



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES TELEPHONIC MEETING**  
**Minutes of Tuesday, February 22, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER**

At 6:04 p.m., Chairman Dennis Troy called the meeting to order and thanked the group attending in-person and virtually for their dedication to Bladen Community College. 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; Hayes Petteway, vice-chair; Ray Britt; Bruce Dickerson; Ricky Leinwand; and Riley Clewis, SGA President

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VIA CONFERENCE CALL/ZOOM**

Mary Andrews; Pam Benton; Lillian Bryant; Brian D. Campbell; Larry Hammond; Joseph Rozier; and Whitley Ward

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

None

**OTHERS PRESENT VIA CONFERENCE CALL/ZOOM**

Brittany Locklear and Tanazia Owens

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Amanda Lee; Barry Priest; Sondra Guyton; Jay Stanley; Cynthia McKoy; Dolly Horton; Tim Marshburn; Tiina Mundy; Crystal Dowd; Julia Ward; Brittany Jackson; Taryn Strickland; Jennifer Gonzalez; and Missi Hester, recorder

Ray Britt provided a prayer. Tiina Mundy led the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF TELEPHONIC BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

Mr. Troy called for a motion to proceed telephonically with the Tuesday, February 22, 2022, 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. Ray Britt made the motion to conduct the meeting telephonically. The motion was seconded by Ricky Leinwand and carried unanimously by roll call.

### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Mr. Troy presented the meeting agenda for Tuesday, February 22, 2022, for review and approval. Mr. Britt made the motion to adopt the meeting agenda. The motion was seconded by Bruce Dickerson and carried unanimously by roll call.

### **CONSENT AGENDA FOR ACTION ITEMS**

The consent agenda was presented by Mr. Troy. The action item for the February 22, 2022, meeting included approval of the minutes for the November 30, 2021, meeting and the minutes for the January 25, 2022 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 February 22, 2022, meeting was approved with a motion by Mr. Britt and a second by Hayes Petteway. The motion carried by roll call.

### **ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW EMPLOYEES**

Tiina Mundy introduced Julia Ward who was recently hired at the College as a nursing instructor. Ms. Ward, a former BCC student, most recently worked at Cape Fear Valley Bladen County Hospital. Ms. Mundy stated that Ms. Ward earned degrees from East Carolina University and most recently earned an MSN in Nursing Education in 2020. She has worked as adjunct faculty at the College since 2020.

Ms. Mundy introduced Brittany Jackson to the group. Ms. Jackson has recently been hired as a science instructor for the College. Ms. Jackson has the ability to teach biology and chemistry courses. Ms. Jackson attended Grand Canyon University and plans to pursue a doctorate degree in the future.

Ms. Ward and Ms. Jackson offered thanks for their new employment positions. They were met with applause.

### **STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION REPORT**

Riley Clewis provided a report on behalf of the Student Government Association. Mr. Clewis stated that student success is directly linked to student involvement according to *The National Survey of Student Engagement*. Mr. Clewis told the Board that he would like to acknowledge and celebrate the service provided to BCC by the Student Government Association for the past ten years.

Mr. Clewis reported that the SGA has participated in many conferences and training sessions, including North Carolina Comprehensive Community College Student Government Association (N4CSGA) conferences. Over the years, the SGA has participated in multiple training sessions at various institutions across the state. Mr. Clewis stated that the SGA has visited the state capital to meet with legislatures and senators. He reported that the association has attended local meetings with elected officials as well. The SGA has worked to support Bladen County by sponsoring blood

drives and canned food drives. Mr. Clewis stated that the group has also participated in Operation Christmas Child and helped to provide holiday meals for BCC students in need.

The Student Government Association has participated in local parades and hosted Constitution Day events. Mr. Clewis told the Board that the SGA has hosted multiple fall festivals and spring flings on the College campus. Members of the SGA have had the opportunity to attend etiquette workshops and leadership training workshops.

Mr. Troy thanked Mr. Clewis for his report and told him that the trustees are here to help him and his fellow students to be successful. Mr. Clewis was met with applause.

