

Clemson University
Clemson, South Carolina

MINUTES
CLEMSON UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Teleconference/Web
December 1, 2023
8:00 a.m.

Call to Order

Notification as required by the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act was given at least twenty-four hours before the meeting by posting the notice and agenda on the bulletin board located on the ground floor public entrance of Sikes Hall, Clemson University and on the Clemson University Board of Trustees website. Additionally notice of, and the agenda for, the meeting was sent via email to the distribution list maintained by the Office of Media Relations which includes approximately 80 reporters and editors at the major daily newspapers, television and radio stations in S.C.

After notification as required by the Freedom of Information Act, Chair Wilkerson called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. with the following present:

Trustees: David Dukes, Nikki Haley, Ronnie Lee, Louis Lynn, Patti McAbee, Nicky McCarter, *Vice Chair*, Smyth McKissick, Cheri Phyfer-Kubu, Bob Peeler, Mark Richardson, Bill Smith, Joe Swann, Kim Wilkerson, *Chair*

Trustees Emeriti: J.J. Britton, Tom McTeer, David Wilkins

Administration: James P. Clements, *President*; Max Allen, *Vice President and Chief of Staff*; Bob Jones, *Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost*; Chip Hood, *General Counsel and Special Advisor to the Board of Trustees*; Angie Leidinger, *Senior Vice President for External Affairs and Senior Advisor to the Board of Trustees*; Rick Petillo, *Chief Financial Officer*; April Purvis, *Executive Secretary to the Board of Trustees*; Felicia Benton-Johnson, *Vice President for Diversity and Inclusive Excellence*; Tony Wagner, *Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer*

Guests: Joe Galbraith, *Communications*; Jon Clayton, *CCIT*; Beth Crocker, *Office of the General Counsel*; Laura Stoner, *Real Estate Strategy & Operations*; and Tommy Lavender, *outside counsel*

Media: Caitlin Herrington, *the Post and Courier*; Thomas Gore, *Fox Carolina*

April Purvis called roll of the board. Chair Wilkerson noted a quorum was present.

Joe Galbraith introduced the media in attendance.

Executive Session

Chair Wilkerson said it was necessary to enter executive session to discuss pending property negotiations and property environmental updates and that no decisions would be made, and no votes would be taken. She stated that the board would reconvene in public session.

Trustee Dukes moved to enter executive session. Trustee Lee seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. The committee entered executive session at 8:03 a.m. and returned to public session at 9:02 a.m.

Action Items:

1. Approval of the Pendleton Property Acquisition

Laura Stoner summarized the request to pursue the acquisition of approximately 87 acres of land immediately adjacent to the George Aull Natural Area of the Clemson Experimental Forest (CEF) in Pendleton, SC from the Naturaland Trust.

The property is used regularly for teaching and research which has noted the drastic changes in the ecosystem, forest canopy, stream degradation, wildlife, etc., due to the development of the surrounding community, which would be further degraded by the development of the 87-acre tract.

In an effort to protect the Aull Natural Area, the University has worked with the Naturaland Trust and the South Carolina Conservation Bank on the acquisition of the approximately 87 acres from the current owner. The Naturaland Trust worked closely with the University and the South Carolina Conservation Bank to make an application and seek funding to assist with the transaction, resulting in a financial grant to cover the cash aspect of the transaction to be received by the Naturaland Trust to secure the property through a charitable bargain and then transfer the property to the University for no cost, resulting in a no cash outlay by the University.

This proposed acquisition has been reviewed by individuals of the administration, the Office of Land and Capital Asset Stewardship, CEF, PSA, and Office of the General Counsel who support the transaction. Additionally, this acquisition was previously approved by the Board of Trustees under a different deal structure.

Trustee McKissick moved to approve the Pendleton Property Acquisition. Trustee Richardson seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously via roll call vote.

2. Approval of increase to the Phase 1 budget for the College of Veterinary Medicine to \$110.466 million

Tony Wagner summarized the request to increase the Phase 1 budget for the College of Veterinary Medicine to \$110.466 million.

The College of Veterinary Medicine project includes the construction of approximately 232,500 gross square feet of teaching, clinical, and research facilities. The College of Veterinary Medicine will be constructed near the main campus of Clemson University at a site near the intersection of Starkey Road and W. Queen Street.

The administration requests approval to increase the Phase 1 budget to \$110,466,000 to reflect the total funding provided by the State in the FY23 and FY24 budgets. These additional funds will enable the University to continue planning and design activities, begin initial site work and to award early release packages for long lead time items such as HVAC equipment, electrical transformers and switchgear, and structural systems. This total includes approximately \$15,466,000 appropriated for the PSA Animal farms to support the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Trustee Peeler moved to approve the Phase 1 budget increase for the College of Veterinary Medicine to \$110.466 million. Trustee McKissick seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously via roll call vote.

Executive Session

Chair Wilkerson said it was necessary to enter executive session to discuss personnel matters related to the dean search for CAFLS and PSA and to receive attorney client privileged legal advice and discuss pending contractual negotiations and security matters related to Corps of Engineers properties adjacent to campus. She stated that no decisions would be made, and no votes would be taken and that the board would not reconvene in public session.

Trustee McKissick moved to enter executive session. Trustee Swann seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. The committee entered executive session at 9:11 a.m.

Adjourn

There being no further business, Chair Wilkerson adjourned the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

April S. Purvis

April Purvis

Executive Secretary to the Board of Trustees

<i>April S. Purvis</i> _____ April Purvis - Minutes Approved	<i>02/08/24</i> _____ Date
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