

**MINUTES OF THE  
GASTON COLLEGE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
Myers Center Board Room  
June 25, 2012**

**Members Present:** Mr. Stephen Campbell, Chair  
Sheriff Alan Cloninger  
Mr. Ron Hovis  
Ms. Rhonda McLean  
Ms. Ann Neal  
Mr. Jim Ragan, Vice Chair  
Mr. Dan Wilson  
Mr. Darren Stewart

Dr. Patricia Skinner

**Members Absent:** Mr. Tom Keigher  
Mr. Duane McCallister  
Mr. Ray Ratchford  
Mr. James Smith, Secretary  
Mr. Bill Sudyk  
Mr. Randy Vinson  
Dr. Jim Watson

**Others Present:** Dr. Don Ammons, Mr. Todd Baney, Mr. Bruce Cole,  
Ms. Sylvia Dixon, Mr. Ioannis Drougkas, Ms. Shannon  
Ferguson, Dr. Linda Greer, Dr. Silvia Patricia Husain,  
Mr. Jeff Johnson, Dr. Joe Keith, Mr. Conrad Martin,  
Ms. Cynthia McCrory, Ms. Stephanie Michael-Pickett, Ms.  
Paula Plonski, Ms. Susan Whittemore, and Ms. Tanisha  
Williams.

- **Board Chair Stephen Campbell called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and declared a quorum present.**
- **Invocation – Mr. Ragan**
- **Ethics Awareness and Conflict of Interest Reminder**

Mr. Campbell reminded Trustees of the ethical requirements for those who serve as public servants and requested they identify any conflicts of interest present. None were identified.

#### **A. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Upon a motion by Mr. Ragan, second by Sheriff Cloninger, the Agenda was approved as presented.**

#### **B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MAY 7, 2012, BOARD MEETING**

**Upon a motion by Ms. Neal, second by Mr. Hovis, the Minutes from the May 7, 2012, Board Meeting were approved as submitted.**

#### **C. INTRODUCTIONS**

Dr. Skinner welcomed Ms. Susan Whittemore, 2012-13 Faculty Senate President; and Mr. Conrad Martin, representing Staff Senate, to the meeting.

##### **1. Introduction of New Employees**

The following new employees were introduced: Ms. Shannon Ferguson, Instructor-Practical Nursing, Lincoln Campus; Mr. Jeff Johnson, Plumber Technician; and Ms. Paula Plonski, Institutional Research Analyst.

Dr. Skinner announced that Ms. Julia Allen accepted the position of Development Officer/Executive Director - Gaston College Foundation. She will begin her new position at Gaston College on July 9, 2012.

#### **D. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

##### SACS Reaffirmation Confirmation

The President's Office received news from Dr. Barry Goldstein, Vice President, Commission on Colleges, that the SACSCOC Board reaffirmed Gaston College's accreditation with no follow up required. An official letter from the SACSCOC Board confirming the reaffirmation will follow.

Dr. Skinner presented updates on the following:

Department of Labor Grant  
Austria Study Tour

BLET Accreditation  
Associate Degree Medical Assisting Program  
Achieving the Dream 2012 Kickoff Institute – Portland, OR  
Meetings attended in May and June, 2012

Department of Education

During 2011, the Department of Education (DOE) conducted an on-site Program Review of the College's administration of the Title IV funds (Financial Aid) covering the academic years 2009-10 and 2010-11. Since then, work has been ongoing to adhere to the recommendations made by the DOE. At the time, it was unclear how much of a liability the College might have incurred as a result of the repayment of funds that were improperly awarded. The College received the Final Review Determination from the DOE on June 25, 2012, notifying that its liability is \$499,845.17.\*

The College has two options – appeal the review within 45 days, or repay the liability. The College would be able to participate in a monthly payment plan that would require 20% down, 1% interest, with the full amount due in three years. Monthly payments would amount to \$13,800. Institutional funds, primarily from the Bookstore, would be used to cover the payments. The College is investigating whether its error and omission insurance will cover any of the liability.

After further discussion, Chair Campbell asked for a motion from the Board as to its recommendation regarding the options of appeal or repayment.

**Sheriff Cloninger made a motion, second by Mr. Wilson, authorizing the College to institute a repayment plan, to be paid from the College's institutional funds, provided that the College Attorney and College Administration find no reason within the 45 day window to appeal the decision of the DOE. The motion carried.**

\*Since the minutes were recorded, the College has been advised that the DOE had duplicated records, which have now been corrected, resulting in a reduction of approximately \$30,000 to the original liability.

The President's Report is recorded with the Minutes and on file in the President's Office.

## **E. SGA PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

- The SGA hosted a stress free zone for students in preparation for final exams May 7-9.
- A Red Cross Blood Drive was held on June 18 resulting in eighteen units of blood donated.
- During June 25-26, 2012, the incoming SGA Board will receive training on team building exercises, Robert's Rules, etiquette, policy and procedure, and calendar activities for the 2012-2013 academic year.

Mr. Stewart introduced Mr. Ioannis (Yanny) Drougkas, SGA President for 2012-2013.

