



**Date:** Monday, February 20, 2023, 5:00 pm  
Spartanburg Community College, Dr. Benjamin Snoddy Boardroom

**Subject:** Minutes from The Spartanburg County Commission for Technical and Community Education Meeting

**Attendees:** Chairman Anderson, Vice Chairman Keller, Secretary Hill, Commissioner Tate, Commissioner Fowler, Commissioner Sarratt, Commissioner Kennedy, Commissioner O’Neill, Mr. Burns, Mr. Burroughs, Dr. Mikota, Dr. Obi, Dr. Satterfield, Ms. Hughes, Mr. Grace, Mrs. Walker

**Absent:** Commissioner Bell, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner King

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Anderson called the meeting to order at 4:32 pm.

**II. COMMISSION MINUTES**

Chairman Anderson presented the January 23, 2023, meeting minutes, which previously had been shared with the Members and asked if any Member had edits or questions. Hearing no amendments or objections, Chairman Anderson asked for a motion to approve the minutes as written. Commissioner Keller motioned to approve the January 23, 2023, meeting minutes, Commissioner Fowler seconded the motion, and all voted aye.

**III. CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairman Anderson presented the Consent Agenda Items, which previously had been shared with the Members and asked if any Member had edits or questions. Hearing no amendments or objections, Chairman Anderson asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items as presented. Commissioner Fowler motioned to approve the Consent Agenda Items, Commissioner Hill seconded the motion, and all voted aye.

**IV. REQUEST FOR A MOTION TO AMEND THE AGENDA**

Chairman Anderson asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add two items. The first amendment was to add a new voting item to approve a Bachelor of Applied Science in Advanced Manufacturing Degree. The second amendment was to add an Executive Session at the end of the meeting. Commissioner Hill motioned to approve both amendments to the agenda. Commissioner O’Neill seconded the motion, and all voted aye.

V. BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE IN ADVANCED MANUFACTURING DEGREE

Chairman Anderson spoke to the September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Commission meeting where the Spartanburg Community College Commission approved the Bachelor of Applied Science, Logistics and Operations Management Degree. A motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Sarratt to approve the Bachelor of Applied Science, Logistics and Operations Management Degree. Chairman Anderson went on to explain that in order to stay consistent with the current legislation and move forward through the South Carolina Technical College System by March 1, 2023 the specific naming of the degree program would be better supported through the process by specifically being stated as a Bachelor in Advanced Manufacturing Degree. The Commission is being asked to approve the name change to the degree program that was approved September 2021. Chairman Anderson asked if any Member had edits or questions. Commissioner O'Neill wanted to confirm that the Bachelor of Applied Science in Advanced Manufacturing Degree would still include the logistics curriculum. Dr. Mikota stated that it does and the reason for these changes is because of the nature of the specifically stated legislation. Therefore, the structure will continue forward, but the nomenclature must be corrected. The Bachelors in Advanced Manufacturing Degree contains lines of concentrations as well as certificates and an entire block for logistics and supply chain and operations as well as an entire line of concentration with 21 credit hours in logistics and supply chain. Chairman Anderson again opened the floor for further questions. None were put forth. Chairman Anderson then asked for a motion to approve the pursuit of the Bachelors in Advanced Manufacturing Degree. Commissioner O'Neill motioned to approve the pursuit of the Bachelors in Advanced Manufacturing Degree, Commissioner Hill seconded the motion, and all voted aye.

VI. FINANCIAL REPORT presented by Ms. Melissa Hughes, Director, Finance

Ms. Hughes presented information on Actuals for 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter.

As of January 31, 2023, SCC received 83% of the budgeted revenues, which is 13% less than this time last year as a percent of the budget that was set at a 10% growth rate. There are no major issues currently versus the budget or versus last year comparisons. Expenditures, as a percent of the budget were at 55%, which is 6% less than the previous year. Ms. Hughes opened the floor to questions. Chairman Anderson questioned the 13% less of the budgeted revenues, when comparing last year's revenue to this year's revenue what does that look like from a dollar standpoint? Ms. Hughes responded that the percentage is showing down, but when you look at the actual revenue dollars there is a 4.9% increase year over year and is only showing down as a percentage of the budget because of the targeted enrollment number that was placed in the budget in order to calibrate target goals. Chairman Anderson again opened the floor to questions or comments.

Chairman Anderson asked for a motion to approve the Financial Report. Commissioner Keller motioned to approve the Financial Report, Commissioner Tate seconded the motion, and all voted aye.

