

**South Arkansas Community College
Board of Trustees Meeting
ADM Board Room - 309
September 20, 2022 3:45 p.m.**

Minutes

Board of Trustees Present: Steve Cousins - Chair, Gary Griffis – Vice Chair, Wayne Gibson, Melissa Jerry, Crystal Yeager

Absent: Kerri Brown, Jose Covas, Courtney Kelley

SouthArk Staff Present: Dr. Bentley Wallace, Dr. Tim Kirk, Dr. Stephanie Tully-Dartez, Michael Armstrong, John Baine, Dr. Cassandra Tavorn, Veronda Tatum, Ray Winiecki, Cindy Myer, Tim Johnson, Cynthia Reyna, Philip Shackelford, Heath Waldrop, Christy Wilson, Mary Kate Sumner

- I. Call to Order – Mr. Steve Cousins, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m.
- II. Recognitions and Awards – Heath Waldrop, Director of Marketing and Public Relations, recognized the 2022-23 Student Ambassadors:
- Zoey Carroll
 - Isabella Dixon
 - Anastasia Lamijan
 - Lancer Clark
 - Chris Miller
- III. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes – May 17, 2022 – Jerry/Griffis. **Board Approved.**
- IV. Approval of Special Called Board Meetings - Gibson/Griffis. **Board Approved all of the following Special Called Board Meetings:**
1. May 20, 2022
 2. June 23, 2022
 3. July 21, 2022
- V. Approval of Consent Agenda – Mr. Steve Cousins asked if any items needed to be moved from the Consent Agenda to the Regular Agenda Items for discussion/comments/questions. Mr. Cousins requested for Item B – Monitoring Reports – Student Success Pathways be moved from the Consent Agenda to the Regular Agenda for discussion. Jerry/Gibson. **Board Approved.**
- A. Personnel Report – Griffis/Jerry. **Board Approved.**

SouthArk new employees:

Leanna Allen	Assistant Registrar	05/16/2022
Nate Evans	Interim Women’s Head Basketball Coach	06/13/2022
Caroline Callaway	ECC Marketing and Sales Manager	06/20/2022
David Kelley	Adult Education Re-Entry Instructor	06/27/2022
Paige Stell	Practical Nursing Instructor- Warren	06/27/2022
Andrea Cooper	Administrative Specialist I- Adult Ed	07/01/2022
Michael Dowty	Skilled Tradesman	07/01/2022
David Campbell	Director of Computer Admin Services	07/01/2022
Willie Anderson	Institutional Services Assistant	08/15/2022
Andrew Newman	Adult Education Instructor	08/17/2022
Angie Parker	Biology Instructor	08/17/2022
Bodhi Williams	Health Science Technology Instructor	08/17/2022

SouthArk promotions/transfers/organizational changes:

Genevieve White	Practical Nursing Instructor to Director of Nursing	06/01/2022
Jon Bourn	Adult Ed Advisor to TANF Coordinator	07/01/2022
Cleanthia Willis	Administrative Asst. to Adult Ed Advisor	08/01/2022
LaBreshianna Hicks	Administrative Specialist II to Career Pathways Intake Coordinator	08/01/2022
Gregory Hawkins	Director of Student Experience to Student Activity Coordinator	09/01/2022
Juanita Norful	Instructor/Sim Lab Coordinator to Practical Nursing Instructor	09/01/2022

SouthArk resignations/retirements/terminations:

Kayla Lewis	Institutional Services Assistant	05/20/2022
Nate Davis	Women's Head Basketball Coach	06/10/2022
Derek Moore	Vice President Student Services	06/30/2022
Caroline Hammond	Dean of Health Science	08/01/2022
Leanna Allen	Assistant Registrar	08/31/2022
Alma Turner	Practical Nursing Instructor	08/31/2022

B. Monitoring Reports

1. Student Success Pathways (Policy #23 ENDS 2) – Jerry/Gibson. **Board Approved.**
Discussion – Mr. Cousins referenced the cohort data matrix of high numbers for SouthArk students in everything except for the “first-time in college students.” Dr. Wallace explained that a transition was made for first-time college students to include college level courses plus 1-hr remedial courses/labs (co-requisite).

VI. Board Committee Reports

A. Real Estate/Facilities Committee – Ms. Kerri Brown - None

B. Budget/Finance Committee – Ms. Melissa Jerry, Chair, reported that the committee met on Monday, September 12, 2022. Ms. Jerry presented the committee's recommendation to approve the following:

1. Plant Fund Budget as Presented – **Board Approved.**
 - Available Funds for Plant Expenditures
 - Request for Plant Expenditures
2. Cost of Living Adjustment Request as Presented – **Board Approved.**
 - A 2% base pay increase COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) for full-time staff (retroactive to July 1st)

C. Personnel/Planning Committee – Mr. Gary Griffis, Chair, reported that the committee met on the following dates:

Monday, June 20, 2022 – Mr. Griffis presented the committee's recommendation to approve the following:

1. 3rd Party Presidential Evaluation/Presidential Annual Goals Review as Presented – **Board Approved.**
2. President's Contract as Presented (Extension of President's Contract per contract guidelines) – **Board Approved.**
3. President's Compensation Adjustment as Presented – **Board Approved.**
 - Recommendation to increase president's salary by 5% based on evaluation results (Wallace declined the proposed increase)
 - Recommendation to increase president's housing allowance to \$18,000 per year (Better aligns with rates at other two-year colleges in Arkansas)
4. Review of 2022-2027 Strategic Plan (Request to send Strategic Plan framework to Board for review/consideration) – **Board Approved.**

