



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

**February 12, 2024  
5:15 p.m.**

**President's Conference Room 102  
Ashley Little Administration Building**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**ROLL CALL**

**Commission Present:**

Mr. Joe Lewis  
Mr. Bill Windley  
Ms. Keyatta Priester  
Ms. Teresa Haas  
Mr. Charlie Hartz  
Ms. Jennifer Curtis  
Mr. Alvin Padgett  
Mr. Paul Hanna  
Dr. Dorian Newton

**Not Present:**

Mr. King Laurence  
Mr. Mike Uhle

**Also Present:**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES - January 8, 2024**

Ms. Keyatta Priester motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. Bill Windley seconded the motion. The Commission unanimously approved the January 8, 2024, minutes.

## **A. Administrative Services - Mr. Andy Jordan**

### **1. Campus Capital Projects Update**

Summary of Issue: Mr. Jordan provided an update on various ongoing projects occurring throughout campus. The College is finalizing the budget and design for the 700 building renovations. The architects completed soil testing, surveying, and utility mapping for the new Nursing building. The Nursing Building Committee will meet on February 28 to finalize the layout and design of the building. The Library/Learning Commons renovation is nearly complete, with the installation of proctoring software underway. The new Information Technology Data Center is ready for paint and furniture. The new monument signs for each College entrance will be installed in mid-March. Mr. Jordan expects to share renderings of the new Nursing building with the Commission in March.

Action Taken: None taken.

## **B. Academic and Student Affairs - Mr. Chad Crumbaker**

### **1. Enrollment Update**

Summary of Issue: Mr. Crumbaker reviewed historical and current enrollment data and registration timelines for Spring 2024. The Spring 2024 enrollment goal was 2,050. The College reached 2,006 on January 22; current enrollment is 1,965 in for-credit courses. Additional students are enrolled in non-credit continuing education. The SRS apprenticeships were switched from credit to non-credit this spring. The College has retention and student persistence initiatives to maintain enrollment and student success. Dual Enrollment continues to grow annually. In response to Mr. Joe Lewis's question, Mr. Crumbaker clarified that the College implemented the Ellucian enrollment management system late last spring. The College will use Ellucian more this fall, when the first full year of implementation nearly completed. The system helps the College engage with prospective students earlier and track students who applied. In response to Mr. Windley's question about non-credit reporting, Mr. Crumbaker explained non-credit students register in the same way for-credit students do. The College does not historically report as much detail on non-credit enrollment. Non-credit classes are also often not on the same academic calendar as for-credit. The State and colleges are trying to develop standards for non-credit enrollment reporting. Ms. Jennifer Curtis asked why the SRS Apprenticeship Program went from credit to non-credit. Dr. Dorian Newton explained the program switched to non-credit due to the flexibility of resources, the need for flexible start times, and the challenge of finding for-credit instructors. The SRS Apprentices come from three colleges, including Denmark and Augusta Tech, which are non-credit. Ms. Curtis voiced her concern that the apprenticeship students would not have a credential if the student relocated. Mr. Crumbaker noted the College can convert non-credit to credit if the student wants to continue getting an associate's degree. Dr. Mahan pointed out that ATC's Dual Enrollment is

not as high as other Colleges, which may keep ATC in a safer financial position if something happens to the DE program. One needs to consider CE and DE student numbers in mind when looking at college enrollment reports throughout the state.

Action Taken: None taken.

### **C. Advancement - No Report**

### **D. Human Resources - No Report**

### **E. Office of the President - Dr. Forest Mahan**

#### **1. College Update**

Summary of Issue: The College received lease approvals for the new Aiken County Career and Technology Center from the JRBC and SFAA in late January. The groundbreaking for the Career Center is scheduled for March 22 at 10:00 a.m. The Aiken County Public School District are leading the groundbreaking logistics. ATC will work with ACPSD to support the event.

The State FY25 budget is in the "House One" skeletal phase, where placeholders and requests are outlined. Dr. Tim Hardee spoke before the House Ways and Means Committee last week and was well-received. The College hopes its request for \$3.1M for capital projects and equipment is put in the budget now. If not now, someone could try to add the request later during the Senate phase. The State will know its available budget funds on April 10, when the BEA has its final meeting.

