



**Minutes
Greenville Technical College Area Commission
Brashier Campus
Building 201, Room 124**

April 18, 2018

Members Present

David Stafford
Kenneth Southerlin
James Blakely
Paul Batson
Coleman Shouse
Jo Watson Hackl
Keith Smith
Hunter Howard
Ray Martin
Dean Jones
Ray Lattimore

Staff Present

Dr. Keith Miller
Jacqui DiMaggio
Lauren Simer
Dr. Jermaine Whirl
Susan Jones
Dr. Matteel Jones
Ann Wright
Wendy Walden
Becky Mann
Gloria Carden
Mikelle Porter

Guests

Keith Munson
Jada Wright

Members Absent

Dr. Burke Royster

Call to Order and Welcome

Chair Stafford called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. and welcomed members of the board, staff, and visitors. Chair Stafford announced that in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, the press had been notified of the meeting, but no press members were in attendance. Chair Stafford acknowledged that the agenda was posted on the GTC website. Chair Stafford also acknowledged that a quorum of Board members was present.

Chair Stafford offered the following introductory comments.

- The Spring Commencement will be Friday, May 4, 2018, at the TD Convention Center at 11:00 a.m.
- The Joint Use Facility Ribbon Cutting will be Monday, April 23, 2018, at SCTAC at 10:30 a.m.
- The Nominating Committee is comprised of Dr. Royster as chair, Mr. Jones, Mr. Blakely, and Ms. Hackl. The committee will present the proposal of new officers at the June board meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Hackl submitted minor changes to the March 21, 2018, minutes. Mr. Southerlin made a motion to approve the minutes as modified. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried.

President's Report

Voice of the Student – Traditional – Dr. Whirl introduced Miss Jada Wright, a graduating paralegal student and a second generation student. Miss Wright's mother earned an associate degree in nursing at GTC, went on to earn bachelor's and master's degrees, and now works as a nurse manager. Miss Wright currently serves as the communications director on the Paralegal Association Board. She commended the new departmental advising program and its value to students. Miss Wright also expressed the need for more student engagement outside the classroom. Miss Wright stated that the college communicates various opportunities through email; however, encouragement and connection from instructors in the classroom would make a more significant impact. Ms. Wright said that GTC has always been the obvious college choice because of the location, the flexibility, the small class size, affordability, and primarily her mom's successful experience at GTC. After graduation, Miss Wright will take the summer to decide if she wants to join the workforce or pursue another degree.

Dr. Miller introduced Ms. Gloria Carden, director at the Northwest Campus, and Ms. Mikelle Porter, director at the Benson Campus. Ms. Carden provided a brief overview of the satellite campuses and how the satellites work to mirror one another to increase student engagement. As of April 23, 2018, each satellite campus will have a Veteran's Center.

Finance Report

Year-to-date revenues are slightly above the year-to-date budget and 2% above the prior year actual. The most significant variances are:

Student revenues are above the budgeted revenues. Summer term registration started in March, and year-round PELL is back.

County revenues are 3% above the budget and 5% above the prior year. The college anticipates being on or slightly above the budget.

State appropriations are above the budget by \$234,000, the excess pension allocation.

Auxiliary Services continue to lag behind the budget and the prior year. There have been more challenges with the competition. A branch campus bookstore on the main campus is expected to open in the fall.

Other revenue is 5% over the budget and 12% above the prior year. The budget is based on a five year rolling average of the revenues and occasional timing differences can result in variances. The primary increases were related to revenue from the Clemson Academic Program agreement.

Expenses are 1% above the budget and 4% above the prior year. The most significant variances are:

Instructional expenditures are 2% below the budget and slightly above the prior year. Some full-time vacancies have been filled, and benefits have increased significantly this year. There have been increases in this area and decreases in Student Services now that the Divisional Advising Centers are fully integrated into Academics and out of Student Services. Budgets are adjusted as vacancies occur, and the savings are recorded in the Attrition Savings account located in the Administration account.

Academic Support is slightly below the budget and 4% above the prior year. There have been a few vacancies and budgeted increases in the Dean of Health and Wellness and at CMI.

Student Support is below the budget and the prior year. There were some savings resulting from the canceled contract with the call center. The new call center started answering calls April 16, 2108.

