

**Bladen Community College  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
Minutes of December 1, 2015**

**Members Present:** Dennis Troy, chair; Frank Gemma, vice chair; Mary Andrews; Pam Benton; Bruce Dickerson; James McVicker; Hayes Petteway; and James Johnson, SGA president.

**Members Absent:** Albert Beatty; Landon Bordeaux; Wayne Edge; Ricky Leinwand; and Charlotte Smith.

**Others Present:** William Findt; Gary Grady; Jeff Kornegay; Sondra Guyton; Barry Priest; Jay Stanley; Twyla Davis; Lisa DeVane; Katie Lipofski; Arianna Laroche; and Missi Hester, recorder.

At 6:01 p.m., Chairman Dennis Troy announced that a quorum of 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.

Dr. Gemma gave a prayer.

Ms. Hester called the roll.

The minutes of the October 27, 2015, meeting were approved with a motion by Mr. McVicker and second by Ms. Andrews.

**Student Government Report:**

James Johnson, SGA president, gave the report for the Student Government Association. Mr. Johnson stated that members of the Association recently attended a state SGA conference in Hickory, North Carolina. He stated that the theme of the conference was “The Best Is Yet To Come.”

Mr. Johnson reported that the SGA provided refreshments during the college’s Veteran’s Day program to show appreciation to the veterans. He also stated that SGA assisted with a recent college tour and provided lunch for college recruiters. Mr. Johnson stated that the event provided students in the college transfer program the opportunity to ask visiting recruiters questions regarding their universities.

Mr. Johnson informed the board that a workshop was held on November 9 featuring former SGA president Michael Smith entitled “The Five Levels of Leadership.” Mr. Smith visits various colleges and provides information about how to improve leadership skills.

Mr. Johnson also informed the group that a canned food drive is currently underway and donations will be given to needy families during the holiday season through

Bladen Crisis Assistance. Mr. Johnson stated that the SGA is also participating in a toy drive with the college Minority Male Mentoring group.

Sondra Guyton introduced student Katie Lipofski to the board. Ms. Lipofski is currently enrolled adult high school classes. She was previously attending East Bladen High School. Ms. Lipofski thanked the board for the opportunity to speak. Ms. Lipofski stated that she stopped attending East Bladen High School at the beginning of her sophomore year and enrolled at Bladen Community College in October. She has completed two credits toward her adult high school diploma since that time and has twelve remaining to complete the high school diploma. Ms. Lipofski stated that she plans to graduate May 2016 and she plans to further her education in the field of pathology. Ms. Lipofski stated that the adult high school program at BCC prepares students for real world experiences and provides a better environment for learning. She stated that the college provides a calm environment and at the college she is more focused in her studies.

Mr. Troy asked Ms. Lipofski what made her come to Bladen Community College. She stated that she wanted to attend school but she did not want to attend a traditional high school because of the environment. Ms. Andrews asked what teachers can do to prevent students from dropping out of high school. Ms. Lipofski stated that teachers at the local high schools are not able to provide individual attention to students because of large class sizes.

Mr. Troy thanked Ms. Lipofski for sharing her story with the board. Dr. Gemma asked Ms. Lipofski what she plans to do after she receives her adult high school diploma to which she replied that she plans to enroll at BCC in college transfer and transfer to a university after that time.

### **Faculty Senate Report:**

Lisa DeVane, faculty senate president, presented the faculty senate report. Ms. DeVane reported that the faculty senate met on November 23 and Dr. Findt spoke to the group about the Connect NC Bond. Ms. DeVane stated that Dr. Findt asked the senate to give suggestions on how to use the bond funds. She stated that the faculty senate wishes to be more active regarding the faculty senate scholarship.

Ms. DeVane stated that early registration went well. She stated that enrollment in developmental courses has declined and college level courses has increased.

Ms. DeVane told those in attendance that BCC student Levi Pait has been nominated for the All USA Scholarship that is sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa and the American Association of Community Colleges. Ms. DeVane stated that this is a nationally recognized scholarship in the amount of \$5,000 and if Mr. Pait receives the scholarship he will be featured in *USA Today* publication. Ms. DeVane stated that she provided information regarding Mr. Pait's academics and Ms. Crystal Dowd

provided information about his leadership skills. Two individuals from each state are selected from each state to receive the All USA Scholarship and the recipients will be announced April 2016. Mr. Pait is currently serving as an ambassador for the college.

Mr. Troy thanked Ms. DeVane for her report.

A moment of silence was observed for BCC employee Catherine McLaney. Ms. McLaney passed away on Saturday, November 28, after an extended illness.

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

Dr. Findt distributed to the board members their statement of contributions to the College Foundation.

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

Jeff Kornegay provided a report regarding the LPN to ADN transition.

Mr. Kornegay stated that LPN students have not been eligible to receive financial aid, because the program is a one year diploma program. He stated that the college applied with the North Carolina Board of Nursing to be able to offer the transition program to the ADN program for LPN students. Mr. Kornegay stated that the college has recently been granted approval to offer the transition program. With the transition program, LPN students can complete NUR 214 offered in the summer and the college will give them credit for the first year classes in the ADN program. In the past, LPN students who desired the ADN degree were required to complete the entire ADN program and would not receive credit for their LPN credential.