Barry Priest recognized BCC students who have been nominated for awards. Mr. Priest reported that Tanazia Owens has been nominated for the Dallas Herring Achievement Award. This award was established by the North Carolina Community College System in 2010 to honor the late Dr. Dallas Herring, one of the state's earliest advocates of community colleges. The award is bestowed annually upon a current or former student who best represents Dr. Herring's philosophy of "taking people where they are and carrying them as far as they can go." Mr. Priest stated that Ms. Owens is currently enrolled at the College in the associate degree nursing program. Ms. Owens provided information regarding her time at the College and stated that she has been able to continue with her studies due to the resources available to her at BCC. Ms. Owens travels from Charlotte to attend the College. She stated that she plans to continue for education after she graduates from BCC and one day hopes to be a labor and delivery nurse. Mr. Priest thanked her for her report and commended her on her commitment to her education. Mr. Troy echoed Mr. Priest's praise and thanked Ms. Owens for her comments.

Mr. Priest stated that SGA vice-president Taryn Strickland has been nominated for the Robert W. Scott Leadership Award and her application will be submitted to the North Carolina Community College System. This award recognizes students for their leadership and service. Six finalists from across the state will be chosen as finalists for the award. The recipient will receive a plaque and \$1000 and each finalist will receive \$250. Ms. Strickland is enrolled in the associate degree nursing program at the College. She stated that she graduated with a degree in practical nursing in 2017 and returned to earn an ADN degree. Crystal Dowd provided additional information regarding Ms. Strickland's time at BCC. Ms. Dowd stated that Ms. Strickland has served as a BCC Ambassador and also served in the Student Government Association.

Mr. Priest reported to the Board that Jennifer Gonzales has been nominated as the 2022 Academic Excellence Award recipient for Bladen Community College. Mr. Priest stated that each community college in the state nominates a recipient for this award. Miss Gonzalez, a CCP student at West Bladen High School, will receive a plaque and medallion provided by the North Carolina Community College System during the 2022 commencement ceremony. Ms. Gonzalez stated that she was honored to be receiving the award.

Whitley Ward commended the award recipients for their achievements and they were met with applause.

### **FACULTY AND STAFF REPORTS**

Brittany Locklear, faculty senate president, presented on behalf of the faculty senate. Ms. Locklear stated that the faculty senate has new officers as of January 2022. Ms. Locklear became the president; James Johnson is vice-president; Allison Strickland is secretary; and Prissy Pope-McAnulty is treasurer. Ms. Locklear assumed the role as president when Tim Marshburn, formerly the faculty senate president, began his new role as director of communications and marketing at the College.

Ms. Locklear told the Board that the faculty senate met on January 27 to discuss revisions to the faculty senate constitution and by-laws. They also discussed the BCC attendance policy and reviewed bookstore options available through Barnes & Nobles College. A Zoom meeting is scheduled for the faculty to meet with Mr. Rob Heller, director of strategic partnerships with Barnes & Nobles, for further discussion of the options.

Ms. Locklear stated that the faculty extends a special thanks to Dr. Lee and to the Trustees for approval of the bonuses received during the December 2021 pay period.

Faculty members assisted with Full STEAM Ahead on Tuesday, February 15. This session of the program was sponsored by the Heating, Air Conditioning, Refrigeration, and Green Technology areas of the College. Ms. Locklear reported that approximately 24 fifth through eighth grade students participated in the event. She stated that a “meet and greet” was held on Wednesday, February 16, to welcome Dr. Dolly Horton to the College. Attendees were given the opportunity for a question and answer session with Dr. Horton.

Ms. Locklear provided additional activities that are going on across campus. Many of these activities are being shared by Mr. Marshburn on social media. She also reported that several faculty members are working on their doctoral degrees.

Ms. Locklear ended her report by stating that the College food pantry, The Eagle’s Nest, has received a very generous donation from Ms. Louella Thompson and the “Sisters with Class” – Red and Pink Hat Chapter of the Red Hat Society.

No report was given for the staff council.

Mr. Troy asked if there were any questions or comments. He thanked Ms. Locklear for her report.

