



Preparing North Carolina's World-Class Work Force

**State Board of Community Colleges
Caswell Building, 200 West Jones Street
Raleigh, North Carolina**

**December 6, 2007
8 a.m.**

CALL TO ORDER

Following proper public notification and a determination that a quorum was present, the meeting of the State Board of Community Colleges (SBCC) was called to order by Chair Pinnix-Ragland at 8 a.m. She welcomed those attending the meeting where members would make one of the most important decisions in this period for education in North Carolina. The following members were present:

Hilda Pinnix-Ragland, Chair
Linwood Powell, Vice Chair
Nancy M. Brenner
James W. Daniels
Jimmie E. Ford
Stuart B. Fountain
Raichelle Glover
Bob H. Greene
Gordon "Buddy" Greenwood
Thomas Houlihan

Anne-Marie Knighton
Eddie Madden
Chester P. Middlesworth
Treasurer Richard Moore
 Represented by Pam Wortham
Bently C. Pagura
Lt. Governor Beverly Perdue
B. Joanne Steiner
Norma Turnage
Herbert L. Watkins
Allen Wellons

The following members were unable to attend: Estell Lee Harrelson

Also present were Mike Arnold, designee for Lt. Governor Beverly Perdue, and Dr. Bob Barringer and Dr. Parker Chesson of Gold Hill Associates.

ETHICS AWARENESS AND IDENTIFICATION OF CONFLICTS OR POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF

- The Chair advised members of the ethical requirements for those who serve as public servants and requested they identify any conflicts or potential conflicts of interest present. Having so requested and hearing none, she asked that the record reflect none were reported.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Chair asked for approval of the agenda. Dr. Greene so moved, Mr. Middlesworth seconded, and the Board approved the agenda as presented.

REGULAR AGENDA

For Information and Action

Presidential Search Committee, Mr. Herbert L. Watkins, Chair

Chair Pinnix-Ragland requested that Presidential Search Committee Chair Watkins present to the Board items related to the work of that committee.

Presidential Candidate Interview & Selection

At the request of the Chair, David Sullivan, NCCCS General Counsel, reminded members of the areas of questioning that members must avoid asking during the interviews.

Mr. Watkins then asked members to focus on the presidential candidate interview rating instrument which included questions to be asked of each candidate to ensure equitable comparison. He said the recommendation of the Presidential Search Committee was that the Board ask core questions, and allow members to ask follow up questions for further clarity and concept expansion and to clarify any comments made by the candidate. He added there had been discussion among other SBCC members to ask additional questions beyond the scope of those that were defined by the Committee. Mr. Watkins asked the Board to decide how they wished to proceed.

Scope of Questions To Be Asked

Dr. Powell presented a motion that was seconded by Dr. Greene to proceed with the scope and use the core questions as recommended by the Presidential Search Committee. Discussion followed and at conclusion, the Board approved the motion as presented, allowing only the use of the core questions as developed by the Presidential Search Committee and follow up questions as specified above.

As other details of the interview process were reviewed, members were advised that each would receive a score sheet to complete in evaluating the finalists and cumulative scores that would constitute one "summary factor" in the decision process. The questions to be asked were assigned to members of the Board. Following the process review, the SBCC convened in closed session following a motion presented by Dr. Powell, seconded by Mr. Greenwood, and approved by the SBCC.

Closed Session

The Board convened in closed session to conduct interviews and to select the next NCCCS President. Following the interviews and selection process, the Board reconvened in open session.

Personnel Committee, Dr. Linwood Powell, Chair

Presidential Salary

Dr. Powell moved, Mr. Middlesworth seconded, and the Board approved a salary of \$275,000 effective April 1, 2008 for the new NCCCS President.

Presidential Search Committee, Mr. Herbert L. Watkins, Chair

Approval of Next NCCCS System President

Mr. Watkins then moved, Ms. Turnage seconded, and the Board unanimously approved Dr. Scott Ralls as the NC Community College System President effective April 1, 2008.

The Chair recognized and the SBCC thanked the members of the Presidential Search Committee for their work and the manner in which the search had been conducted. The committee membership included Chair Watkins, Vice-Chair Turnage, Dr. Greene, Mr. Greenwood, Ms. Knighton, Mr. Pagura, Dr. Powell, and Mr. Shaw. System Office support staff included Richard Sullins, Executive Director of the State Board, and David Sullivan, General Counsel.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS, H. Martin Lancaster

- President Lancaster congratulated Dr. Ralls and the Board on their selection, adding he felt this to be a very wise decision as Dr. Ralls will bring all of requisite skills and experience to this job to make a great president and provide the leadership that will take the NCCCS to even higher levels.

SUMMARY OF DR. SCOTT RALLS REMARKS

- Dr. Ralls said that he was extremely humbled and very appreciative of the tremendous opportunity. In his present position as a community college president, he sees the "little miracles" on his campus every day and the "role our colleges and the System play in changing lives." Dr. Ralls said there may never be a more important time for the NCCCS than the next few years as the challenges to be addressed will take a great deal of skill, ingenuity, talent, and dedication from all involved, and he pledged to work hard for the Board and the people of the State as we move forward to meet those challenges.

SUMMARY OF CHAIR 'S CLOSING REMARKS

- In extending the congratulations of the SBCC to Dr. Ralls, Chair Pinnix-Ragland said that "this is a day we will look back on with pride. We look forward to working with Dr. Ralls as he provides leadership for the System in the 21st Century."

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Ford moved, Mr. Greenwood seconded, and the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 12:19 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:
Secretary

H. Martin Lancaster, System President

APPROVED BY:

Hilda Pinnix-Ragland, Chair

Agenda attachments referenced in this document were previously mailed and therefore are not attached to these minutes. If copies are needed, please contact the Office of State Board Affairs, North Carolina CC System, 200 West Jones Street, Raleigh, NC 27603-1379, (919) 807-6969.