Operation and Maintenance of Plant is on target with the budget and prior year actual.

Administrative and general expenses are significantly above the budget and the prior year primarily because of the one-time payment to the Department of Education of \$1,000,037.

Remissions and exemptions are above the budget and the prior year because of the increase in the number of high school students taking classes.

Auxiliary services expenditures are above the budget and below the prior year actual and fall into line with auxiliary services revenues.

Capital expenditures are above the budget and the prior year actual because of furniture and equipment purchases for the new aviation center.

Debt service is in line with expectations.

There was some discussion about the bookstore and how to increase revenue.

Finance Committee

2018-19 Tuition and Fees

Mr. Lattimore stated that the Finance Committee met prior to the board meeting to discuss the proposed 2018-19 tuition and fees.

Mrs. DiMaggio presented the following proposed 2018-19 tuition increases: 1) a \$6 per credit hour increase (3.5%) for Greenville County students; 2) a \$7 per credit hour increase (3.7%) for South Carolina students outside of Greenville County; and 3) a \$13 per credit hour increase (3.7%) for out-of-state students.

The tuition and fee team came up with a two-year plan for both tuition and fees. The committee asked for approval for one year only for each. The following fee changes were proposed: 1) increase of \$1 per credit hour for technology fee and remove the 12 credit hour cap; 2) increase the transcript fee from \$8 to \$10, and 3) increase service fee for credit card transactions from 2.5% to 2.75%.

Mrs. DiMaggio addressed challenges for the college at the state level.

- State funding is expected to decrease \$600,000 per year for three years if there are no increases in funding or significant swings in enrollment at GTC compared to the other colleges in the system.
- Employer contribution for pension will increase to 19.91% at an estimated cost of \$450,000.
- Health insurance premiums will increase 8.1% in January, which will increase premiums \$190,000 in fiscal year 2019.
- The State insurance reserve fund premiums are expected to increase 15% or approximately \$60,000.
- There is an opportunity for some salary savings when the service of some employees on the TERI program ends on June 30, 2018.

Chair Stafford emphasized the importance of this topic for the institution.

A motion was made on behalf of the Finance Committee to approve the 2018-19 tuition increase of 3.5% for in-county and 3.7% for out-of-county and out-of-state as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made on behalf of the Finance Committee to approve the 2018-19 fee schedule as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Building and Grounds Committee

Greenville Tech Charter High School Ground Lease

Mr. Shouse stated that there is no action for the above item. The lease was approved several months ago and is subject to review by higher authorities in Columbia. The committee should receive the lease next week for review. In anticipation of the lease being approved, the charter high school is working on the design solutions for items contained in said lease. The committee met the charter high school leadership, the architects, and the contractors this morning. Everything is on track and being addressed. The committee will present the lease when it is received from Columbia.

SCTACC and CHE Update

Mr. Batson provided a brief update on CHE. CHE has been conducting town hall meetings with a strong message that the cost of higher education in South Carolina is among the highest in the nation per capita, continues to be that way, and is an unsustainable trend. Currently, the technical college system is able to maintain lower tuition affordability in addition to a high-quality education.

In the college's pursuit for an Applied Baccalaureate in Manufacturing, CHE will be an integral factor after securing legislative approval. The next essential steps will require CHE to approve the programs. Dr. Miller, Dr. Whirl, Mr. Bedingfield, Mr. Clayton, Mr. Thordahl, and Mr. Batson have met with members of the CHE board. After careful consideration, CHE published a letter to the legislature stating that CHE will not object to the Applied Baccalaureate in Manufacturing. Dr. Miller will address the entire CHE board at the June meeting.

Dr. Miller added that the language that passed the House and rests with the Senate Education Committee now gives authority to the technical colleges. If the law passes, each technical college would have to go through the State Tech board and then CHE. The universities have requested the addition of an amendment that the law pertains to GTC only. Any other technical college that wants to offer an applied baccalaureate would have to go through a similar process because a model or precedent already exists.

Old and New Business

The next board meeting will be held on May 16, 2018, at the new Joint Use Facility at SCTAC.

There being no other old or new business, Mr. Howard made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Hackl seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 1:33 p.m.