



AIKEN
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

**AIKEN COUNTY COMMISSION FOR TECHNICAL
AND COMPREHENSIVE EDUCATION
MEETING**

March 13, 2023 at 5:15 p.m.

**President's Conference Room 102
Ashley Little Administration Building
Aiken Technical College**

MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

**NOTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE SOUTH CAROLINA FREEDOM OF
INFORMATION ACT**

ROLL CALL

Present:

Mr. Joe Lewis
Mr. Bill Windley
Ms. Keyatta Priester
Mr. Charlie Hartz
Mr. Alvin Padgett
Ms. Jennifer Curtis
Mr. King Laurence
Ms. Teresa Haas

Not Present:

Mr. Stuart MacVean
Mr. Mike Uhle
Dr. Bridget Denzik

Also Present:

Dr. Forest Mahan
Mr. Andy Jordan
Ms. Sylvia Byrd
Ms. Mechelle English
Mr. Chad Crumbaker, J.D.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - February 13, 2023

Ms. Jennifer Curtis motioned to approve the minutes. Ms. Keyatta Priester seconded the motion. The Commission unanimously approved the February 13, 2023 minutes.

A. Administrative Services - Mr. Andy Jordan

1. Campus Capital Projects Update

Summary of Issue: Mr. Jordan shared an illustration of the electronic marquee re-design. The procurement protest period expires on Thursday, but the College expects to move forward with the contractor that won the award. The contractor, Golden Rule Signs, will have 120 days (around mid-July) to install the new marquee. The College plans to run an electrical line to the new marquee and a telecommunications line to be able to make updates remotely. The marquee will meet Department of Transportation brightness and refresh restrictions. Static images are permitted. The marquee has video capability, but animated images are not allowed now. Mr. Jordan also shared a mapped concept of the new Aiken County Career and Technology Center. The map showed the building layout, staff and student parking, bus loop, and green space. The College started the paperwork to all the Aiken County School District to move forward with construction. The College will cut power for a few hours to certain areas of campus this Friday to prepare for the demolition start of the 500/600 building on March 20. The College expects the demolition to be completed by mid-May. In response to Mr. Lewis's question, Mr. Jordan confirmed the 300, 400, and 500/600 buildings are the first actual academic buildings to be torn down by the College in its fifty-year history. The 700 building Amphitheater renovations are expected to finish by the end of this month. The College will promote the changes to campus to the media. College Marketing and Communications informed employees of campus changes with an FAQ message and will send another FAQ message soon.

Action Taken: None taken.

B. Advancement - Ms. Mechelle English

1. US Department of Labor Workforce Innovation Center for Accelerated Advanced Manufacturing and Nursing Pathways funding through the Strengthening Community Colleges Training Grant.

Summary of Issue: ATC, Piedmont Technical College, and Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College partnered to apply for the DOL grant. The DOL awarded the consortium a \$4.9 million grant. The grant covers four years with funding and staff for Nursing and Advanced Manufacturing programs. ATC will receive a full-time nursing position and a retention specialist to work with underrepresented and marginalized students pursuing careers in the two pathways. The DOL awarded only 15 consortiums nationally, and South Carolina was the only state to receive two grants. Northeastern, Denmark, and Williamsburg Technical Colleges formed the other consortium. Ms. English offered the Commission more information on the grant if interested. Ms. English thanked Aiken Regional Medical Centers, Aiken County Public School District, Bridgestone, and SRNS for their letters of support. Piedmont Tech is the lead and fiscal agent for the grant. In response to Ms. Priester's

question, Ms. English explained the DOL did not announce winners until mid-February. The grant period started on February 1, 2023, and will run for four years. Piedmont has not received the funds yet. The other consortium received a slightly smaller award. The College will move forward with the hiring process once funds are available. In response to Mr. Charlie Hartz's question, Ms. English explained Piedmont Tech, as the lead agent, will receive the most funds and staff. The College does not know the exact award to each College. The Commission congratulated the College on the award.

Action Taken: None taken.