### **BLADEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION REPORT**

Sondra Guyton presented a report on behalf of the Foundation. Ms. Guyton reported that the Foundation Investment Committee met with Skip Sizemore of Morgan Stanley on February 9. Mr. Sizemore reported on the status of the College investments and offered insight on the response

of the funds in relation to market conditions. Ms. Guyton told the Board that Albert Beatty and Charles Bridger have recently resigned from the Foundation Board of Directors. Dr. Ray Cross is a new member of the Foundation Board of Directors and Ms. Guyton stated that the Foundation is seeking additional directors to fill the empty seats.

Ms. Guyton reported that spring 2022 scholarships have been awarded and additional assistance has been provided by the Foundation student emergency fund. She also stated that the College has contracted Higher Education Innovation (HEI) to assess and coach college employees on how to build a stronger Foundation. The sessions will be in March.

Ms. Guyton reported that during the month of February the College Foundation has experienced unbelievable kindness and generosity through community donations and memorials to endowed scholarships. She stated that this is due to relationships that the donors have with members of the Board and the confidence that they have in Bladen Community College. Ms. Guyton thanked the Board for establishing these relationships in our community.

#### **ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Dr. Lee reported that the SACSCOC report was submitted on Tuesday, February 22, 2022.

#### **BUILDING/FACILITIES/GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Jay Stanley provided information regarding partnerships with local companies. Barefoot Brew of Elizabethtown plans to open a café in the student resource center on campus. Mr. Stanley stated that he is working to complete a contract for the business. He also reported that the College is beginning to have food trucks on campus in an effort to have additional food choices for employees and students. Mr. Stanley updated the Board regarding the partnership with Barnes & Noble College to provide textbooks. He stated that Rob Heller would be presenting a proposal to the faculty that includes two options available through Barnes & Noble College. Option 1: First Day® Complete Implementation and Option 2: Alternative Virtual Bookstore Model.

Mr. Stanley provided information regarding a janitorial partnership with Supreme Maintenance Organization (SMO). He stated that this company comes highly recommended and currently has partnerships with other community colleges across the state. Mr. Stanley also reported that SMO would be interviewing the current janitorial employees who have all received recommendations from the College. The positions are comparable to the positions they currently hold as college employees. There are currently two full-time employees and one part-time employee at the College. SMO will provide a total of two full-time positions, one part-time position and one supervisor. Mr. Stanley stated that the contract with SMO is for three years with a 30-day written notice of cancellation without reason.

Mr. Stanley reported that the College's Datatel/Colleague main data system is now in the Cloud. He stated that this project is being led by the North Carolina Community College System Office and all 58 community colleges in the state will partner with Amazon Web Services (AWS). Bladen

Community College is one of three community colleges in the state that has completed the transition to date without any changes. Mr. Stanley commended the IT department for their work in this project. He explained that this project would reduce computer hardware needed onsite and improves disaster recovery methods.

Mr. Stanley provided an update on renovation projects. He thanked the county for funding that has been received for ADA restroom renovations across campus. Mr. Stanley reported that funds from the Connect NC Bond will also be used for the project. The request was approved by the State Board in December 2021 and the College is currently working with a designer on the project.

Mr. Stanley provided an update regarding Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF). He reported that the College received \$6,743,385. The student portion totaled \$2,610,211 and the institutional portion was \$3,523,009. The remaining student portion of \$806,481.63 will be paid to students during the spring 2022 semester. The deadline to expend the student portion is November 2022 and the institutional portion is August 2022. Mr. Stanley reported that the College has used approximately \$3.5 million of the institutional portion. Mr. Stanley reported that \$500,000 of the institutional portion has been allocated for HVAC replacements in buildings 9 and 20 to prevent the spread of COVID. Welding booths will also be replaced under this same plan. Water coolers will be added to each building at the cost of \$50,000. He reported that the remaining institutional portion will be used for classroom furniture, board room furniture and office furnishings to meet social distancing guidelines. The College also received Minority Serving Institution (MSI) funds in the amount of \$610,165 for technology related items. Mr. Stanley told the Board that \$461,980.16 of these funds have been used so far and remaining funds will be used on laptops and mobile carts.