Mr. Kornegay reported that the ADN program will accept ten additional students in the fall. The college has received numerous calls from individuals who are interested in taking advantage of this program.

Sondra Guyton provided an update regarding the federal Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant. Ms. Guyton stated that on June 4, 2015, the college submitted a grant application for \$1.3 million dollars to construct a STEM and advanced manufacturing training technology facility. She stated that with the additional \$500,000 from the Golden LEAF Foundation that the college has been awarded, \$50,000 committed from Bladen County, and \$10,000 from local companies, the college anticipates constructing a for \$1.86 million facility pending the approval by Congress of the federal budget. The college is currently working with Pam Bostic of the Southeastern Economic Development Commission, Hillary Sherman, Economic Development Administration, and Gary Grady to provide the legal documentation for the grant. Ms. Guyton stated that the facility will house a chemistry lab, computer lab, advanced manufacturing simulation lab, and a STEM classroom. This building is projected to be approximately 12,500 square feet.

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

Jay Stanley presented the college's capital needs for the 2016-17 to 2020-21 fiscal years. Mr. Stanley told those present that each year the county requests a capital needs list from each county agency. The capital improvement plan is submitted to the county as a planning and budgeting tool which provides information regarding the college's needs over a period of five years. Mr. Stanley noted that for budget year 2016-2017, the workforce development building is listed first and is a six million dollar project. Other items listed include roof replacement for the college auditorium, campus light improvements for parking lots and grounds, building drainage systems replacements, and replacement of East Arcadia siding.

Mr. Stanley stated that the fiscal affairs committee met prior to the board meeting and discussed several of the projects and the total request is approximately \$8.3 million dollars.

Mr. Petteway stated that the fiscal affairs committee met prior to the board meeting and discussed the items listed in further depth. He stated that the committee recommends approval of the Bladen County capital improvement plan worksheet as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Benton and passed unanimously.

Mr. Stanley reported on college security. He stated that the last several budget requests sent to the county included additional funds for campus security.

Mr. Stanley informed the board that the college has been funded an additional allocation for the 2015-16 year for security and that the Bladen County Sheriff's Office is eager to help the college with this need. A meeting with the sheriff was held in November to discuss logistics, costs, students, and additional security needs of the school. An agreement has been reached with the sheriff. Beginning January 4, two deputies will begin working at the college from 7:15 a.m. to 10:15 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Mr. McVicker stated that he wants the college to be a safe campus and he will be choosing the deputies for the college.

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

Hayes Petteway provided the Foundation Investment Committee report stating that the fiscal affairs committee met prior to the board meeting. Mr. Petteway asked that information reported from Morgan Stanley be emailed to him and stated that he would report information in January 2016.

Dr. Findt presented the Bladen Community College Board of Trustees Resolution in support of the Connect NC Bond for approval. He stated that it is a \$2 billion dollar bond and if approved, \$350 million would go to the 58 community colleges in North Carolina. Dr. Findt told the board that BCC would receive over \$6 million for new construction and renovation. He stated that the amount allotted to each campus is

based on needs of each campus. Dr. Findt provided to the board members a copy of the plans approved by the board during the 2010-2011 year for a workforce development building plans. Dr. Findt asked the members to consider using the funds from the Connect NC Bond to construct the workforce development building if the bond passes in 2016. He stated that this facility has been listed as the first priority on the capital needs worksheet submitted to the county for the several years.

Dr. Dickerson asked about additional parking and other expenses associated with the construction of the new facility. Dr. Findt stated that parking would be redesigned and that other expenses, such as insurance and increases maintenance fees, would be examined.

Dr. Gemma made the motion for the board to submit a signed resolution in support the Connect NC Bond. Ms. Benton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **President's Report:**

Dr. Findt reported that the Eastern President's meeting was held at BCC on November 19, 2015. He stated that 21 community college presidents and other members of their staff attended a workshop concerning crisis communication and how to present information to the public in the event of a crisis situation.

Dr. Findt gave an update on employees currently on medical leave. They are Anthony Thomas, Naomi Miller, and Rebecca James. He reiterated to the board that Catherine McLaney, Central Services Technician, had recently passed away. Dr. Findt stated that Ms. McLaney had been an employee of the college for 18 years.

Dr. Findt stated that in November, Mr. McVicker and Ms. Benton attended an orientation for new trustees at the college.

Dr. Findt informed the board that the trustee retreat will be held on January 22, 2016.

Dr. Findt invited the board to the holiday luncheon to be held in the auditorium on December 9 at 12 p.m.

At 7:07 p.m. following a motion by Ms. Andrews and a second by Mr. Petteway, Mr. Troy stated that pursuant to Statutes G.S. 143.318.11(A6) the board would go into closed session to discuss litigation and legal issues with the college attorney.

Ms. Andrews moved that the board return to open session, seconded by Mr. McVicker; motion carried and the board returned to open session at 7:19 p.m.

**Personnel Committee Report:**

A closed session meeting was held to discuss litigation and legal issues with the college's attorney.

**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 7:20 p.m., Chairman Troy thanked everyone for their attendance. The meeting adjourned with a motion by Mr. Petteway and a second by Mr. McVicker.

---

Dennis Troy, Chairman

---

William Findt, Secretary