

Clemson University
Clemson, South Carolina

MINUTES
CLEMSON UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Jervey Gym
Clemson, South Carolina
April 23, 2021
10:00 a.m.

Call to Order

Notification as required by the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act was given at least twenty-four hours before the meeting by posting the notice and agenda on the bulletin board located on the ground floor public entrance of Sikes Hall, Clemson University and on the Clemson University Board of Trustees website. Additionally, notice of, and the agenda for, the meeting was sent via email to the distribution list maintained by the Office of Media Relations which includes approximately 80 reporters and editors at the major daily newspapers, television and radio stations in S.C.

After notification as required by the Freedom of Information Act, Trustee McKissick, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:24 a.m. with the following present:

Trustees: Smyth McKissick, *Chair, presiding*; David Dukes, Ronnie Lee, Louis Lynn, Patti McAbee, Nicky McCarter, Bob Peeler, Cheri Phyfer (via phone), Mark Richardson, Bill Smith, Joe Swann, Kim Wilkerson, and David Wilkins

Trustees Emeriti: Bill Hendrix and Allen Wood

Administration: James P. Clements, *President*; Tony Wagner, *Executive Vice President for Finance and Operations*; Max Allen, *Vice President and Chief of Staff*; Robert Donato, *Chief Strategy Officer*; Chip Hood, *General Counsel and Secretary to the Board of Trustees*; Robert H. Jones, *Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost*; Angie Leidinger, *Vice President for External Relations*; Brian O'Rourke, *Vice President of Development and Alumni Relations*; Chris Miller, *Vice President for Student Affairs*; and George Askew, *Vice President for Public Service*

Guests: Keith Belli, *Dean, College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences*; Scott Smith, *Broadcast Productions*; Doug Henry, *CCIT*; Lisa Knox, *Finance and Operations*; Joe Galbraith, *Strategic Communications*; Jon Clayton, *CCIT*; Rick Petillo, *CFO*; Tina White, *Broadcast Productions*; Eric Rodgers, *Broadcast Productions*; Caroline Falcone, *Student*; Corky Miller, *CUPD*; Sue Whorton, *Outgoing Staff Senate President*; John Whitcomb, *Outgoing Faculty Senate President*; Jonathan Gundana, *Outgoing Undergraduate Student Government President*; Thompson Mefford, *Incoming Faculty Senate President*; Kaitlyn Samons, *Outgoing Graduate Student Government President*; Will Reinert, *Incoming Undergraduate Student Government*

President; Robert O’Hara, Incoming Graduate Student Government President; Micky Scott, Guest; Amy Scott, Guest; Rose Ellen Davis-Gross, Office of the Board of Trustees; and Sally Mauldin, Office of the Board of Trustees

Media: Riley Morningstar, *Seneca Journal*; Alex Cooper, *Greenville Journal*; and Lauren Pierce, *Seneca Journal*

Sally Mauldin completed a roll call and noted a quorum was present.

Joe Galbraith introduced the members of the media watching in person and via live stream.

Action Items:

Consent Agenda – Chairman McKissick presented the Consent Agenda for approval:

1. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Winter Quarterly Full Board Minutes – February 5, 2021
 - b. Executive and Audit Committee Minutes – February 5, 2021
 - c. Finance and Facilities Committee Minutes – February 5, 2021
 - d. Compensation Committee Minutes – February 4, 2021
 - e. Committee Web/Teleconference Minutes
 - i. Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee – March 29, 2021
 - ii. Finance and Facilities Committee – April 6, 2021
 - iii. Educational Policy Committee – April 12, 2021
 - iv. Research and Economic Development Committee – April 13, 2021
 - v. Student Affairs Committee – April 13, 2021
 - vi. Institutional Advancement Committee – April 20, 2021
 - vii. Compensation Committee – April 22, 2021

2. Educational Policy Committee

Action Items:

- a. Departmental Structure
 - i. School of Civil & Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences
- b. New Program
 - i. Master of Applied Computing
- c. Program Modifications
 - i. New Digital Brands Communication Concentration, MBA
 - ii. Master of Architecture Site Location Addition
 - iii. Ph.D. in Healthcare Genetics Curriculum Modification
 - iv. Ph.D. in Policy Studies Curriculum Modification
- d. Program Termination
 - i. Camp Leadership Undergraduate Certificate
- e. Receive as information the reports for the Committee
 - i. Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees Report
 - ii. Faculty Senate Report

3. Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee
 - a. Receive as information the reports for the Committee
4. Compensation Committee
 - a. Receive as information the reports for the Committee
5. Executive and Audit Committee
 - a. Receive as information the reports for the Committee
6. Finance and Facilities Committee
 - a. Receive as information the reports for the Committee
 - i. Staff Senate Report
7. Institutional Advancement Committee
 - a. Receive as information the reports for the Committee
8. Research and Economic Development Committee
 - a. Receive as information the reports for the Committee
9. Student Affairs Committee
 - a. Receive as information the reports for the Committee

Trustee Wilkins moved to approve the consent agenda. Trustee McAbee seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Approval: Final Phase II Capital Project – Roadway Pedestrian Safety Improvements – Tony Wagner presented the proposed project. The purpose of this project is to improve the primary vehicular roadway accessing the University in order to reduce traffic in the pedestrian-focused campus core. The project will include widening a 1.2-mile portion of Perimeter Road from US 76 to Cherry Road, installing safety lighting, creating pedestrian and bike paths, improving signals, and doing other associated work to allow for roadway expansion. Additional safety improvements along Walter T. Cox Boulevard, formerly SC 93, may also be included as planning proceeds.

