

**COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JOINT MEETING with SOUTHEASTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD of TRUSTEES and
DR. TONY CLARKE
Tuesday, March 17, 2015
5:30 P.M.**

The Honorable Columbus County Commissioners met on the above stated date and at the above stated time at Southeastern Community College, T-Building, Room 120, at 4564 Chadbourn Highway, Whiteville, North Carolina, for the purpose of conducting a joint meeting with Southeastern Community College Board of Trustees and Dr. Tony Clarke..

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Trent Burroughs, **Chairman**
Ricky Bullard, **Vice Chairman**
Amon E. McKenzie (Departed: 6:25 P.M.)
James E. Prevatte
Giles E. Byrd
P. Edwin Russ
Charles T. McDowell

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

William S. Clark, **County Manager**
Mike Stephens, **County Attorney**
June B. Hall, **Clerk to Board**
Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

PRESS:

Alan Turner

SOUTHEASTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Henry Edmund, **Chair**
Maudie Davis, **Vice Chair**
Theresa Blanks
Spruell R. Britt
Robert L. Ezzell
Harry Foley
Jack Hooks
Terray Suggs
Dr. Tony Clarke, **President**
Betty Jo Ramsey, **Vice President Administrative Services**
Beverlee Nance, **Vice President, Workforce/Community Development**

Agenda Item #1: MEETING CALLED to ORDER:

At 5:35 P.M., Chairman Trent Burroughs, Chairman, called the March 17, 2015 Joint Meeting with Southeastern Community College Board of Trustees and Dr. Tony Clarke to order.

Agenda Item #2: INVOCATION:

Commissioner Amon E. McKenzie delivered the invocation.

DINNER WAS SERVED**Agenda Item #3: INTRODUCTION of ATTENDEES (NAME and TITLE):**

Chairman Burroughs stated we are meeting here tonight to give and to take, and when we leave, we will leave on the same page and understand everybody. I would like for everyone to state their name and title.

A. Columbus County Board Members and Staff Members; and

Each attendee stated their name and title.

B. Southeastern Community College Board of Trustees and Staff Members.

Each attendee stated their name and title.

Agenda Item #4: PURPOSE of JOINT MEETING:

Chairman Burroughs stated the main purpose of this meeting is to have an informal session and take a look at your capital outlay needs.

Agenda Item #5: RECOMMENDED PROCEDURE:

Chairman Burroughs stated that we would hear comments and input from the members present. The following spoke.

Harry Foley: stated the following:

1. Thank you for having us here; **and**
2. We have worked hard on this presentation.

Tony Clarke: presented the following:

CURRENT SITUATION

- Overall five-year decline in Curriculum enrollment from 2009 to 2014.

Academic Yr	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
Curriculum FTE	2348	2064	1783	1574	1286

- We are losing students to neighboring community colleges. Students have choices and some are choosing to leave Columbus County for their higher education.
- College should be seen as a step up from secondary schools, but our facilities are not.
- Employer/Company tours of facilities beyond “T” Building would not be impressive.
- College funds spent on facilities are not available for:
 - student financial aid
 - non-academic support for students
 - specific marketing initiatives or
 - the establishment of new programs.

COLLEGE STRATEGIC PLANS

- Enrollment Management - increase enrollment
- Student Success - increase retention and completion
- Workforce Development - increase employer partnerships
- Employee Development - build leadership abilities and technical skills
- Technology - support learning and operations
- Facilities - simplify campus, clean up appearance
- Resource Acquisition and Use - acquire additional resources and use them effectively

CURRENT SITUATION

- \$3,575,304 of Foundation dollars spent on new facilities and facility repairs in the last five (5) years
 - Nesmith Student Center
 - Roof and HVAC replacements/repairs
- Spent 70% of unrestricted funds - only \$1,475,000 remaining
- SCC is ranked (county funding per budgeted FTE):
 - 54th out of 58 in county support for all community colleges
 - SCC receives slightly higher support than Bladen Community College but less support than Cape Fear, Brunswick and Robeson.

