Bladen Community College
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Minutes of October 25, 2016

Members Present: Dennis Troy, chair; Frank Gemma, vice chair; Mary Andrews; Albert Beatty; Pam Benton; Wayne Edge; Larry Hammond; Ricky Leinwand; Hayes Petteway; and Charlotte Smith.

Members Absent: Landon Bordeaux and James McVicker

Others Present: William Findt; Jeff Kornegay; Jay Stanley; Barry Priest; Sondra Guyton; Linda Burney; Lisa DeVane; Zachary Bridgers, SGA President; Gary Grady, attorney; and Missi Hester, recorder.

At 6:07 p.m., Chairman Troy announced that a quorum of members was present and called the meeting to order and asked if any trustee had a conflict or an appearance of conflict of interest. No conflicts were expressed.

Mr. Kornegay gave a prayer.

Ms. Hester called the roll.

The open and closed session minutes of the September 20, 2016, meetings were approved with a motion by Ms. Andrews and a second by Mr. Beatty.

Student Government Report

Zachary Bridgers, Student Government Association president, gave the report for the Student Government Association. Mr. Bridgers reported that the SGA sponsored a fall festival on Wednesday, October 19. Hamburgers were provided to the students.

Mr. Bridgers informed the board that members of the SGA would be attending the NC4SGA state conference at Atlantic Beach beginning Friday, October 28.

Mr. Bridgers stated that the SGA is currently raising funds for the United Way campaign. The student goal for the campaign is $500. A canned food drive is also underway to benefit individuals affected by Hurricane Matthew.

Mr. Troy thanked Mr. Bridgers for his report.

Faculty Senate Report:

Lisa DeVane, chair for the faculty senate, reported that faculty members have been contacting students since the storm and reports that most students’ lives have returned
to normal and that most have returned to class. Ms. DeVane stated the college is working to help students who have suffered losses.

Ms. DeVane stated that Mr. Don Brown, a Charlotte attorney and former JAG Officer, will be speaking in the college library on November 3 at 11:00 a.m. BCC history instructor Cliff Tyndall will be giving a Halloween program in the library on Monday, October 31 at 12:00 p.m. Jay Watson, psychology instructor, will be speaking on domestic violence on November 15 at noon in the library. On November 17 Dr. Leonard Holmes, UNCP professor and director of the biotechnology center, will be giving a presentation on beneficial nematodes.

Ms. DeVane said that the college is offering study sessions for students interested in allied health programs to assist them in preparation for the entrance exam. She told the board that the third session will begin this week and that each session focuses on a separate area of the exam.

Ms. DeVane reported that a new Senate bill has been passed that requires community colleges to work with the high schools to offer developmental classes to high school students in addition to their regular high school classes. She stated that this is in the early planning stages and a meeting has been scheduled between the college and local high schools on December 9 to discuss how to implement this requirement.

Ms. DeVane stated that the history club sponsored a ghost walk in Wilmington on Friday, October 21. Approximately 25 to 30 individuals participated in the event.

The early childhood department submitted a report for accreditation to the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) at the end of September. Ms. DeVane told the board that the Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) program has 11 students participating in the program. On November 4 a program entitled “Walk and Talk about Trees” will be given on the college campus from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The program is in relation to the college applying to be a Tree Campus USA college. Science instructor Pam King will be giving the presentation.

**Bladen Community College Foundation Report:**

Linda Burney stated that the Seafood and Sunset fundraiser has been rescheduled for Thursday, November 10, at 6:00 p.m. The fundraiser will be held at The Venue at Regal Resort at White Lake. She encouraged individuals to make reservations.

Ms. Burney told the board that she attended development conferences in September, the North Carolina Center for Non-profit conference in Raleigh and the North Carolina Council for Resource Development conference in Wilkesboro, North Carolina.

Mr. Troy thanked Ms. Burney for her report.
Academic and Student Affairs Committee Report:

Jeff Kornegay reported on the disruption to college classes due to Hurricane Matthew. Mr. Kornegay stated that the college’s first priority is student safety. He said that it was feared that many students might not be able to return due to issues regarding the storm. A number of BCC students are from Robeson County. Mr. Kornegay stated that the college was on fall break October 10 through October 12 and with no classes scheduled instructional time was not impacted for those days. Staff returned to work on Thursday, October 13. Faculty returned to the college on Monday, October 17, and students returned on Tuesday, October 18. Mr. Kornegay reported that most students returned and that the college has asked faculty members to determine which students have incurred significant loss due to the storm. He stated that relief efforts are going on to help assist these individuals. Six students have lost their homes. Mr. Kornegay stated that most of the courses that the college offers are web-assisted, meaning that on-line assignments can be given to students to make up the instructional time that was lost due to the hurricane.

Mr. Hammond asked if the college has a disaster response module. Mr. Stanley stated that the college has a business continuity plan and safety/emergency plans in place. The college also participated in an active shooter drill in August 2015. Emergency fire and tornado drills will be performed in the near future. The college is currently working to implement the mass communication system, Regroup, that will be used to inform students about various events and/or emergencies. Accurate information must be supplied for the system to be effective.

Mr. Kornegay reported on the college’s fifth year report for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). Mr. Kornegay stated that the college received its reaffirmation of accreditation from SACSCOC in December 2013 and the fifth year report is to be submitted by September 15, 2018. The college must respond to 99 requirements for the 10 year report and approximately 20% of that number for the fifth year report. The college’s Quality Enhancement Plan will be finalized and submitted for the September 2018 report. Mr. Kornegay stated that eight individuals have begun to work on the fifth year report and it is going well. These individuals will be attending the SACSCOC annual meeting held in Atlanta, Georgia during the first week in December.