The College has a federal line item request and is awaiting a response from Senator Lindsey Graham's office.

On January 18, the College held a well attended Unique Conversations talk on human trafficking.

The College co-hosted the annual MLK Jr. Community Celebration with USCA on January 21. Ms. Curtis received the Human and Civil Rights Community Champion award.

On January 30, Mr. Jee Hang Lee, President of ACCT visited ATC and had lunch with the Commission, staff, and students.

The SCATCC hosted its Day of Learning in Columbia on January 31. Mr. Windley and Mr. Alvin Padgett were recognized for their years of service as Commission members - fifteen years and ten years, respectively.

Ms. Priester, Ms. Curtis, and Dr. Mahan attended the ACCT Legislative Summit in Washington, D.C. from February 3-7. Ms. Priester coordinated a lunch with legislators sponsored by SRNS. The ACCT is advocating for bipartisan support for "Workforce Pell" for short-term training programs that do not currently qualify for Pell. The ACCT also lobbies for strengthening the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and fold in the Stronger Workforce for America Act, which would combine the funding.

Dr. Mahan and several ATC staff and faculty will attend the annual SCTEA conference on February 15-16 in Myrtle Beach.

Dr. Mahan will attend the SCTCS Presidents' Council meeting at the SCTEA conference. Dr. Mahan is the incoming Rotary President and will attend training on February 24. Dr. Mahan invited the Commission to attend the ATC Scholarship Breakfast on February 27.

Dr. Mahan and staff are attending the annual North Augusta Chamber banquet on March 7.

The College will host a soft launch of the new ATC mascot on March 13 with a pep rally event.

Dr. Ron Rhames, the retiring President of Midlands Technical College, will be the keynote speaker at ATC graduation on April 30.

Dr. Mahan proposed canceling the April 8 Commission meeting. The meeting would fall during Spring Break and Master's Week, and Dr. Mahan is scheduled for a SACSCOC on-site visit.

Dr. Mahan received a notice today about a SACSCOC session on governing boards for the technical colleges on April 9. College Presidents and a board member are invited to attend. If there's interest, the College might be able to send two Commission members since Dr. Mahan will be out of town.

Ms. Teresa Haas asked about the Governor's request in January to gather data on South Carolina colleges and universities to study if the State has too many colleges. Mr. Jordan noted the focus is on four-year colleges, but two-year colleges will provide data to the study. The State has gathered this type of information before. The President's Council has not discussed the study yet. Mr. Jordan noted gathering data to study for possible consolidation accurately will be a challenge for the State because the colleges do not use the same reporting systems and have their own Commissions. Consolidating to a statewide, regents-type system like other states have may be possible, but it would take years of planning and funding to complete.

Action Taken: The Commission agreed to cancel the April meeting.

Mr. Lewis thanked Commissioners for attending the SCATCC Day of Learning. The majority of the Commission participated the event. Mr. Lewis again recognized Mr. Windley and Mr. Padgett for their SCATCC service awards. Mr. Lewis proposed inviting one of the SCATCC speakers to the College or Aiken for a talk.

## 2. Upcoming Events

- February 27, 2024, 5:30 p.m. – State of the College Dinner with Aiken County Council
- March 11, 2024 – Commission Meeting
- April 8, 2024 – Commission Meeting
- April 30, 2024 – ATC Commencement, USCA
- May 13, 2024 – Commission Meeting
- June 10, 2024 – Commission Meeting
- July – No Meeting
- August 12, 2024 – Commission Meeting

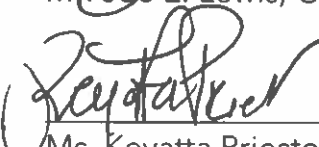
## **F. Executive Session - Mr. Joe Lewis**

1. There was no Executive Session.

Dr. Dorian Newton made the motion, seconded by Ms. Curtis, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Joe E. Lewis, Chair

3/11/24  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Approved

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ms. Keyatta Priester, Secretary

3/11/24  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Approved

2018

10/10/18

2018

10/10/18