## **F. FACILITIES**

### **1. Capital Reports**

Ms. McCrory gave a visual report on the status of the five capital projects:

- Lena Sue Beam Renovation  
The project is 80% complete with a completion date of August 13, 2012, which is critically close to the August 20 Early College High School start date. Plan B is to house the students in temporary locations on campus if the LSB project is not completed as stated. Chief Lytton will be covering any possible liability issues with the presence of high school students on campus.
- BLET/Criminal Justice Firing Range Classroom Building  
The project is 75% complete. The contractor is projecting a completion date of mid-late July 2012.
- Katherine Harper Testing Center  
Construction began on May 23, 2012, and the work is approximately 20% complete. The conclusion of the project is expected by early August 2012.
- Radio/Broadcast Production Remodel and Renovation  
The project is 99% complete – only minor punch list items remain. The Broadcasting department and Radio Station equipment is being moved into the new areas. This will be the final report for this project.

- Boiler Building Project  
The renovation of the Boiler Building includes bricking the exterior and adding a roofline to the building to blend more aesthetically with the other buildings in the surrounding area. Bids were received April 18, 2012, and Houck Contracting was the low bidder for the project.

### **County Capital Projects**

- Chiller – Beam Administration Building – Complete
- Cooling Tower – Morris Library – Complete
- Elevator – CET Building – 70% complete

## **G. FINANCE**

### **1. Request for Budget Revisions**

The following budget revisions were brought before the Board for ratification:

- #13 Reallocate Perkins Budget
- #14 Customized Training Program:
  - Achieve Global Certification Training
  - Export Administration Regulations
- #15 Reallocation of Textile Allotment
- #16 Year End Reallocation
- #17 Budget Transfers:
  - Campus Security Transfer
  - Basic Skills
  - Perkins

**Upon a recommendation from the Finance Committee, Mr. Wilson moved that the aforementioned budget revisions be ratified as submitted. The motion carried.**

The following items (2-4) were presented to the Board as a matter of information.

### **2. FY 2012-13 State Budget Update**

The Conference Committee Budget included the community college's request to restore funding for multi-campus, which includes the Kimbrell Campus and Textile Technology Center. Letters of thanks have been communicated to legislators thanking them for their advocacy. The College will be giving notice to

Gaston County Commissioners prior to next year's budget planning for its support in the maintenance and operation of the Kimbrell Campus facility.

### **3. FY 2012-13 Gaston County Budget Update**

The Gaston County Commissioners approved \$4,426,923 of the College's operations budget and \$453,219 in capital funding. The College will need to request additional funding in the spring if emergency capital needs are identified.

### **4. Financial Reports**

A summary of year-to-date expenditures for State, Gaston and Lincoln County operating budgets, and proprietary accounts in comparison to the previous year were distributed for the Board's information.

## **H. REPORT FROM NCACCT**

No report was presented due the absence of Mr. Vinson.

## **I. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

### **1. Appointments of New Foundation Board Members**

Pending Board approval, the following individuals have agreed to serve four-year terms on the Gaston College Foundation Board, commencing on July 11, 2012, and ending on June 30, 2016:

Mr. Mike Cline (representing Lincoln County)  
Dr. Kevin DiBella  
Mr. Fred Jackson  
Ms. Judith Maloney

**Upon a motion by Sheriff Cloninger, second by Mr. Wilson, the Gaston College Board of Trustees approved the appointments of Mr. Mike Cline, Dr. Kevin DiBella, Mr. Fred Jackson, and Ms. Judith Maloney to serve on the Gaston College Foundation Board of Directors. Their terms will run from July 11, 2012, to June 30, 2016. The motion carried.**

The following members of the Gaston College Foundation Board of Directors, whose terms will expire June 30, 2012, have agreed to be reappointed to four-year terms, pending Board approval:

Mr. Joe Carpenter  
Mr. Tom Efird  
Ms. Rhonda McLean  
Ms. Barbara Myers

**Upon a motion by Mr. Ragan, second by Ms. Neal, the Gaston College Board of Trustees approved the reappointments of Mr. Joe Carpenter, Mr. Tom Efird, Ms. Rhonda McLean, and Ms. Barbara Myers to serve on the Gaston College Foundation Board of Directors. Their terms will run from July 1, 2012, to June 30, 2016. The motion carried.**

## **2. Appointment of Nominating Committee to Elect FY 2012-13 Officers**

Chair Campbell appointed the following trustees to serve on the Nominating Committee for Board Officers for 2012-2013:

Mr. Hovis  
Ms. McLean, Chair  
Ms. Neal  
Mr. Vinson

The Committee will make a report at the August 27, 2012 Board meeting.

## **3. North Carolina Association of Community College Trustees (NCACCT)**

Chair Campbell encouraged trustees to take advantage of any training needs that will be offered at the upcoming NCACCT Leadership Seminar to be held in Asheville, NC, September 5-7, 2012.

## **J. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Finance and Facilities Committee meeting – August 20, 3:00 p.m. – MC Board Room
- WSGE Beach, Rhythm, and Blues II – Saturday, August 25, 2:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- Board Meeting – August 27, 4:00 p.m. – MC Board Room
- NCACCT – September 5-7, Asheville Renaissance Hotel

**K. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to bring before the Board, Chair Campbell asked for a motion to adjourn.

**Sheriff Cloninger made a motion, second by Mr. Hovis, to adjourn the meeting of the June 25, 2012, Gaston College Board of Trustees. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**James C. Smith, Secretary**

**Stephen D. Campbell, Chair**

**Sylvia Dixon, Recording Secretary**

**(College Seal)**