MINUTES OF THE CALLED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES HELD IN COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA, JANUARY 9, 1940, AT 4 P. M. AT THE JEFFERSON HOTEL

JANUARY 8, 1940

GOVERNOR BURNET R. MAYBANK COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

PLEASE WRITE ME AS SECRETARY AUTHORITY TO CALL SPECIAL MEETING CLEMSON BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO BE HELD IN COLUMBIA JANUARY NINTH TO DEAL WITH MATTERS PERTAINING TO ATHLETICS. BEST WISHES.

S. W. EVANS, SECRETARY

COLUMBIA, S. C.

JANUARY 8, 1940

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES CLEMSON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

I AM AUTHORIZED TO CALL A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO BE HELD IN COLUMBIA AT THE JEFFERSON HOTEL AT FOUR THIRTY P. M. TUESDAY JANUARY NINTH.

S. W. EVANS, SECRETARY

The Chairman, Mr. Bradley, called the meeting to order at 4:30 P. M. and requested the Secretary to call the roll. The following members were present: Messrs. W. W. Bradley, W. D. Barnett, Christie Benet, E. A. Brown, F. E. Cope, J. B. Douthit, Jr., W. C. Graham, A. F. Lever, S. H. Sherard, and T. B. Young.

A telegram was read from Mr. J. E. Sirrine advising his inability to be present. Messrs. R. M. Cooper and Paul Sanders telephoned that they were also unavoidably prevented from being present.

In addition to the members of the Board of Trustees the following were also present: Dr. E. W. Sikes, President of Clemson College; Governor B. R. Maybank; J. C. Littlejohn, Business Manager; Dr. L. W. Milford, Chairman of the Athletic Council.

On motion Dr. R. H. Fike, an alumni representative on the Athletic Council, was also invited to sit with the Board.

It was agreed that only the Chairman be authorized to give out information concerning the meeting.
The Chairman, Mr. Bradley, expressed to the Governor the appreciation of the Board for his presence at the meeting and his interest in the college.

The Chairman stated that the purpose of the meeting was to consider recommendations of the Athletic Council looking toward the retention of Coach Jess Neely at Clemson, Coach Neely having been made a very good offer at Rice Institute in Dallas, Texas and was now considering the proposal made him.

On motion of Mr. Cope, duly seconded and approved, the Chairman requested Dr. L. W. Milford, Chairman of the Athletic Council, to outline the circumstances to the Board and to discuss the recommendations of the Athletic Council. Dr. Milford related the several conversations held with Coach Neely as well as what took place at the January 3, 1940 meeting of the Athletic Council immediately upon return from the Cotton Bowl Game played in Dallas, Texas. He informed the Board that representatives of Rice Institute had approached Coach Neely in Dallas and, as he understood, had made him an offer of $10,000.00 a year with a contract covering a five-year period.

Dr. Milford further outlined that he, together with J. C. Littlejohn, Business Manager, proposed to Coach Neely on the train returning from Dallas that they would request the Athletic Council to recommend to the Board of Trustees that Mr. Neely's salary be increased from $6,000.00 to $8,000.00 and that the sum of $2,000.00 be added to the salaries of the assistants in accordance with the recommendations of Coach Neely. Dr. Milford informed the Board that this proposition appeared to be entirely satisfactory to Coach Neely.

President Sikes next presented to the Board a report outlining the organization of the Council and giving certain financial information as well as the recommendations of the Athletic Council which he approved and requested the Board to also approve. At the request of the Chairman, Governor Maybank outlined his conversation with Coach Neely on the train while returning to Clemson from Dallas. He expressed his appreciation of the work of Coach Neely and stated that he hoped it would be possible to retain him at Clemson.

After discussion by the Board and after several motions had been made it was moved by Mr. Brown:

That the Board delegate to the Athletic Council authority to make a contract with Coach Neely and his assistants fixing the salary of Coach Neely at $8,000.00 and the salary of the assistants at the figures to be in accordance with the recommendations of Coach Neely and the approval of the Athletic Council. The motion was duly seconded by Mr. Sherard. Mr. Benet requested that he go on record as expressing disapproval of the payment to any college officer a salary in excess of that of the President of the College.

It was moved by Mr. Lever:

That as a substitute for Mr. Brown's motion the Executive Committee be authorized at once to offer Coach Neely a contract for five years at $8,000.00 a year and for his assistants an increase of $2,000.00 per year for five years.

On the roll call vote six members voted "No" on Mr. Lever's substitute motion and it was therefore not passed.

It was moved by Mr. Brown:

1. That the Board authorize the payment of a bonus of $4,000.00 from Athletic funds for the current year 1939-40 to Coach Neely and his assistants in appreciation of the fine services rendered, the sum of $2,000.00 to be paid to Coach Neely and the additional $2,000.00 to be divided among the assistants in accordance with the recommendations of Mr. Neely.

2. That authority be granted the Athletic Council to enter into a contract with Coach Neely effective as of July 1, 1940 on the basis of the new salary scale outlined in the paragraph above.
On roll call vote ten members were recorded as voting "Aye" and three were recorded as voting "No".

Motion adopted.

The vote of Messrs. Sanders, Sirrene and Cooper being included in accordance with telephone conversations and a telegram. Mr. Benet requested that he be recorded as voting in favor of the payment of the bonuses.

At a few minutes after 6 o'clock Messrs. Brown, Benet, Barnett, and Milford entered into a telephone conversation with Coach Neely who was then in Houston, Texas, and informed him of the action of the Board of Trustees. The Committee informed the Board after the conversation that Coach Neely stated he was immediately leaving Dallas and would render his decision upon return to Clemson.

It was moved by Mr. T. B. Young:

That a vote of thanks and appreciation be given Mr. Jess Neely for his fine work as a Coach and his good influence and example as a gentleman among the Clemson students.

Motion unanimously adopted.

The Board adjourned.

Chairman

J. C. Littlejohn, Acting Secretary