

**MINUTES**  
**State Board of Community Colleges**  
**FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
**Thursday, September 16, 2021 –1:30 p.m.**  
**Ms. Ann Whitford, Chair**

**Finance Committee Members Present**

Ms. Ann Whitford, Chair	Mr. Burr Sullivan	The Honorable Sam Searcy
Mr. Andy Penry*	Ms. Sarah West	

Attended via phone or Zoom technology\*

Members absent: Treasurer Dale Folwell

**Other SBCC Members:**

Dr. Shirley Carraway  
Dr. Lee Barnes  
Ms. Lisa Estep  
Mr. William Holder  
Mr. Bill McBrayer  
Mr. Jesse Watts  
Mr. Hari Nath  
Mr. Jerry Vaughan  
Mr. Ray Trapp  
Mr. Wade Irwin, Jr.  
Ms. Jena Gallagher  
Mr. Mark Merritt

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Ms. Elizabeth Grovenstein	Mr. Alex Fagg	Ms. Arbony Cooper
Mr. Bryan Jenkins	Dr. Kimberly Gold	Ms. Lyn Austin
Mr. Jonathan Harris	Dr. Bruce Mack	(Johnston CC)
Ms. Tawanda Artis	Mr. Nate Humphrey	
Mr. Sharon Gladwell	Ms. Tiffany Howell	
Ms. Judy Jefferson	Ms. Nancy Gaj	

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Whitford called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Ms. Grovenstein took the roll of the Finance Committee members.

**ETHICS STATEMENT**

Ms. Grovenstein read the required ethics statement. There were no conflicts of interest.

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**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Ms. Whitford asked for a motion to approve the agenda of the meeting as presented. Mr. Sullivan moved, seconded by Mr. Searcy, and the motion was unanimously approved.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Ms. Whitford asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2021 Finance Committee meeting. Ms. West moved, Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

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**FOR ACTION**

**Allocation for Food and Nutrition Services Employment and Training Program Grant (Attachment FC 01)**

Ms. Whitford requested FC 01, FC 02, FC 03 all be explained together.

Ms. Whitford explained that in the Allocation for Food and Nutrition Services Employment and Training Program Grant, the Board is requested to approve two buckets of money - one bucket for \$1,008,000 and the other bucket for \$1,643,000 in 50% federal matching funds for these programs.

Ms. Whitford stated this program is attached to the Department of Social Services in the locations where this program will occur. Ms. Whitford stated there is a list of fifteen community colleges that will be collaborating with their local Department of Social Services to receive funding and participate in this program.

Ms. Whitford referenced the chart in Attachment FC 01 during her discussion.

Ms. Grovenstein explained this is a program that has been in place for numerous of years, dating back to November 17, 2017 as noted in the background section of this item.

Ms. Grovenstein explained it started with two colleges piloting the program - Asheville-Buncombe Technical CC and Durham Technical CC. Ms. Grovenstein stated it has expanded to the colleges you see listed in the table. Ms. Grovenstein explained this item is applicable to the conversation we have been having during the State Board Planning meeting about reaching a population that is under served.

Ms. Grovenstein called on Mr. Humphrey to provide a further explanation. Mr. Humphrey stated that we are currently in year five of this program. Mr. Humphrey explained we do this in partnership with the Department of Health and Human Services. Mr. Humphrey explained this program is optional for counties within their state or counties where there is FNS programs (Food and Nutrition Services) or directly known as SNAP or food stamps.

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Mr. Humphrey explained the point of the service is to work with individuals with SNAP benefits and provide them with wraparound case management and navigation of the college campus to get them through a training program that will lead to gainful employment and family wage opportunities.

Mr. Humphrey stated we have had incredible success stories from this program. Mr. Humphrey explained the colleges that have participated in this program were recently featured at the Virtual System Conference last year. Mr. Humphrey stated we had two representatives participate in the conference. Mr. Humphrey explained those two individuals from the college meet with Ms. Moore, our navigator at Durham Technical Community College, to work on a continuing education program and then progress into a degree program in the health field.

Mr. Humphrey stated the individuals were able to gain employment in Surgical Technology after the short-term credential and continue through the degree program. Mr. Humphrey explained the program operates on a reverse referral; it is for students that might benefit from their county offices to get them qualified and provide those services going forward.