	BLADEN CC	SCC	ROBESON CC	CAPE FEAR CC	BRUNSWICK CC
County Support per Budgeted FTE	478	491	564	970	2,093

COLLEGE COMPARISONS

Peer College Group

	Edgecombe	SCC	Sampson	Richmond	James Sprunt
Population (Median Age)	56,552 (40)	58,098 (40)	63,431 (38)	82,796 (39)	58,505 (38)
Race - White	39%	62%	57%	54%	57%
African-American	57%	30%	27%	34%	25%
American Indian	0%	3%	2%	6%	0%
Other	2%	3%	12%	4%	15%
Median Income	\$33,960	\$35,761	\$36,496	\$31,213	\$34,433

SCC receives more support than Edgecombe Community College, but less than Sampson, Richmond and James Sprunt.

	Edgecombe	SCC	Sampson	Richmond	James Sprunt
County Support per Budgeted FTE	\$469	\$491	\$699	\$724	\$928

CURRENT OPERATING BUDGET REQUEST

	Appropriated Budget 2014/2015	Projected Expenditures 2014/2015
Amount	\$1,267,376	\$1,305,510
Requested Increase (Percent)	6.8%	3.7%
Requested Increase (\$)	\$86,512	\$48,378

Requested Budget: \$1,353,888

- Hire one (1) additional maintenance person at \$10.00 per hour - \$30,933 (salary and benefits)

IMMEDIATE CAPITAL OUTLAY PRIORITIES (\$1,442,768):

- Upgrade the campus fire alarm/security system to current state code requirements - \$271,000
- Replace/repair sidewalks for American with Disabilities Act compliance - \$50,000
- Upgrade HVAC controls to centralized system - \$140,000
- Fix drainage problems on north side of campus, re-surface main access roads - \$800,000
- Fix M Bldg floors and walls - \$15,000
- Repair security lighting throughout center of campus - \$1,800
- Chain-link fence at firing range - \$9,650
- Privacy fence for maintenance area - \$20,258

SHORT TERM (1-3 YEARS) CAPITAL OUTLAY PRIORITIES (\$20,797,363):

- Campus directional signs - \$88,000
- Replace-repair sidewalks - \$100,000
- Seal/re-surface parking lots and gravel drives - \$700,000
- LED Marquee sign in front of campus - \$40,000
- Upgrade HVAC systems - \$250,000
- Improvements to M Bldg and Welding area - \$48,500
- New Applied Technologies Bldg and addition to Public Safety Bldg - \$19,532,563

LONG TERM (5-7 YEARS) CAPITAL OUTLAY PRIORITIES (\$44,275,437):

- Re-surface parking lots - \$900,000
- Add loop lines for water distribution - \$100,000

2015 - 2016 ACADEMIC YEAR BUDGET REQUEST

We need your support to make Southeastern Community College the college that you and your constituents expect and deserve.

Agenda Item #6: DISCUSSION:

Chairman Burroughs opened the floor for discussion. Discussion was held relative to the following:

1. The existence of a fund balance at the college;
2. The best approach to use to increase the number of students;
3. The most effective approach to accomplish what you need with what you have to work with;
and
4. The importance of the role the community college plays.

Commissioner Prevatte: Do you have any plans in the vocational section to help the graduates locate employment? Dr. Clarke replied that the subject had not discussed but it could be done.

Vice Chairman Bullard: Both of my children attended Southeastern Community College and I was very pleased in what they were doing.

Commissioner Russ: stated the following:

- I think we have a good leader now; **and**
- There has been a decline in students and this needs to be checked into and turned around.

Commissioner McDowell: What percentage of your students is the vocational and what is transfer? Dr. Clarke replied stating that 60% of the students are vocational and 40% of the students are transfer.

Vice Chairman Bullard: What percentage of the Columbus County students attend Southeastern Community College? Dr. Clarke replied stating that I don't really know.

Chairman Burroughs: stated the following:

- I am glad that we had a good meeting;
- In the last three (3) meetings, we have been asked for approximately \$100 million dollars; **and**
- We will do the best we can with what we have to work with.

Agenda Item #7: ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:07 P.M., Chairman Burroughs stated that the meeting was closed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

TRENT BURROUGHS, Chairman