

**Board of Trustees Meeting  
December 14, 2021**

**Minutes  
Coastal Carolina University**

**Board of Trustees  
Singleton Ballroom  
December 14, 2021**

**Presiding:** Chairman Delan Stevens

**Board Members Present:** John Bartell, Lee Belcher, Lisa Davis, Natasha Hanna, Joe Jarrett, Sherry Johnson, Mark Kelley, George Mullen, Bradley Poston, Jason Repak, Oran Smith, Patrick Sparks, Gene Spivey, William Turner

**Board Members Not Present:** William Biggs, Dalton Floyd

**Others Present:** Sandra Baldrige-Adrian, Michael Benson, Claudia Bornholdt, Brant Branham, Brian Bunton, Amanda Craddock, Lydia Deeck, Daniel Ennis, Amanda Foss, David Frost, Sara Hottinger, Martha Hunn, Carlos Johnson, Christopher Johnson, Tom Koczara, Susannah Marshman, Travis Overton, Jerry Rashid, Diane Sanders, Erika Small, James Solazzo, Atiya Stokes-Brown

(In accordance with the requirements of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, the news media were notified of the time, location, and agenda for the meeting. Two members of the media were in attendance: Katie Powell of MyHorryNews.com and Merry Norkel of The Sun News.)

Chairman Delan Stevens brought the Board meeting to order at 10:05 am. President Michael Benson offered an invocation.

### **I. Roll Call**

Roll call was taken by Amanda Foss, Executive Assistant to the President.

### **II. Approval of the Minutes**

Jason Repak moved to approve the meeting minutes from October 28, 2021. Sherry Johnson seconded, and the motion carried.

Repak moved to approve the (special) meeting minutes from November 15, 2021. Johnson seconded, and the motion carried.

### **III. University Report**

Sandra Baldrige-Adrian, Staff Senate President, gave a Staff Senate report.

- Staff Senate will continue having monthly meetings in-person and virtual.

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- The Staff Ombuds position has closed and is currently in the evaluation and interview process.

Brian Bunton, Faculty Senate Chair, gave a Faculty Senate report.

- The Faculty Senate has met twice since the last Board meeting. A few policy changes have passed, and they will be presented to the Trustees for approval in the February 2022 meeting.
- An ad hoc committee on professional development has been formed and is examining how professional development is done on campus to determine whether improvements are needed.

Christopher Johnson, Chief Executive Officer of the Coastal Education Foundation (CEF) provided a report of the activity within the CEF.

- Total assets as of November 30, 2021, are \$74.6 million, this includes \$69.0 million in cash, investments, and pledges.
- The CEF Board of Directors held their last meeting on October 13, 2021 and elected three new directors; Ruthie Kearns, David Sage, and Brian Argo.

Brant Branham, Governmental Affairs Director, gave an update on current legislative matters.

Michael Benson, University President, gave his President's report.

- Benson congratulated Diane Sanders for accepting the permanent position of Vice President for Advancement & Alumni Engagement.
- Benson thanked and congratulated Martha Hunn, Associate Vice President/Chief Communication Officer, on her upcoming retirement.
- Melissa Harris-Perry will be the next speaker in the President's Signature Series on January 22, 2022.
- The University's marching band was recently invited to play in the London's New Year's Day Parade on January 1, 2023.

#### **IV. Standing Committee Motions/Actions**

##### Finance and Audit Committee

- **Lee Belcher moved to approve the renewal of a one-year lease with Fountain-Fuller of SC, L.L.C., for approximately 10,000 square feet of warehouse space at the Atlantic Center (454 Century Circle) for University Housing, effective March 1, 2022, through February 28, 2023 (Motion 21-FAA-23). William Turner seconded, and the motion carried.**
- **Belcher moved to approve that the Agency Head to be authorized to increase p-card limits during emergencies at his/her discretion (\$10,000 single transaction limit,**

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**\$50,000 monthly transaction limit) (Motion 21-FAA-24). Gene Spivey seconded, and the motion carried.**

Facilities and Planning Committee

- **Johnson moved to approve establishing a permanent improvement project to construct a PGA Golf Management (PGM) facility at Hackler Golf Course which would replace the current clubhouse (Motion 21-FAC-08). Mark Kelley seconded, and the motion carried.**
- **Johnson moved to approve an upgrade of the practice field (at Fowler Farm) with added drainage and new turf (Motion 21-FAC-09). Repak seconded, and the motion carried.**

Academic Affairs and Retention Committee

- **Oran Smith moved to approve a new program: B.S. in Marine and Coastal Environmental Science (Motion 21AAR-12). Repak seconded, and the motion carried.**
- **Smith moved to approve a new program: B.A. in Higher Education and Community Relations (Motion 21-AAR-13). Turner seconded, and the motion carried.**

Administration, Governance and Philanthropy

- **Turner moved to approve the University policies via unanimous consent (Consent Agenda) The consent agenda was approved via unanimous consent.**

Athletics

Spivey presented a resolution to the Trustees, recognizing the Sun Belt's 2021 conference realignment.

Executive Committee

Stevens announced a Board of Trustees ad hoc Communication Committee. This committee to work with the University Counsel to study the way sensitive personnel, legal and confidential operational information is shared between the University's administration and the Board of Trustees and among the Board of Trustees itself. This committee will provide its report at the May 2022 Board Meeting. That report should include recommendations concerning a) the type of information that should be shared with the BOT, b) the timeframe for when information should be shared (especially considering the role the BOT plays in certain personnel related

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matters), c) whether the information should be initially directed to the Board Officers, the Executive Committee, another standing (current or new) committee, or the entire BOT.

**IV. Chairman's Report**

Stevens presented Martha Hunn, Associate Vice President/Chief Communication Officer, with a CINO pin.

Travis Overton, Vice President for Executive Initiatives/Chief of Staff, expressed his gratitude towards Hunn and her dedication to the University.

The future Board of Trustees meetings are as follows:

2022: February 17-18

**V. Adjournment**

As there was no more business, Turner moved to adjourn. Johnson seconded, and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

*Lydia Deeck*

Lydia Deeck

Recorder