

MINUTES
SC STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL TELECONFERENCE MEETING
LOWMAN HALL BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM
ORANGEBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA
February 24, 2020

CALL TO ORDER/OPEN SESSION:

Chairman Rodney Jenkins called the meeting to order at 10:04 AM. He noted that proper notice was given regarding the meeting to comply with the Freedom of Information Act. The agenda was circulated to the members (Attachment 1). Trustee Donnie Shell gave the invocation.

Board Members Via-Phone: Trustees: Starlee Alexander, Hamilton Grant, Doris Helms, Monica Scott, Donnie Shell, Hubbard Smalls, and Daniel Varat. *Ex-Officio Members:* John Funny, Sharon Wade-Byrd, and David Staten. **On-Site:** Rodney Jenkins, William Oden, and Wilbur Shuler.

Board Members Absent: Milton Irvin, Doward Harvin, and Julie Sainyo.

Administrators & Others Present: *President, James Clark; Vice President of Finance, Teare Brewington; Chief of Staff, Shondra Abraham; Vice President Institutional Advancement & University Relations, Sonja Bennett-Bellamy (vis-phone); Budget Director, Donna Hanton, Office of Sponsored Programs, Elbert Malone; Public Relation Coordinator, Chaundra Mikell; General Counsel, Mercedes Pinckney; Administrative Coordinator, Chrystler Rogers; Acting Associate Provost, William Whitaker; and Administrative Coordinator and Recorder, Eartha Mosley.*

Media: None

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chairman Jenkins asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. *Trustee Wilbur Shuler made the motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Trustee Monica Scott. Vote: unanimously approved.*

SCSU 2020 SENATE BUDGET REQUEST PRESENTATION

The Chairman asked Trustee Daniel Varat for highlights of a meeting he and the Chairman attended with Mike Shealy, Chief of Staff for Senate Finance Chairman. He shared the Governor and legislature in Columbia have shifted their focus to more support for the technical colleges. Carolina and Clemson will get their appropriations, but the four-year comprehensives may start falling behind. Unfortunately, SC State gets scrutiny more than others, which translates to a higher bar to get the same consideration. Therefore, our institution must do better and show how we can do more with less. Chairman Jenkins added it is important to reach out to lawmakers in the positions to make decisions regarding the University.

President Clark reported budget reports are submitted each year to the Governor's Office, the House Ways and Means Committee, and the Senate Budget Committee. He pointed out the format for each report is different. He indicated the University builds its budget from Capital Budget Request, Recurring Budget Request, and Non-Recurring Budget Request, and within those groups, items are prioritized. The President continued by sharing the current Governor's Report and House Budget Presentation were the same as the year before other than this year two large ticket items were added: 1) \$15M Residence Hall and 2) \$15M Student Innovation Center.

President Clark, Mrs. Brewington, and Mrs. Hanton gave an overview of the budget presentation. Following the presentations and comments from the Trustees, the following recommendations were made: 1) include the number of FTEs in the Senate Budget Presentation; 2) add more details in some of the descriptions in the presentation; 3) moving forward the Board would have discussions of the Governor's Report before sending the report forward; 4) after the revisions are made, a copy will be forward to the Trustees, and 5) the Finance Committee to provide a timeline of the budget request process for the Trustees. Trustees Funny and Varat suggested the President have a compelling narrative when requesting instead of listing items with dollars figures.

Mrs. Brewington shared the Senate Budget Request Committee meeting is scheduled for March 10th and March 12th. Trustee Helms reminded the Trustees to complete the Board's Self-Assessment Survey. She asked Ms. Mosley to resend the link to all members so the Board may discuss it at next week's meeting.

The Chair asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Helms made the motion and it was seconded by Trustee Oden. The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:41 AM.

Submitted by,



Eartha Mosley
Recorder

Attachments

- 1 – Agenda
- 2 - Senate Budget Request Presentation