



BOARD OF TRUSTEES TELEPHONIC MEETING
Minutes of Tuesday, November 17, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

At 6:03 p.m., Chairman Dennis Troy called the meeting to order and thanked the group for attending. Mr. Troy read to the group the Statement of Ethics Awareness for the State of North Carolina. Mr. Troy asked if any trustee had a conflict or an appearance of a conflict of interest. There were none.

ROLL CALL

Missi Hester called the roll.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Dennis Troy, chair; Frank Gemma, vice chair; Pam Benton; Ray Britt; Brian D. Campbell; Bruce Dickerson; Ricky Leinwand; Hayes Petteway; and Whitley Ward

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VIA CONFERENCE CALL/ZOOM

Mary Andrews; Lillian Bryant; and Joseph Rozier

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

OTHERS PRESENT

Amanda Lee; Jeff Kornegay; Jay Stanley; Barry Priest; Sondra Guyton; Joy Grady; Tiina Mundy; William and Jo-Anne Findt; Darrell and Kathy Page; Emily M. Williams, Reporter, *The Bladen Journal*; Gary Grady, Board Attorney; and Missi Hester, recorder.

OTHERS PRESENT VIA CONFERENCE CALL/ZOOM

None

APPROVAL OF TELEPHONIC BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Mr. Troy called for a motion to proceed telephonically with the November 17, 2020, Board of Trustees meeting in accordance with North Carolina General Statute 143.318.113 for the safety of college staff and the trustees due to the COVID-19 crisis. Brian Campbell made the motion to conduct the meeting telephonically. The motion was seconded by Pam Benton and carried unanimously by roll call.

Hayes Petteway gave a prayer. Frank Gemma led the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Troy presented the meeting agenda for Tuesday, November 17, 2020 for review and approval. Mr. Troy stated that this would be a historic meeting and asked that agenda item 9.02-Campus Facility Naming Opportunity (vote required) be moved up as the next item to be presented. Ray Britt made the motion to adopt the meeting agenda with the change. The motion was seconded by Mr. Campbell and carried unanimously by roll call.

FISCAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT

Dr. Amanda Lee presented rationale requesting naming the Student Resource Center in honor of Dr. Darrell Page. The rationale for the naming was presented to the Fiscal Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees on Thursday, October 1, 2020. The committee came to a consensus to bring the naming to the full Board for approval.

Dr. Darrell Page was hired as President of Bladen Community College on June 1, 1997 and retired June 30, 2008.

During his ten years as president, Dr. Page oversaw the completion of the Lynn King, Sr. Allied Health Building, the establishment of the JobLink Center (unemployment center), and the College's transition from a quarter system to a semester system. Moving to a semester system facilitated articulation and transfer credits into four-year universities, a challenging transition but one that BCC students still benefit from today.

In 2005, a classroom building was constructed in East Arcadia. On the Dublin campus, a classroom building adjacent to the industrial training facility was completed in 2006. With a \$1 million appropriation from a legislative grant, he also initiated the expansion of the welding and industrial maintenance buildings.

Most recently, Dr. Page presented a notebook to Dr. Lee detailing research, communications, and plans to initiate a swine program at the college. His original plans did not come to fruition; however, these plans are being used today as the College reinstates an agri-business program with the intention of expanding the program to reflect the agricultural industry in our service area. Dr. Page is dedicated to the College and continues to champion and advocate on its behalf.

He is an avid reader and it is not uncommon to see him on campus visiting the library.

Dr. Page grew up in Waycross, Georgia. In 2006, he was inducted into the Waycross Ware County Sports Hall of Fame. As a multi-talented athlete in high school, Dr. Page played football and basketball four years, baseball three years and tennis two years. Although an outstanding tennis player, he is best remembered as the starting quarterback for the 1959 and 1960 Waycross Bulldogs. The 1960 squad became the first undefeated team in Waycross history going 13-0 and winning the

state AA championship. He earned a football scholarship to Virginia Tech and had an outstanding college career. He earned three letters in football and was chosen Tri-Captain of the 1964 team. Darrell also won two letters as a member of the Virginia Tech tennis squad. After graduating from Virginia Tech, he was a student coach there before being commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant and serving in Vietnam in 1968-69 where he earned a bronze star medal. After Vietnam, he was a high school coach in North Carolina in 1971-1972. Following his coaching days, he became Vice President, Dean, and Evening Director for Stanly Community College. Dr. Page moved to Bladen Community College in 1990 as Vice President of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness. In 1997, the Board named him president of Bladen Community College.

