Members Present: Dennis Troy, chair; Frank Gemma, vice chair; Mary Andrews; Pam Benton; Bruce Dickerson; Ricky Leinwand; Hayes Petteway; Charlotte Smith; and Ashley Trivette.

Members Absent: Albert Beatty; Larry Hammond; and James McVicker.

Others Present: William Findt; Jeff Kornegay; Sondra Guyton; Barry Priest; Jay Stanley; Lynn Grey King; Cynthia McKoy; Gary Grady, board attorney; and Missi Hester, recorder.

At 5:30 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.

Mr. Petteway gave a prayer.

Ms. Hester called the roll.

The open session minutes of the November 28, 2017, meeting were approved with a motion by Mr. Petteway and second by Ms. Andrews. The motion carried.

Student Government Association Report:

Charity Taylor, Student Government President, provided a report during the trustee retreat prior to the trustee meeting. Ms. Taylor stated that the SGA collaborated with campus ministries to hold coat drive. The coats were delivered to Bladen County Social Services. Ms. Taylor reported that a canned food drive was held to benefit Bladen County residents in need during the holidays. The student government association participated in the Martin Luther King, Jr. parade in Elizabethtown on Monday, January 15.

Faculty Senate Report:

Jeff Kornegay presented the faculty senate report. Mr. Kornegay stated that two cosmetology students passed their practical and written state board exams during January.

Mr. Kornegay reported that on Tuesday, January 30, Mr. Alex Albright, a professor at East Carolina University, will give a reading in the college library at 11:00 a.m. Mr. Kornegay stated that faculty members from the college would be participating in the
Career and Technical Education Career Awareness Day at Elizabethtown Middle School on January 31.

**Bladen Community College Foundation Report:**

Ms. Linda Burney distributed information regarding the college’s 50 for 50 campaign. Ms. Burney stated that the campaign is designed to provide mini-grants for job related enrichment purposes for college faculty and staff. The campaign will continue until there are 50 contributors.

Ms. Burney provided information that showed the financial growth of the foundation since 2007.

**Academic and Student Affairs Committee Report:**

Ms. Sondra Guyton provided information regarding the spring courses scheduled at the East Arcadia campus. Ms. Guyton stated that the college advertised both curriculum and continuing education courses scheduled for the East Arcadia Center. No curriculum courses were offered due to low enrollment. Four continuing education courses are currently being held at the center. She provided the members of the board with documentation of BCC students who reside in East Arcadia and the surrounding communities and she stated that these students come to the campus in Dublin or they attend online courses.

Mr. Kornegay informed the board that the college received notification from the National Association for the Education of Young Children that the college’s early childhood program received national accreditation on November 27, 2017. Mr. Kornegay stated that the program will be up for review again in 2022. He reported that Dr. Jennifer Whittington, Dr. Priscilla Pope and Ms. Claudia Anderson had worked on this process.

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

Mr. Jay Stanley gave a report on the STEM and continuing education building projects. Mr. Stanley stated that he previously reported that LS3P architects submitted the construction documents for the continuing education building on October 17 to the State Construction Office (SCO) and to the college for review. He reported that the college and the SCO responded with comments to the designer. The SCO advised LS3P to address each of the comments and provide a written response to each comment. Mr. Stanley stated that LS3P had responded well to each of the comments and the college hopes to have final approval from the SCO in February. If approval is received in February, bids would go out during February or March. Mr. Stanley stated that he hopes that construction can begin on the continuing education building by the end of the fiscal year.
Mr. Stanley stated that the trustees approved the exterior rendering of the STEM building during the board meeting held on November 28, 2017. Since that time, HH Architecture has submitted the construction documents to the college and the SCO.

Fiscal Affairs Committee Report:

Mr. Stanley presented the second quarter financial report and stated that the college is financially on track for the state and local budget. Mr. Stanley reported that the college expects to receive notification of a budget reversion due to System-wide tuition and fee shortfalls. He stated that the college is prepared for the reversion.

Mr. Petteway provided a report on the foundation investment committee. He stated that the college continues to benefit due to a strong stock market and the investments have grown to approximately $790,000.

Personnel Committee Report:

Dr. Findt reported that Mr. Joe Crowder has been employed in the continuing education department as the director for public safety and Ms. Rachel Byrd has been employed as the NCWorks Career Coach.

President’s Report:

Dr. Findt notified the board of his intent to retire as president of Bladen Community College. He stated that the college is a remarkable place to work and his time at the school has been rewarding beyond measure. He thanked the board for their work for the betterment of the college and stated that he has been fortunate to have Mr. Troy and Mr. Petteway serve as board chairmen during his time at the college. Dr. Findt stated that much has been accomplished at the college during the last ten years and that he will forever be grateful to the faculty, staff and board of trustees. Dr. Findt began his tenure at the college on August 1, 2008 and his retirement will be effective January 1, 2019. Mr. Troy thanked Dr. Findt for his work at the college and stated that he was leaving the college in better condition than what he found it.

Ms. Hester reported that the North Carolina Association of Community College Trustees Law/Legislative seminar will be held April 11 through April 13 at the Raleigh Marriot Crabtree Valley. Ms. Hester asked that trustees contact her if they are interested in attending.

Dr. Findt presented the revised 2018 board of trustees meeting dates for review and approval. Dr. Findt stated that if approved, the meeting scheduled for March 27 would not be held and the May 22 meeting would be held at the East Arcadia Center.

Ms. Smith made the motion to approve the 2018 board of trustees meeting dates as presented. Mr. Petteway seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
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 6:21 p.m., Chairman Troy thanked everyone for attending. The meeting adjourned with a motion by Mr. Petteway and a second by Ms. Trivette.

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Dennis Troy, Chairman    William Findt, Secretary