Mr. Troy stated that this is a critical requirement for the college. He stated that the college cannot operate without this accreditation. He asked Mr. Kornegay if the school is in line with this requirement and Mr. Kornegay stated that it is. He informed Mr. Troy that he would be giving periodic reports to the board regarding the fifth year report.
Sondra Guyton reported that three to four senior administrators from Polytechnical School in Panama City, Panama are expected to visit the college in November. They are interested in the college’s high school credential program as well as occupational skills training. Ms. Guyton stated that the purpose of the visit is for the administrators to gain knowledge of the instructional techniques for the technical programs that Bladen offers.

Ms. Guyton stated that the Panamanians are also interested in economic development activities that could take place between the college and Panama. She stated that Mr. Rodrigo Gomez, who was involved in the litigation process of the Panama Canal expansion and will provide a mini-lecture regarding the effects of the Panama Canal and world trade.

This connection was made by Mr. Silas Acosta, occupational extension director, who has a large family in Panama. Mr. Acosta’s brother became interested in how the college offers training and shared the information with his colleagues at Polytechnical School in Panama.

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

Jay Stanley reported on the continuing education and the Economic Development Administration (EDA) STEM buildings. Mr. Stanley stated that since the previous meeting, the LS3P architecture firm had submitted the design contracts that have been approved by State Construction. Mr. Stanley informed the board that he and several member of the college’s senior staff met with Charles Boney of LS3P on Monday, October 24, at the LS3P office in Wilmington. He stated that the purpose of the meeting was to review the exterior of the continuing education building and to discuss interior features. The college will let bids for the building in the spring with construction to begin in July 2017.

Mr. Stanley reported that LS3P is working diligently to keep the building costs of the STEM building within budget. Dr. Findt stated that Mr. Boney will be attending the December board meeting to give the trustees the opportunity to review the exterior of the continuing education building.

Mr. Stanley gave a report on the status of the campus facilities after Hurricane Matthew. He stated that a generator is used as a backup resource in the information technology department and because of that, the department had no down time. Mr. Stanley praised the maintenance department for its work before and after the storm. Mr. Stanley stated that Mr. Rideout, director of facilities, and others in the department were proactive in their efforts to prepare the campus before the storm arrived. He stated that the college lost three trees. Mr. Stanley reported that the college did have one area on the back of the campus where significant damage occurred. A limb became lodged in a drainage
culvert causing water to eroded the soil in that area. The cost to repair the culvert is approximately $3,500. Mr. Stanley reported that the East Arcadia Center had leaks and siding issues following the storm. The college has requested funds from the county in the past to address siding issues at the Center.

Mr. Stanley provided the college’s first quarter financial reports consisting of the county, state, and institutional funds for the period ending September 30, 2016. Mr. Stanley reported that 1% of the state budget is being held in reserve in the event of a state reversion. The county budget was 24% expended at September 30, 2016. Mr. Stanley reviewed the institutional budget with the board.

Mr. Petteway asked if there were questions. He stated that this area continues to do a good job with the college budget. Mr. Troy asked that the minutes reflect that the first quarter financial report shows the college is in good shape financially.

**Fiscal Affairs Committee Report:**

Mr. Petteway gave the BCC Foundation report. He stated that the college’s foundation investment committee met Thursday, October 20, with representatives from the investment firm Morgan Stanley. When the funds were first invested, there was a decline in the stock market. Since that time the investment has grown to approximately $670,000.

Mr. Leinwand asked what the goal is for the investment. Mr. Petteway responded that it is used to fund student scholarships.

**Personnel Committee Report:**

There was no personnel report.

**President’s Report:**

Dr. Findt invited the board to a reading by Mr. Don Brown, former United States Navy JAG Officer, on Thursday, November 3, in the college library. He also invited them to the Veteran’s program on November 11 at 11:00 a.m. in the college auditorium.

Dr. Findt reported on the college United Way campaign. He reported that the college goal is $6000 and is approximately short $1000 of making the goal. Dr. Findt stated that individuals who would like to contribute can contact Ms. Lucinda McKoy or Mr. Donald Bryan to make a donation.
Old Business:

There was no old business.

New Business:

Barry Priest reported on dispersing donations to assist individuals affected by Hurricane Matthew. Mr. Priest stated that 85% to 90% of the students enrolled at BCC are from Bladen County or Robeson County. He reported that BCC adjunct faculty member Dr. Katherine Greyson, also Haywood Community College’s faculty senate president, has contacted BCC and would like to help with donations to students. Mr. Priest stated that donations will be handled through the financial aid office.

Mr. Petteway encouraged board members when asked to serve on the committee to choose the college’s outstanding faculty, adjunct faculty and staff members of the year. He stated that it was gratifying to work with college faculty and staff on the committee, and that he learned how much students mean to the college’s faculty and staff.

Dr. Gemma provided an editorial from The Chronicle of Higher Education regarding free speech. He also recommended that trustees review an article in the ACCT Trustee Quarterly regarding trusteeship in community colleges.

Unfinished Business:

There was no unfinished business.

At 7:32 p.m., Chairman Troy thanked the trustees for their attendance and service to the college. The meeting adjourned with a motion by Ms. Andrews and a second by Mr. Petteway.

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Dennis Troy, Chairman            William Findt, Secretary