Since his retirement, Dr. Page has maintained his residence in Bladen County. He continues to give to the Foundation and support the College. He has also remained an active member in the community.

Mr. Petteway made the motion to approve naming the Student Resource Center in honor of Dr. Darrell Page. Ms. Andrews seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by roll call.

Dr. Lee presented rationale requesting naming the Workforce Development Building in honor of Dr. William Findt. The rationale for the naming was presented to the Fiscal Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees on Thursday, October 1, 2020. The committee came to a consensus to bring the naming to the full Board for approval.

Dr. Findt was hired as President of Bladen Community College in August 2008 and retired January 30, 2019.

During his ten years as President, Dr. Findt oversaw the completion of the Student Resource Center and the Welding building. After advocating for NCCConnect Bonds and securing several grants from the EDA and GoldenLEAF, he oversaw the construction of two new buildings to expand continuing education classes, offer state of the art labs for science and EMS training, and up to date computer labs as well as dedicated rooms for Mechatronics classes and labs.

While President, he committed college employees to beautifying the campus. The campus has continuously earned the recognition as a TreeUSA due to the ongoing care and growth of the green spaces.

Always an advocate for students, Dr. Findt supported BCC student's participation in SkillsUSA where students consistently placed in the top tier of awards. Dr. Findt recognized the significance of distance learning opportunities for the local community and cultivated a faculty who have been leaders in remote education. Improving the educational opportunities for local high students, Dr. Findt embraced the Career and College Promise program and initiated the establishment of an Early College on campus. These initiatives continue to be valued by the community.

While under his leadership, the College's Foundation exceeded \$1 million in gifts. He also secured various scholarships for our nursing students and support the for the nursing program, including

from Bladen WeCare and Cape Fear Valley Health Systems. These gifts as well as other grants he secured, provided assistance to students as they and the community recovered from significant damage from hurricanes.

He earned the B.A. in history from Wake Forest University, a master's degree in higher education administration from Appalachian State University, and a doctorate in higher education administration from Virginia Tech in 1987.

In 2018, Dr. Findt was the recipient of the Honorary Lifetime Chamber Member Award, and was inducted into the Order of the Longleaf Pine. He is a member of the Elizabethtown Rotary Club.

Since his retirement, Dr. Findt has maintained his residence in Bladen County. He continues to give to the Foundation and support the College. He has also remained an active member in the community.

Mr. Leinwand made the motion to approve naming the Workforce Development Building in honor of Dr. William Findt. Ms. Benton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by roll call.

Mr. Troy presented Dr. Page and Dr. Findt with a photo of each of the buildings with the proposed naming of each. Mr. Troy thanked them both for their service to Bladen Community College and Bladen County. Dr. Findt and Dr. Page made comments regarding their time at the College and thanked everyone for this honor. Various trustees made comments in support of naming the buildings in honor of the two former presidents.

A brief recess was held after the presentation for congratulations to be shared. A bagged meal was also provided.

CONSENT AGENDA FOR ACTION ITEMS

The consent agenda was presented by Mr. Troy. The action item for the November 17, 2020, meeting included approval of the minutes for the October 27, 2020 meeting. Mr. Troy asked if any member of the Board felt as though the action item needed to be moved to the regular agenda for further discussion and the Board came to the consensus that the item did not need further discussion. The consent agenda for the November 17, 2020, meeting was approved with a motion by Mr. Petteway and a second by Mr. Britt. The motion carried by roll call.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION REPORT

Barry Priest provided a brief report on behalf of the Student Government Association. Mr. Priest stated that t-shirts are being given to students who are registered for the spring 2021 semester. The SGA is also holding a canned food drive to benefit families in need during the holiday season.

