

**Minutes  
Coastal Carolina University  
Board of Trustees**

**Government Affairs Committee  
May 5, 2011**

**Committee Members Present:** Ms. Natasha M. Hanna, Mr. Mark S. Kelley, and Mr. William L. Lyles Jr.

**Committee Members Not Present:** Mr. J. Wayne George, Representative Nelson Hardwick, and Horry County Council Chairman Tom Rice

**Other Board Members Present:** Mr. William H. Alford, Mr. Larry L. Biddle, Mr. Gary W. Brown, Mr. R. Duke Brown, Mr. D. Wyatt Henderson, Carlos C. Johnson, Mr. Eugene C. Spivey, Dr. Samuel J. Swad, and Mr. Robert G. Templeton

**Others Present:** Mr. Doug Bell, Dr. Debbie Conner, Dr. Edgar L. Dyer, Ms. Jean Ann Brakefield, Mr. Matt Hogue, Dr. Michael S. Ruse, Mr. William E. Turner III, Ms. Jennifer Packard and Ms. Chyrel Stalvey

(In accordance with the requirements of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, the news media were notified of the time, location, and agenda for the meeting.)

Mr. Larry Lyles brought the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**Government Affairs Committee minutes of February 17, 2011 were approved by the committee.**

Mr. Mark Kelley reported that the Regulatory Relief Bill is in the Senate. Congressman John Courson is tentatively scheduled to bring the bill up in subcommittee next Thursday and the full committee the Tuesday after. It is felt that it will be amended to last year's Senate version giving some relief but not what we had hoped.

An 8% budget cut is expected this year and we were expecting 15-20%. There is a lobbying proviso in this year's budget stating that the amount the institution spends for state lobbying efforts will be taken from the aid given to the institution. The impact for Coastal Carolina University is about \$22,000. This does not apply to our Washington, D.C. lobbyists. The House Ways and Means Committee elected Bryan White as chair who is pro-higher education.

Dr. DeCenzo received a call last week in preparation for the governor's meeting that there was some discussion at CHE to handle parity by adding all monies received by the University which would include our Penny Sales tax being factored in to the money we receive. He made it very clear that if there was any attempt to do so the people of Horry County would be very upset.

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The University Presidents met with Governor Haley on Tuesday and it was very promising. For the first time, all thirteen four-year institutions walked out with 100% agreement in the restructuring of higher education. There will be more discussion in Executive Committee.

Work continues with Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP in Washington, D.C. With the no earmark commitment, Congress is trying to figure out a way to direct funds to the states. In the meantime, we are trying to garner more grants and our delegation is willing to write letters for the University.

Dr. DeCenzo was appreciative of Mr. Kelley's help at the last Budget and Control Board meeting. Coastal Carolina had six items on the agenda for the purchase of buildings and startup of other projects. We felt that the baseball and softball complex project would be a tough sell. An afternoon in the offices of the Comptroller General and the Treasurer was well spent in educating them on the Penny Sales Tax for education. In the end, all of our projects were unanimously approved.

Ms. Rose Marie Johnson continues to work with the strategic planners "Vision for Horry" networking community. Twenty-eight professionals attended the March 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. The next meeting is in October and the utilities group will be presenting the program. Her report was distributed to everyone.

The committee went into Executive Session to discuss contractual issues. Upon reconvening, Mr. Lyles noted no action was taken.

There being no further business, Mr. Spivey moved to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Chyrel Stalvey