Mr. Humphrey stated a real win for our colleges beyond the community benefit is that we can leverage our state and county resources for a federal match. Mr. Humphrey stated the funds you see here is from USDA, and it is a huge potential in NC for significant growth.

Mr. Humphrey explained I am a native of North Carolina, but I spent two years in Washington state. Thirty-four colleges in that state are drawing down in excess of \$13 million dollars a year to support that program. Mr. Humphrey stated the statistics between our two states show the number of individuals that are eligible for food assistance are about one percent.

Mr. Humphrey stated we have the grants and lottery scholarships where we can leverage, and the federal government can reimburse the college from the 50% matching funds. Mr. Humphrey stated we can take those federal dollars and help the next students that come across our path.

Mr. Humphrey and the Committee discussed the item.

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**Allocation of Title II Funding for Professional Development and Technical Assistance**  
**(Attachment FC 02)**

Ms. Whitford explained item FC 02 is to approve an allocation of \$100,000 for Reading Connections, Inc. She stated this is a non-profit organization that has been approved to receive these federal funds and this is in connection with the Adult Education Family Literacy Act for professional development and technical assistance for English language learners.

Ms. Grovenstein explained this is federal funds under the WIOA Title II Section 243. Reading Connections has a history of being able to do this with colleges and other community-based organizations that provide this literacy instruction approved under this federal program.

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Ms. Grovenstein explained all providers had to compete to receive Section 243 funds and recently the Board approved the Section 243 allocations.

Ms. Grovenstein asked the Committee to review the listing of ten items in item FC 02 to be provided by Reading Connections. Ms. Grovenstein stated the goal of this professional development and technical assistance to ultimately make our literacy instruction more effective with English language learners.

Ms. Grovenstein and the Committee discussed the item.

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**Construction and Property – September 2021 (Attachment FC 03)**

Ms. Whitford explained that this item is a chart for Construction and Property for all the projects that are requested.

Ms. Whitford stated these are state funds and non-state funds involved in this item.

Ms. Whitford explained it is broken down by colleges and you can see the explanations in the table.

Ms. Whitford asked if there any comments or observations about these projects.

Ms. Whitford requested FC 01, FC 02, FC 03 all be approved in one motion together.

Mr. Sullivan motioned for approval; Mr. Searcy second the motion. The Committee approved Allocation for Food and Nutrition Services Employment and Training Program Grant (Attachment FC 01), Allocation of Title II Funding for Professional Development and Technical Assistance (Attachment FC 02), and Construction and Property – September 2021 (Attachment FC 03)

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**For Information**

**Annual Report to the State Building Commission on Construction Delegation Authority (Attachment FC 04)**

Ms. Whitford stated FC 04 is a yearly report of the delegation of construction authority for the community colleges. Ms. Whitford stated it is a yearly report that is required to be submitted to the State Building Commission.

Ms. Grovenstein explained this is a report that is required under General Statute 115D-9. This statute allows the State Board of Community Colleges to provide delegation for construction projects up to four million dollars of state funds and unlimited level of non-state funds.

Ms. Grovenstein explained this report provides a listing from last fiscal year of any of the active projects that had activity during the last year and it is the required report of those active projects under this delegation authority for the three colleges that had that delegation authority: Central

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Piedmont, Wake Tech, and Guilford Tech Community Colleges.

Ms. Grovenstein stated this is the information that is required to be submitted to the State Building Commission. Ms. Grovenstein explained the colleges provide the data, my staff compiles it into this report, the System Office submits the report, and then we provide it to the Board for information.

Ms. Grovenstein the item does not require action due to the statute. It is a report of the System Office and not of the State Board of Community Colleges.

Ms. Grovenstein and the Committee discussed the item.

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**Capital Improvement Funds Expended or Obligated (Attachment FC 05)**

Ms. Whitford stated FC 05 is a cumulative amount of funds from July 1, 1963 – June 30, 2021 of expenditures and obligated state dollars, local dollars, vocational education, and other federal funds for all of our colleges for construction projects. Ms. Whitford stated this item gives you a cumulative amount from 1963 to now. It really gives you a snapshot of the total funds, where they came from, and what our colleges have in this table.

Ms. Whitford asked if there any comments or observations about this item.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Whitford adjourned the meeting at 1:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Petrina L. Herring,  
Recording Secretary