### **FISCAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Stanley stated that the College budgets are in good order with state funds approximately 61% expended to date. County funds are 64% expended to date. Mr. Stanley stated that the county budget request would be coming to the Board for approval during an upcoming meeting.

Mr. Petteway presented the Foundation Investment Committee Report. He reported that the College investments are down by 7.5% since December 31, 2021. The balance of the investments to date is \$1,142,039. He stated that he has confidence in the Sizemore Group with the College investments during this volatile period.

### **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT**

Tiina Mundy provided the bi-annual personnel report for the period of September 1, 2021, through January 31, 2022. Ms. Mundy reminded the Board that at the time of the last report, the number of full-time employees was 98. Since that time, there have been six retirements, one separations/other, and five new employees. Ms. Mundy stated that there have been 15 job postings since September 1, 2021, and seven of those positions have been filled. As of January 31, there were 97 full-time employees. Open positions are posted on the College's website.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Lee began her report by inviting the trustees to the Economic Development/Bladen's Bloomin' Annual Casino fundraiser on Friday, February 25 at Cape Fear Winery. She also invited them to the White Lake-Elizabethtown Chamber Banquet on Thursday, March 10 at Lu Mil Vineyard. Dr. Lee asked the board members to contact Ms. Hester if they are interested in attending either of these events.

Dr. Lee invited the group to a ribbon cutting for the greenhouse that was recently constructed on campus. The event is scheduled to take place on Monday, March 21 at noon to honor Cape Fear Farm Credit for the generous donation made to the College.

Dr. Lee reported to the Board that the College is partnering with the Chamber of Commerce and Bladen's Bloomin' to reinvigorate the Leadership Bladen program. Applications have been posted on the Chamber website and are due by March 15, 2022. Dr. Lee told the Board that classes will begin in April and continue through November.

Dr. Lee stated that the College senior staff and others had participated in a webinar titled "Mastering Risks." The webinar was led by General Stanley McChrystal.

Mr. Troy asked if anyone had any questions or comments. Mr. Troy thanked Dr. Lee for her report.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Troy asked Dr. Lee to share the results of the Board of Trustee self-evaluation. Dr. Lee stated that this is a SACSCOC requirement. This is the third year that this process has been completed by the Board. She stated that the results have been consistently positive overall. Dr. Lee read to the group some of the comments that include: Would like to see more local employment; Continue to work together for the best results of the College; Too much politics influencing the selection of Board members without sufficient regard for commitment and understanding of the responsibilities of a trustee; The Board is doing an excellent job, I have no concerns relating to the Board; Getting advance notice of critical agenda items. Comments related to the strengths of the Board were noted and are as follows: Diversity and good business individuals who know how to manage items that may appear; Lots of experience; Cohesiveness; We work closely together and respect the opinions of others, assisting the president and staff to be the best it can be for the students at Bladen Community College; We work together and respect each other's opinions; A diverse group, all members keep the best interest of the College at the forefront of all decision making.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Barry Priest provided information regarding the College Central Network (CCN) Software. The College will be supporting a software program to assist in connecting local businesses to potential employees. This software will be housed at the College and can be used by students and the community. The county has agreed to fund the software program and training will be offered to HR professionals in the area on Wednesday, February 23 on the College campus. Joy Miller, national sales manager for CCN, will be on-site to showcase the advantages that employers could gain by using the service. Jason Springer will be

hosting a “how-to” session to the HR professionals. Mr. Priest provided a presentation to the Board and stated that the College is fully committed to this project.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

No unfinished business was provided.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Petteway thanked his “community college family” for the outpouring of support during the recent loss of his wife, Mary Anne. He stated that he has been overwhelmed by the love and support shown to him recently.

Chairman Troy thanked the trustees for their service and commitment to the College. At 7:56 p.m., the meeting adjourned with a motion by Mr. Britt and a second by Mr. Leinwand. Motion carried.

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Dennis Troy, Chairman

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Amanda Lee, Secretary