleges and UNC System infrastructure. The community colleges' portion of the bond is \$200 million. Bladen's allocation is \$2,313,383.

The North Carolina Community College System Office has requested each college complete a template for renovation, repair, and new construction projects by May 22, 2015. The information gathered from all community colleges will be used by the North Carolina Community College System to show the legislature that the funding is not enough for all of the community college needs.

### **Fiscal Affairs Committee Report:**

Mr. Stanley presented information for two items for which a vote is required.

The first item concerned uncollectible accounts write-offs. Mr. Petteway made the motion to accept the amount as presented. Mr. Leinwand seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Stanley explained the proposed FY 2015 – 2016 fee schedule. Research has been done by the nursing faculty to better utilize the materials the nursing students were purchasing. Changing the materials over the two year period will save the students \$109.00 per student. The parking and security fee will increase \$1.00 and the SGA fee will increase \$5.00 per semester.

Mr. Edge made the motion to accept the proposed FY 2015 – 2016 fee schedule. Ms. Smith seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

**President's Report:**

Mr. Troy asked Dr. Findt to give the president's report prior to the personnel committee report. Dr. Findt explained progress regarding the state's 2015-2016 budget. The house budget has a 2% pay increase for employees, but it is uncertain if the senate will include the increase. Senator Rabon was a trustee for Brunswick Community College, so he is familiar with the system and it will be helpful for members of the board to call and remind him of the overall needs of the state's community colleges. The North Carolina Community College System office is asking for an increase in funding, with faculty salary increases the first priority.

Dr. Findt commented on the excellent graduation ceremonies and speakers. Registration for summer classes will be held on May 27.

Dr. Gemma reported on trustee webinars hosted on the Association of Community College Trustees website. Dr. Gemma and Ms. Smith had reviewed the financial aid webinar. The information was the same as provided by Mr. Priest in May of 2014. The information will be discussed at the June 23 meeting to allow time for the trustees to view the webinar.

**Personnel Committee Report:**

Ms. Washington has received president evaluations back, and there were two different versions of the evaluation form provided to the trustees. She has not tabulated the evaluations before. Mr. Petteway, who is familiar with the evaluation tabulation process, has agreed to help Ms. Washington.

A motion was made at 7:21 p.m. by Mr. Petteway to go into closed session to discuss a legal matter. Ms. Andrews seconded, and the motion passed.

At 7:41 p.m., the board returned to open session.

**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 7:47 p.m., Chairman Troy thanked everyone for their attendance and their work for the college. The meeting adjourned with a motion by Ms. Smith and a second by Mr. Bordeaux.

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Dennis Troy, Chairman

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William Findt, Secretary