The University's Long-Range Framework Plan, completed in 2017, calls for a significant shift toward pedestrian mobility in the heart of campus to ensure safety. Walter T. Cox Boulevard has seen large increases in pedestrian crossings with the addition of private housing developments downtown and the opening of the University's Douthit Hills residence halls, providing more than 1,600 beds north of Walter T. Cox Boulevard. When the new College of Business opened in 2020, pedestrian crossings continued to increase, making it essential that the University encourage vehicles to reroute away from the campus core by using Perimeter Road for safety purposes. While much of Perimeter Road is already four lanes, the 1.2-mile, two-lane section will likely deter additional use, as congestion is increasingly more frequent during peak times when drivers enter and exit parking areas and roads that intersect Perimeter Road. Studies done for the University in 2018 show that efforts to move vehicular traffic to Perimeter Road have been successful, showing a 33% increase on Perimeter Road and a corresponding decrease on Walter T. Cox Boulevard.

Trustee Lee moved to approve the roadway pedestrian safety improvements project. Trustee Wilkins seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Approval: Resolution Requesting the Issuance of State Institution Bonds to Finance Roadway Pedestrian Safety Improvements – Mr. Wagner presented the proposed bond resolution.

Trustee Dukes moved to approve the bond resolution. Trustee Smith seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with Trustee Wilkerson abstaining due to a possible perceived conflict of interest.

Approval: Lease Renewal, Clemson Design Center in Charleston – Mr. Wagner presented the lease renewal. Clemson University requests approval to renew its lease of 29,528 square feet of space in Charleston for the Clemson Design Center (CDC), a part of the College of Architecture, Arts and Humanities. The current lease provides for space in the Cigar Factory at 701 East Bay Street which accommodates the Clemson Design Center’s need for office, lab, classroom, and shop space in downtown Charleston. The University proposes entering into a new lease with the current landlord to remain in the current space. This location allows the Clemson Design Center, comprised of the Clemson Architecture Center, the Master in Historic Preservation program, the Master of Resilient Urban Design program, and the Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure program, to be housed in a single facility which allows for collaboration, synergy and student engagement between the programs. Additionally, the location allows the programs to take advantage of the living/learning elements offered on the historic Peninsula and allows students to immerse themselves in that environment.

Trustee Dukes moved to approve the lease renewal. Trustee Smith seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Information Items:

COVID-19 Update – Provost Jones provided an update.

Multi-year Financial Analysis and Operational Excellence Update – Mr. Wagner presented. Rick Petillo presented on debt capacity. Lisa Knox presented on enterprise operational excellence. Questions and discussion followed.

President’s Report

President Clements provided a strategic planning update as well as a campus update. President Clements recognized the outgoing student, faculty, and staff leadership and thanked them for their service during an unprecedented year. He also introduced the incoming student, faculty, and staff leadership.

Chairman McKissick thanked the outgoing leaders for their service and welcomed the incoming leaders.

Executive Secretary's Report

Approval of Honorary Degree Nomination – Chip Hood presented an honorary degree nomination for approval. Trustee Wilkins moved to approve the nomination. Trustee McAbee seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Approval of Resolution for Exclusion – Mr. Hood presented the resolution for approval. The resolution is necessary for the University to maintain its facility security clearance. Under this resolution the Board will not be required to obtain individual security clearances and therefore will not receive classified information, but it does not prevent the Board from receiving unclassified information regarding the University's activities in this area. Trustee Wilkerson moved to approve the resolution for exclusion. Trustee Lee seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Approval of Naming Opportunity – Mr. Hood presented a naming opportunity for a marker honoring the sculptor that created several of the iconic statues and works of art on campus. The opportunity is fully described in the Institutional Advancement Committee. Trustee Peeler moved to approve the naming opportunity. Trustee Wilkerson seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Chair Nominating Committee – Mr. Hood noted that per the Trustee Manual, it is time for the Chair to appoint a Chair Nominating Committee for the upcoming Chair election in July. The Chair will automatically serve on the committee and he shall appoint two Trustees to serve with him prior to May 15.

Dean's Report

President Clements introduced Micky and Amy Scott, academic cornerstone donors to the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences. Chairman McKissick thanked the Scotts for their transformational gift.

Keith Belli presented an update on the state of the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences. Questions and discussion followed.

Executive Session

Chairman McKissick said it was necessary to go into Executive Session to receive legal advice regarding matters covered by the attorney client privilege and to discuss personnel matters. Trustee McCarter moved to go into Executive Session. Trustee Smith seconded the motion. The motion

was approved unanimously. The Board entered into executive session at 1:09 p.m. and returned to public session at 2:08 p.m.

Adjourn

There no being no further business, Chairman McKissick adjourned the meeting at 2:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



W. C. Hood, Jr.
Secretary to the Board of Trustees



Approved

7/15/2021
Date