Committee Members Present:  Dr. Larry L. Biddle, Mr. Samuel H. Frink and Ms. Natasha M. Hanna

Not Present:  Mr. William L. Lyles Jr. and Mr. Daniel W. R. Moore Sr.

Other Board Members Present:  Mr. William S. Biggs, Mr. Gary W. Brown, Mr. D. Wyatt Henderson, Mr. Carlos C. Johnson, Mr. George E. Mullen, Mr. Eugene C. Spivey and Dr. Samuel J. Swad

Others Present:  Ms. Caroline Bender, Ms. Stacie Bowie, Ms. Lori Church, Dr. Debbie Conner, Dr. David A. DeCenzo, Mr. Edgar L. Dyer, Mr. Matt Hogue, Ms. Martha S. Hunn, Dr. Keshav Jagannathan, Mr. Mark Kelley, Mr. Tim Meacham, Ms. Jennifer Packard, Mr. William M. Plate Jr., Dr. Rob Sheehan, Ms. Chyrel Stalvey, Ms. Sharon Sluys, Mr. Greg Thornburg, Mr. Desmond Wallace and Mr. John Vrooman

(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.)

Vice Chairman Sam Frink brought the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m.

Frink moved to approve the Government Affairs Committee minutes of February 21, 2013. Dan Moore seconded and the motion carried.

Mark Kelley reported that representatives from Nelson Mullins met with all the deans last week to talk with them about their needs.

Several universities came together in the early 1990s and succeeded in having legislation passed to form the Center for Educator Recruitment Retaining and Advancement (CERRA) group to receive state funds for scholarships in education. CERRA has not allowed any other schools to become part of the group. Coastal Carolina University found out about CERRA when our students complained that they weren’t eligible for the scholarships.

Kelley and the Horry County Legislative Delegation went to work to get our University and others into this group. A proviso has passed the House, gone to the Senate and sent back to
CERRA to make a decision. Senator Robert W. Hayes Jr. has committed to assist in getting the proviso passed. If successful, CCU could receive five to ten education major scholarships.

Clemson has moved forward to create the Enterprise Act giving Clemson tools to be more efficient, cost-effective and nimble in managing operations outside the core undergraduate academic programs. It would streamline many of the time-consuming, duplicative processes Clemson currently faces, while maintaining full accountability back to the state in their building and procurement programs. The legislation would create a new division within Clemson University – an enterprise division – which would include units that need to operate like businesses or activities where Clemson interacts with the private sector. This program is very similar to USC’s.

Our Horry Legislative Delegation and the Council of Presidents is working to be brought into this enterprise model. If this fails, Governor Nikki Haley’s accountability initiatives in higher education will help.

Some time ago, legislation was passed to “fine” universities $22,000 if they hired a legislative lobbyist. Kelley has been working with Senator John Courson and Senator Danny Verdina to get this overturned. A proviso has passed the Senate Finance Committee and going back to the House.

The Senate subcommittee has concurred with the $1.5 million for the science building in this year’s budget and the budget will now go to the Senate floor. Kelley feels certain that this will stay in the budget.

The Joint Bond and Review Committee has been very successful in approving our projects and forwarding them to the Budget and Control Board. We have not been held back on any of our projects.

Kelley stated that the Board has been extremely fiscally responsible to the University and State and should be pleased with the progress made.

Dyer believes a quarterly newsletter should be sent to legislators, media, state elected official, people affiliated with CCU and local elected officials in order get our message out.

Mike Roberts continues to work with and assist the MBREDC.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Chyrel Stalvey
for Larry L. Biddle
Secretary/Treasurer