

TECHNICAL COLLEGE OF THE LOWCOUNTRY
AREA COMMISSION MEETING

July 5, 2023

President's Boardroom on the Beaufort Mather campus
and via Zoom <https://tclc.zoom.us/j/5029645792>

Public Comment: areacommission@tcl.edu

MINUTES

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Zoom:

Randy Dolyniuk, Chairman

Sheree Darien, Vice Chair

Dr. William Small

Heath Duncan

In Person:

James Boozer, Secretary

Dr. Rick Toomey

ABSENT EXCUSED

David Smalls

A special called meeting of the Area Commission for the Technical College of the Lowcountry was held on Tuesday, July 5, 2022 at 9:00 in the President's Boardroom on the Beaufort Mather Campus and via Zoom. Prior to the meeting media were notified and provided with the agenda. An email address for public comment as well as the Zoom information is published on the agenda.

CALL TO ORDER and CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Dolyniuk called the meeting to order at 9:00 and noted that a quorum was present. He reviewed the purpose of the meeting which is to ratify the vote regarding tuition rates and to approve the acceptance of bids for three capital projects. The Commission will also go into Executive Session for the purpose of receiving information relative to a legal issue.

RATIFICATION OF SUPPORT FOR TUITION INCREASE

At their April meeting the Area Commission conditionally approved a 7% increase in tuition. The increase is necessary due to pay increases and state employee bonus' that are mandated by the state but are not funded by the state. No additional funds were allocated to the Colleges to cover the increases. Additionally, the

State gave the Technical College System an additional \$7 million dollars. When the SC Technical College System office applies their formula to divide money between the 16 colleges, TCL's portion is 3% or \$227,500 against mandates totaling \$700,000. The Commission's approval was conditional on their review of the budget forecast once the state budget numbers and the impact of the unfunded mandates were more clear. Dr. Gough said that the System office doesn't support tuition increases but concedes that it may be necessary. Several of the technical colleges are also facing tuition increases.

Dr. Toomey made the motion to ratify by voice vote the approval of a 7% tuition increase which was granted conditionally at the April 2022 Area Commission meeting. Dr. Small seconded the motion pending some discussion. Dr. Small said that he feels the necessity of a conversation with the System Office with regard to the formula they use to divide funding to the colleges and the disproportionate amounts going to the smaller colleges. When asked, Dr. Gough said he does not anticipate any negative push back from TCL's Legislative Delegation as the College is clearly underfunded. Dr. Small asked if the increase in tuition will negatively impact enrollment. Dr. Gough replied that with the increase in Pell and the 'free' tuition for workforce programs he and the Executive Leadership Team do not anticipate a negative impact. Dr. Small reiterated the need for frank conversations with the decision makers in Columbia. Chairman Dolyniuk agreed that our Delegation be made aware of the reality that \$7 million to the Technical College System results in \$227,500 to the Technical College of the Lowcountry. After the discussion, Chairman Dolyniuk asked for a voice vote to support the motion to ratify the approval of a 7% tuition increase for Fall 2022. Commission vote to increase tuition by 7% was unanimous in favor and thus so ordered by Chairman Dolyniuk.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF BIDS FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS

Vice President Hoffman sought the Commission's approval to accept the bid on each of the three upcoming Capital Projects:

Renovation / Buildings 2,6,and 8 on the Beaufort Mather campus: Dr. Gough said that the two bidders, Nix Construction and Beaufort Construction are within 5% of each other which indicates solid bids.

Chairman Dolyniuk asked for a motion to accept Beaufort Construction's bid. Dr. Toomey made the motion which was seconded by Mr. Boozer. Commission vote was unanimous in favor and thus so ordered by Chairman Dolyniuk.

Roof / Buildings 14,15,and 16. Low bid is C.E. Bourne & Company. Dr. Small made the motion to award the work to C.E. Bourne & Company. Dr. Toomey seconded the motion. Commission vote was unanimous and thus so ordered by Chairman Dolyniuk.

HVAC Replacement / Buildings 2,14,and 15. Low bid is Triad Mechanical. Mr. Boozer made the motion to award the project to Triad Mechanical. Ms. Darien seconded the motion. Commission vote was unanimous in favor and thus so ordered by Chairman Dolyniuk.

Dr. Toomey inquired as to the expected duration of the construction on buildings 2 , 6, and 8. Ms. Hoffman responded that she expects it to take about a year. As the President's office and Boardroom are in building 6, there will be a period of time that he and his assistant will have to vacate their offices and will probably work from a combination of the New River offices and home office.

Dr. Smalls asked what is being done to address the moisture issues in Owen Hall which currently houses the Mather Museum and Interpretive Center. VP Hoffman explained that much of that painting and repair is being done in house, with a contractor brought in to manage the moisture mitigation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

*For the purpose of receiving information relative to a legal issue pursuant to
Section 30-4-70 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Acts*

At the Chairman's request, Dr. Toomey made the motion that the Commission go into Executive Session for the purpose of receiving legal counsel regarding a personnel issue. Ms. Darien seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Commission remained in Executive Session for 35 minutes at which time Chairman Dolyniuk called for a motion to return to Open Session. Dr. Toomey made the motion which was seconded by Ms. Darien. Commission vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Chairman Dolyniuk stated that the Commission made no decisions during the Executive Session nor did the discussion produce the need for a vote. The Commission received information only.

This section intentionally left blank

TCL Area Commission
July 5, 2022

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, Mr. Dolyniuk adjourned the special called meeting of the Technical College of the Lowcountry Area Commission at 10:50 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Cullen

APPROVED:



Randy K. Dolyniuk
Chairman



James Boozer
Secretary