Wednesday, September 14, 2022 – Mr. Griffis presented the committee's recommendation to approve the following:

1. College Branding as Presented – **Board Approved.**
 - SouthArk East Campus Rebranding (Name Change to “The Career Accelerator”)
 - South Arkansas Community College name change to (South Arkansas College)

2. President's Cost of Living Adjustment as Presented – **Board Approved.**

- As approved in the Personnel/Planning Committee meeting held on June 20, 2022, adjustment to president's housing allowance to increase to \$18,000 per year, to be held pending upon approval of the cost of living adjustment for full-time staff. (retroactive to July 1st)
- The President to receive the same 2% base pay cost of living adjustment (retroactive to July 1st)

D. Policy Governance Committee – Mr. Steve Cousins - None

VII. Chair's Report – Mr. Steve Cousins

- A. Board Process and Performance Monitoring – Mr. Cousins stated that the Board has been meeting efficiently without issues or concerns.
- B. Compliance Fee Increase from \$35 to \$43 (Pass-through fee that will start January 1st) Jerry/Yeager. **Board Approved.**
- C. Reminders:
1. ACCT – 2022 Leadership Congress – New York City, NY -October 26-29, 2022
 2. ACC – 2022 Arkansas Community Colleges Conference – October 9-11, 2022

VIII. Financial Services Report

A. May Monthly Statements

May 2022 highlights included total unrestricted revenue of \$13,388,638, which is 93.58% of the total budget of \$14,307,521. Total unrestricted expenses of \$10,943,263, which is 76.49% of the total budget of \$14,307,521. Total revenues over expenditures at May 31, 2022 were \$2,445,376. Total cash and investments at May 31, 2022, were \$9,399,971.09.

B. June Monthly Statements

June 2022 highlights included total unrestricted revenue of \$13,732,289, which is 95.91% of the total budget of \$14,318,343. Total unrestricted expenses of \$12,265,141, which is 85.66% of the total budget of \$14,318,343. Total revenues over expenditures at June 30, 2022 were \$1,467,148. Total cash and investments at June 30, 2022, were \$8,357,982.

C. July Monthly Statements

July 2022 highlights included total unrestricted revenue of \$2,150,168, which is 15.22% of the total budget of \$14,125,670. Total unrestricted expenses of \$1,191,381, which is 8.43% of the total budget of \$14,125,670. Total revenues over expenditures at July 31, 2022 were \$958,787. Total cash and investments at July 31, 2022, were \$9,035,210.

D. August Monthly Statements

August 2022 highlights included total unrestricted revenue of \$3,486,057, which is 24.67% of the total budget of \$14,132,198. Total unrestricted expenses of \$2,277,857, which is 16.12% of the total budget of \$14,132,198. Total revenues over expenditures at August 31, 2022 were \$1,208,200. Total cash and investments at August 31, 2022, were \$9,094,181.

E. Plant Fund Project Budget – Included in the Board Packet

F. El Dorado Conference Center Quarterly Marketing Report – Included in the Board Packet

IX. President's Report – Dr. Bentley Wallace

A. Administrative Reports – Included in the Board Packet

B. President's Updates

1. Enrollment Update – Enrollment exceeded the projections for this Fall semester (enrollment is up with high school & college students)
2. Adult Ed Numbers – In the first 75 days of this academic year, as compared to a year ago, the enrolment numbers doubled with a total of 85 students
3. Secondary Tech Numbers – High school students come to campus for half a day (each day) and receive high school and college credits. (Fall - the highest numbers in a long time with a total of 149 students)
4. VPSS Search – The first search for applicants failed, and therefore the position is currently being filled by Dr. Stephanie Tully-Dartez as Interim (another search to be performed)
5. Congressman Westerman Visit – Congressman Westerman visited the East Campus last week for a round table discussion on services provided by SouthArk for advancement training in Workforce

6. Meeting with Sarah Sanders – Dr. Wallace met with Sarah Sanders, candidate for Arkansas Governor, and other presidents and chancellors of two-year schools as Sanders discussed her visions/plans on Higher Education and Workforce Education
7. SouthArk Outdoor Expo – Saturday, September 10, 2022 – The Expo this year had record numbers in several of the activities (Over 200 people signed up for the 5K run/walk in honor of Leslie Darden)
8. Governor’s Conference on Tourism – Approximately 600 people are expected to be involved in the upcoming conference in February (SouthArk has partnered with Murphy USA for free “hospitality and customer service training” for all local businesses in support/preparation for the conference)
9. New Art Gallery / History Partnership – SouthArk/SouthArk Foundation has signed MOU’s with the South Arkansas Historical Preservation Society and the Arkansas Arts Council to have revolving art, gallery, and historical artifact displays in the corridors of the El Dorado Conference Center (open receptions to be held with the changing of every gallery)
10. Mahony Family Library Event – The ceremony and unveiling of the new name to be held on Friday, October 7, 2022 – 10:30 a.m.

- X. Executive Session (if required)
- XI. Announcements
- XII. Adjournment – 4:39 p.m.

Ms. Crystal Yeager – Secretary