FACULTY AND STAFF REPORTS

Jeff Kornegay provided reports for the faculty senate and staff council. Mr. Kornegay reported that the faculty is finishing the fall 2020 semester and remains committed to student success. The faculty

members continue to meet regularly to share best practices during this time. Mr. Kornegay stated that the staff council meeting was rescheduled due to inclement weather.

BLADEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION REPORT

No Foundation Report was given.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT

No Academic and Student Affairs Committee Report was given.

BUILDING/FACILITIES/GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT

Jay Stanley provided an update on college construction projects. Mr. Stanley stated that during the previous meeting the Board had approved \$45,000 to be paid to LS3P for additional construction administration fees. Mr. Stanley reported that since the last meeting, the design amendment has been signed by LS3P and authorized college personnel and has been submitted into Interscope by the State Construction Office(SCO). Final payment to Graka has been approved by LS3P and authorized college personnel and the final payment will be submitted on November 20, 2020. Mr. Stanley stated to the Board that an invoice from LS3P in the amount of \$45,000 has been received and will also be paid on November 20, 2020. He reported that the project will be closed by the SCO within 30 to 60 days.

Mr. Stanley provided an update regarding the STEM/Advanced Manufacturing building. He stated that the College has been working with the bonding company for CSI to resolve the issue of non-payment of subcontractors. Mr. Stanley reported that since the last meeting, Michael Ali of the SCO has been assigned to help assist in closing the project due to the retirement of Jerry Rogers. The deadline for the EDA grant used in-part for this project is December 12, 2020 and the College has requested an additional time extension to the EDA to close the project. Final payment to the bonding company is being held by the College until the required documents have been submitted. Mr. Stanley will provide the Board with an update during an upcoming meeting.

Mr. Stanley asked if there were any questions regarding the construction projects and there were none. Mr. Britt commended Mr. Stanley on his work with the construction projects.

FISCAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Petteway presented the Foundation Investment Committee Report. He stated it was reported the investments were \$1,045,600 during the previous meeting. Mr. Petteway told the Board that there has been an increase of over \$41,000 since the last meeting putting the investments at \$1,087,253 to date. Mr. Petteway stated that the investments are doing well and the Sizemore Group is doing a good job managing the College's investments.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

No Personnel Committee Report was given.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Lee began her report by providing information regarding recruitment and enrollment for the spring 2021 semester. Enrollment in community colleges and universities across the state is down and BCC employees are working diligently to reach the community regarding the opportunities available at BCC. Dr. Lee stated that the College continues to advertise locally and on social media. Billboards have been placed throughout the county and tables are being setup at area businesses to assist prospective students. She told the Board that Joy Grady has been working with Springer Studios on the College annual report that will be distributed electronically for the first time. Dr. Lee reported that the College is executing a plan that includes reaching out to each current student to discuss their academic plans and future classes. She stated that she is proud of the employees of the College regarding enrollment and that the College continues to be aggressive and innovative in its efforts to provide services to the community.

Dr. Lee provided information regarding rural broadband access. She stated that the North Carolina Community College System has decided to use funding provided by the CARES Act to improve internet access in rural areas. Dr. Lee told the Board that a comprehensive assessment has been completed and the College has been selected as one of the colleges across the state to receive funding to improve its broadband access. The total amount of funding to be received is approximately \$721,000 and the College will be providing \$45,000 to complete the project.

Dr. Lee reported to the Board that cosmetology instructor Tim Marshburn has made it to the semi-final level of the Excellence in Teaching award sponsored by the North Carolina Community College System.

Mr. Troy asked Dr. Lee to stand. He asked all present to provide applause to Dr. Lee for her leadership during these difficult times. Dr. Lee was met with a round of applause.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was reported.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was reported.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business was provided.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Troy thanked the trustees for their service and commitment to the College. At 7:15 p.m., The meeting adjourned with a motion by Mr. Leinwand and a second by Mr. Britt. Motion carried.

Dennis Troy, Chairman

Amanda Lee, Secretary