VII. STRATEGIC PLAN presented by Dr. Stacey Obi, VP, Strategic Innovation

Dr. Obi presented the Strategic Plan which had been supplied to the Commission prior to the meeting. An updated copy was supplied during the meeting. Dr. Obi reminded the Commission that the vision and mission of the Strategic Plan had already been approved last year. Dr. Obi shared with the commission that the new additions to the plan other than the mission, vision, and issue areas were the full objectives. The objectives are targeted to demonstrate a response and answer those issues seen previously in the draft document shared in November. Upon conclusion of her remarks, Dr. Obi opened the floor to questions. Chairman Anderson asked whether KPI's had been established to measure the progression of the objectives/plan. Dr. Obi responded that there hasn't been a deep dive into the overarching institutional KPIs. Information is currently being collected on the objectives, and teams are working to develop outcome targets and will in the near term develop KPIs. Chairman Anderson asked about a timeframe for additional updates. Dr. Obi expects to have everything in place by a July timeframe and after that there will be quarterly updates. Chairman Anderson opened the floor for additional questions. Commissioner O'Neill then stated that for a public facing document that it might be more effective to only list the objectives. Dr. Obi responded that at this time the Strategic Plan is an internal confidential document, and a decision has not been made about what part of this plan will be made public. Commissioner O'Neill then stated that she feels that before the internal document is released the verbiage needs to be softened. Chairman Anderson added that it would best serve the Strategic Plan if more focus is placed on the goals instead of focusing on the past. At this time Chairman Anderson again opened the floor to additional comments, none were put forth.

Chairman Anderson asked for a motion to approve the adoption of the Strategic Plan. Commissioner O'Neill motioned to approve the adoption of the Strategic Plan, Commissioner Keller seconded the motion, and all voted aye.

VIII. "LIVE TO CHASE INITIATIVE" presented by Dr. Michael Mikota, President

Dr. Mikota presented the Free Tuition Initiative for Fiscal Year 2024. In an effort to drive excellence, meet workforce goals, and continue to lead South Carolina Higher Education Initiatives, Spartanburg Community College proposes to extend the Free Tuition Initiative for students chasing their educational dreams for FY24. This initiative, unlike the former initiative sustained through HEERF, will be based on key performance drivers that reward students who persist with their attainment: degree, transfer, or another pathway.

Success of First Initiative:

- AY 2021-2022 (August – May) enrollment increased 49% in comparison to 2020 and 32% to 2019 (fall to fall) moving the college from roughly 4200 (2019) to 6300 students (2021)
  - Cost \$6,186,702.20

- AY 2022-2023 (August – Today) enrollment grew an additional 2% so in two years a total of 51% (fall to fall)
  - Cost \$5,001,031.99 anticipated to complete at 6.2M
- Approximate 60% Retention Rate for students during the combined two-year period of time. (\*This is before SCC developed a new student success department and developed numerous student success initiatives that are now in place.)
- Larger graduating classes than what the College has seen over time with all programs on-average producing more graduates.

Budget Revenue Opportunities to Fund Initiative:

- \$5M in board designated funds. Because the college managed its operations effectively and had success with increased growth in enrollment the end of year surplus was much larger than previous years last year. In June 2022 the board approved the creation of a board designated fund which allows the board the opportunity to use funds in a discretionary way to support the efforts of the College.
- \$2M budgeted in FY23 for the Strategic Initiative fund which will not be spent this year.
- ~\$2M to be received from Spartanburg County earmarked traditionally for capital projects. (SCC received ~17M in deferred maintenance funds in 2022 from the SC Legislature. Those funds have not been completely allocated to date.)
- Total funds available from internal sources \$9M.
- Additional Funds may be available from Governor McMaster’s budget request of \$78M for the Workforce Scholarship Program.

Recommendations:

- The Commission approves the use of up to \$2.5M of the total \$5M in Board designated funds to help fund the free tuition initiative for FY24.
- The Commission designates the use of the \$2M received from Spartanburg County earmarked traditionally for capital projects to fund the free tuition initiative for FY24.
  - The Commission approves the use of the designated funds for students that:
    - Complete the Financial Aid process to include filling out a FAFSA
    - Maintain a cumulative 2.2 GPA
    - Enroll in a program that leads to the awarding of a degree or certificate
    - Maintain continuous enrollment (fall - spring, spring – fall)

Chairman Anderson asked for a motion to approve the recommendations for funding the “Live To Chase Initiative” – Free Tuition for Fiscal Year 2024 provided that Spartanburg County approves the repurposing of their funds. Commissioner Kennedy motioned to approve the recommendations for funding the “Live To Chase Initiative” – Free Tuition for Fiscal Year 2024 provided that Spartanburg County approves the repurposing of their funds, Commissioner O’Neill seconded the motion, and all voted aye.

