

**TECHNICAL COLLEGE OF THE LOWCOUNTRY  
AREA COMMISSION MEETING  
December 14, 2021 at 9:00  
President's Boardroom on the Beaufort Mather campus  
via Zoom  
Public Comment: [areacommission@tcl.edu](mailto:areacommission@tcl.edu)**

**MINUTES**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

Randy Dolyniuk, Chairman  
Sheree Darien, Vice Chair  
Heath Duncan  
Rick Toomey

**STAFF PRESENT**

Richard Gough, President  
Janis Hoffman VP Administrative Services  
Nancy Weber, VP Student Services

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT, EXCUSED**

James Boozer  
David Smalls  
Dr. William Small

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The December meeting of the Area Commission for the Technical College of the Lowcountry was held on Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at 9:00 via Zoom. Prior to the meeting media were notified and provided with the agenda. An email address for public comment is published on the agenda.

**CALL TO ORDER and CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairman Dolyniuk called the meeting to order at 9:05 and noted that a quorum was present. He asked for a motion to accept the meeting agenda. Mr. Duncan made the motion and Ms. Darien seconded. Motion carried. Mr. Dolyniuk then called for a motion to accept the Consent Agenda which consisted of the Minutes of the October meeting only. Ms. Darien made the motion and Mr. Duncan seconded; the motion carried.

**EMPLOYEE HOLIDAY BONUS**

On Monday, November 1, the Commission was asked to vote by email to approve an employee holiday bonus of \$500 to be paid to employees making less than \$100k who were employed by the College as of October 1, 2021. The bonus will be included in the December 15 pay period. Cost to the College is approximately \$75,000. Six of the seven Commissioners voted in favor of the bonus with one Commissioner opposed. Chairman Dolyniuk recapped the request and the results of the email vote and called for a motion

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to ratify the vote. Mr. Duncan made the motion and Dr. Toomey seconded it. Commission vote was unanimous in support of the bonus, the motion carried and was therefore so ordered by Chairmam Dolyniuk.

### USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT

Vice President Weber spoke to the Commission seeking thier approval to apply for a USDA Rural Community Development Grant. She explained that this grant provides funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. An essential community facility is defined as a facility that provides an essential service to the local community for the orderly development of the community in a primarily rural area. Funds can be used to purchase, construct, and / or improve essential community facilities, purchase equipment and pay related project expenses. The application for the Technical College of the Lowcountry is to upgrade the lighting and HVAC in the Mungin Center on the TCL Hampton campus in Varnville, SC in support of ReadySC training for the Agriculture Technology Campus, South Carolina's largest agricultural being built in Early Branch, SC in Hampton county. The College will match the grant amount and the remainder of the funds needed to complete the project will be provided by the South Carolina Technical College System Ms. Darien made the motion to affirm the Area Commission's approval and support for the Technical College of the Lowcountry's application for the USDA Rural Development Grant. Mr. Duncan seconded the motion. The Commission vote was unanimous in support of the grant and thus so ordered by Chairman Dolyniuk. Additionally the following Public Notice was posted at the Area Commission Boardroom in advance of the meeting:

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Technical College of the Lowcountry will hold a public meeting on December 14, 2021 at its office at 921 Ribaut Rd., Beaufort, SC, Bldg. 6, Conference Room at 9:00 a.m. The purpose of the meeting is to give an opportunity to become acquainted with a proposed Rural Development project consisting generally of renovation and improvements of the facility at the Technical College of the Lowcountry Hampton Campus for workforce training. Improvements will include HVAC system and lighting. Citizens will have the opportunity to comment on such items as economic and environmental impacts, service area and alternatives to the project.

No public comment was received.

The project will be added to the College's Capital Projects and the Commission will be updated on the details and progress periodically in the Capital Projects report given by VP Hoffman. The project will also be added to the College's CPIP which is a capital improvment report submitted to the state annually.

Ms. Darien inquired as to the progress of the Title III Guided Pathways Grant. VP Weber gave a brief overview of the project execution and that the periodic external reviews have been stellar. She noted that she is very proud of the team and they will be excited to share their accomplishments with the Commission. It was decided that the Guided Pathways team will present to the Commission in the coming new year.

### AREA COMMISSION BY LAW REVIEW

Dr. Gough review the By Laws and noted the sections that are required by law and by SACSCOC.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Gough said that TCL will welcome several new members to the faculty and staff in January. Among them:

- Dr. Leslie Worthington, VP AA
- Angel Kern, Cyber Security instructor
- Dr. Don Orso – Special Projects, reporting to Dr. Gough

He will be happy to introduce each of them to the Commission when they are in place.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Chairman Dolyniuk referred to the recent announcement of a large development in Hardeeville at I95 and Hwy 17. The Hardeeville Commerce Park is a 167-acre South Carolina Department of Commerce site certified park, located just north of the I-95 Exit 5 interchange adjacent to U.S. 17/Whyte Hardee Boulevard. The Commerce Park is located in an Opportunity Zone.

The Chef's Table event was very successful and brought in approximately \$120,000.

He thanked everyone for attending the Ribbon Cutting at the Culinary Institute of the South. It was very well attended by a broad range of people including senator Tom Davis and Dr. Tim Hardee, President of the South Carolina technical College System. Estimates are between 350-400 people were present.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business, Mr. Dolyniuk adjourned the December 2021 meeting of the Technical College of the Lowcountry Area Commission at 10:00.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Cullen

APPROVED:



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Randy K. Dolyniuk  
Chairman



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James Boozer, Secretary