C. Human Resources - Ms. Sylvia Byrd

1. 2022 Equal Employment Opportunity Report

Summary of Issue: Summary of Issue: Ms. Byrd presented the College's annual Status of Equal Employment Opportunity Report for 2022, produced by the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission. The College achieved overall goal attainment of 92.0% and ranked #21 among 94 state agencies, higher than last year's ranking. The College increased its goal attainment for the last three years is above average among all State agencies. Ms. Byrd reviewed Adjusted Availability and SCTCS data on the employment of minorities and women. The College continues to utilize various recruitment tools and venues to recruit diverse applicants. If the College does not receive diverse applicants in a search, the College restarts the search process. Hiring committee chairs and members receive training covering resume screening, best practices for diversity and inclusion during interviews, unconscious bias awareness, and effective interviews. The committee chair is also trained in successful onboarding for new employees. While faculty and staff demographics remained close to ATC's student demographics, 2022 showed growth in the Hispanic student population. The College continues promoting employee testimonial to showcase minority employment and career growth. Human Resources is also working with Marketing and Communications to produce #WeAreATC videos with employees sharing why they chose ATC. ATC's employee turnover rate was 13.5% compared to the national rate of 47.2%. Ms. Byrd reviewed HR's focus on the entire employee journey from recruitment and hiring to meaningful onboarding, engagement (both in-person and virtual), professional development, growth, and gaining knowledge from the employee's exit.

Action Taken: None taken.

D. Academic and Student Affairs - No Report

E. Office of the President - Dr. Forest Mahan

1. College Update

Summary of Issue: The full SC House of Representatives will review the House Ways and Means Committee FY24 budget this week. The proposed budget includes \$15M in recurring funds, linked to tuition mitigation. The budget also includes a 3% pay raise for employees earning over \$83,000 and a flat \$2,500 pay raise for employees making below \$83,000, \$130M for capital projects and maintenance, \$100M for SC WINS, \$20M for equipment, \$2M for readySC, \$51.1M for Lottery Tuition Assistance (LTA), \$80M for Needs-Based Grants, and \$10M for the Nursing Initiative. ATC and other technical colleges will participate in the SCTCS Legislative Day on March 29. Ms. Priester will become Chair of the SC Association of Technical College Commissioners in July. The College submitted nominations for the SCATCC Commissioner, CEO, and Faculty Member of the Year Awards. Mr. Jordan reported on and displayed a Bank Mobile ACE Award the College's Accounts Receivable Team received for demonstrating campus efficiency. The award recognizes the top 200 colleges nationally. The Commission congratulated the College. Dr. Mahan reported Dr. Aaron High, the Medical Director of ATC's Paramedic Program, received the Medical Control Physician of the Year Award and Allied Health Sciences Department Chair, Mr. Jonathan Jones, was elected to serve on the State EMS Board at the SC Emergency Care Symposium. The College earned the 2023-2024 Military Friendly® School award from Victory's Military Friendly® brand. This is the 12th consecutive year the College has received the designation. Dr. Mahan displayed and reported on ATC's Nuclear Fundamentals Apprenticeship Team winning the A. Wade Martin Innovation Team of the Year Award from the South Carolina Technical College System Foundation. Ms. Teresa Haas acknowledged the College for hosting a great annual Scholarship breakfast on February 28. Ms. Jill Uhler will send the Commission information on regalia for the May 2 commencement.

Action Taken: None taken.

2. Upcoming Events

- April 10, 2023 - Commission Meeting
- May 2, 2023 - ATC Commencement
- May 8, 2023 - Commission Meeting
- June 12, 2023 - Commission Meeting
- July, 2023 - No Meeting
- August 14, 2023 - Commission Meeting
- September 11, 2023 - Commission Meeting

F. Executive Session - Mr. Joe Lewis

Mr. Charlie Hartz made the motion, seconded by Mr. Alvin Padgett, to enter Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously. The Executive Session began at 5:49p.m.

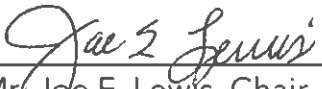
Summary of Issue: The purpose of the Executive Session was for discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee, a student, or a person regulated by a public body or the appointment of a person to a public body.

Ms. Curtis made the motion, seconded by Ms. Priester, to reconvene the regular session. The motion passed unanimously. The Commission resumed regular session at 6:08 p.m.


G. Open Session - Mr. Joe Lewis

Action Taken: None

Mr. Padgett made the motion, seconded by Ms. Priester, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:09 p.m.



Mr. Joe E. Lewis, Chair



Ms. Keyatta Priester, Secretary

4/10/23

Date Approved

4/10/23

Date Approved