IX. PRESIDENT’S REPORT presented by Dr. Michael Mikota, President

Dr. Mikota introduced Dr. Lisa Satterfield, Chief Academic Officer, who came to Spartanburg Community College from South College in Asheville as the Campus President. Dr. Satterfield has a strong background from an academic standpoint as well as institutional effectiveness standpoint. At this time Dr. Mikota opened the floor to Dr. Satterfield. Dr. Satterfield expressed her excitement at being at Spartanburg Community College and looks forward to sharing upcoming changes with the Commission in the future. Dr. Mikota then spoke to the higher cost of college tuition by referencing a graph from January 2000 – June 2022, that was given to the Commission in the meeting. The graph shows college tuition and fees are more than 200% more expensive in 2022 than in 2000. As Spartanburg Community College moves forward to meet the needs of students and the communities served, the growing cost is important. Spartanburg Community College needs to be open to new opportunities, embrace new ideas and continue work on moving forward in making education affordable and accessible for all. Dr. Mikota also mentioned an upcoming meeting with Cherokee County Council where Dr. Mikota will be presenting to the County Council the renderings of the design ideas for the new Spark Center as well as the diesel technology program, HVAC and LPN programs that were presented to this Commission last month. Commissioner Tate will accompany Dr. Mikota to support this initiative. Dr. Mikota also spoke to a meeting with the new District 3 Superintendent, Ms. Julie Fowler, and District 3 Board Chair, Chris Jolley. Commissioner Keller initiated this meeting and Dr. Mikota spoke to his appreciation to Commissioner Keller. Dr. Mikota also spoke to an upcoming meeting with BMW about the bachelor’s degree and production certifications. Dr. Mikota stated that Spartanburg Community College will continue to move forward to expand opportunities as well as work internally to meet goals. The demand for workforce is very high in this area and Dr. Mikota plans to use opportunities in the next few years to make sure Spartanburg Community College is meeting both the demand and the supply. At this time Dr. Mikota concluded his report. Chairman Anderson opened the floor for questions, none were put forth.

Chairman Anderson asked for a motion to approve the President’s Report. Commissioner Hill motioned to approve President’s Report, Commissioner Fowler seconded the motion, and all voted aye.

X. SC TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM UPDATE presented by Mr. Grant Burns, State Board Member

Per Mr. Burns the State Board had met earlier in the day. A special meeting was called to review and approve a plan for Central Carolina to build a new \$40M building that the Legislature has approved funding for. Mr. Grant then spoke about the “Create Opportunity” program. This is a specialty program to bring more coders to the state. The pilot for this program is at Midlands Technical College. There is a large interest from employers who wish to privately fund this program by making gifts to the State Foundation and then the State Foundation will then fund the program. Central Piedmont Community

College in Mecklenburg County is also part of this program. The State Board approved going forward with this program. There is one issue from Mr. Burns perspective that is a little troubling in that many years ago the State Tech Foundation Board was disbanded, and the State Tech Board began to oversee the State Tech Foundation. This was due to the Foundation being dormant. There are many conflicts that arise when there is 100% overlap of those two boards. With this new program, the Foundation is beginning to receive monies so the process of splitting the State Tech Foundation Board from the State Tech Board has started. Mr. Grant then mentioned that March 29, 2023, is State Tech Day at the State House. This is a good opportunity to try to attract legislators in between sessions to come by and learn more about what is happening in the State Tech College System. At this time the floor was opened for questions, none were put forth.

Chairman Anderson asked for a motion to approve the Technical College System Update. Commissioner O'Neill motioned to approve the Technical College System Update, Commissioner Tate seconded the motion, and all voted aye.

XI. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Anderson asked for a motion to Adjourn to Executive Session. Commissioner Fowler motioned to Adjourn to Executive Session. Commissioner Tate seconded the motion. All voted aye, and the meeting Adjourned to Executive Session at 5:25pm.

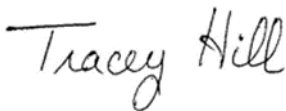
XII. ADJOURN TO OPEN SESSION

Chairman Anderson asked for a motion to Adjourn to Open Session. Commissioner Kennedy motioned to Adjourn to Open Session. Commissioner Fowler seconded the motion. All voted aye, and the meeting Adjourned to Open Session at 6:10pm.

XIII. ADJOURN

Chairman Anderson asked for a motion to Adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Kennedy motioned to Adjourn. Commissioner Fowler seconded the motion. All voted aye, and the meeting Adjourned at 6:11pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tracey Hill".

Mrs. Tracey Hill, Secretary