CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Jonathan N. Pinson called the meeting to order at 4:05 P.M. The public notice was read. The agenda (Attachment 1) and supporting materials (Attachment 2) were previously circulated to the members, media and interested persons. The roll was called and the following persons were present:

Members Present via phone: Chairman Jonathan N. Pinson, Vice Chairman John H. Corbitt, Trustees Mrs. Linda Edwards-Duncan, Dr. Gail Joyner-Fleming, Ms. Patricia B. Lott, Dr. Walter L. Tobin, Mr. Robert L. Waldrep, Jr., and Mr. Maurice G. Washington.

Ex-Officios/Administrators Present: Ex-Officios: Dr. M. Evelyn Fields (via phone), Mrs. Kay Snider (via phone), Mr. Jackie Steele (via phone) / Administrators: President Dr. George E. Cooper, Executive Director to the Board Ms. Joyce Green, Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Joyce Blackwell (via phone), Director of Budgets Mr. Gary Cathcart for Mr. John Smalls, Assistant Director of Marketing Ms. Tameka Kenan for Mrs. Erica Taylor, Administrative Assistant to the Board Ms. Eartha Mosley and Recorder Mrs. Chrystel Rogers.

OPEN SESSION:

Adoption of Agenda

Chairman Pinson called for a motion to adopt the agenda. Trustee Corbitt moved, seconded by Trustee Waldrep, to adopt the agenda as set forth. The Chairman called for questions. There were no questions. Vote: unanimously approved.

Request for Felton Laboratory School (Felton) Tuition and Fee Increases for 2011-2012

Chairman Pinson thanked everyone for taking time to address the request for Felton’s tuition and fee increases for 2011-2012. Trustee Corbitt indicated that the Academic Affairs Committee met and recommend that Felton’s tuition increase by $750 per year with a $250 increase in the technology fee. He explained that the proposed $750 tuition increase would reduce SC State’s contribution by approximately $150,000 per year which would help the University’s general budget. Trustee Corbitt also explained that the proposed technology fee increase would help make improvements in Felton’s technology. A discussion on Felton’s budget and state funding followed.

Trustee Joyner-Fleming asked what assurance the Board had that the monies generated by the technology fee increase would be used for technology, if approved. In response, Trustee Corbitt requested that the administration provide an update on Felton’s enrollment and technology enhancements at each quarterly committee meeting.
Trustee Washington suggested that it is important to also address Felton’s capacity issue because that is lost revenues. Dr. Blackwell stated that they are looking at various strategies now to increase the number of students at Felton. Trustee Washington requested that the quarterly updates on Felton also include the administration’s plan, with benchmarks, in terms of increasing Felton’s enrollment capacity with a decline on E&G dependence.

Trustee Lott suggested that the statement on how the technology funds would be used at Felton would be improved upon because they are very basic. Trustee Corbitt asked the administration to look at the statement to make sure it is presented in a good and positive manner to parents. Dr. Blackwell agreed they would do that.

Trustee Corbitt moved, seconded by Trustee Waldrep, that the Board accept the recommendation of the Academic Affairs Committee to increase Felton’s tuition by $750 and to increase the technology fee by $250 for next year. Chairman Pinson called for questions. Trustee Washington recommended having a plan that would address the capacity issue at Felton as a safeguard to the E&G budget. President Cooper acknowledged that was a reasonable request. Trustee Corbitt amended his motion as stated above to include the expectation that the administration would present a comprehensive plan on how to increase Felton’s capacity. Trustee Lott seconded the amended motion. Trustee Corbitt indicated the plan should be presented at the September Academic Affairs Committee meeting. There were no other questions. Roll call vote- For: Pinson, Corbitt, Edwards-Duncan, Lott, Tobin, Waldrep and Washington; Against: None; Abstain: Joyner-Fleming. Motion carried by a majority of the votes.

Following up on a previous request with Chairman Pinson, Trustee Washington again requested that a meeting be set for budget discussions as the Board prepares to act on the FY 2011-2012 to understand where we are, the challenges we have at face and how we plan to meet those challenges going forward. Chairman Pinson responded that Trustee Tobin was the only other person interested in that meeting request. Since there was not an issue that the majority of the Board felt they needed further discussions on and being it was only two weeks before the Board Retreat where it would be discussed further, Chairman Pinson requested that Trustees Washington and Tobin meet with Mr. John Smalls independently to get as much of their questions addressed before hand so when they get to Greenville they can spend some time discussing the budget but not all day. Trustee Lott asked if it could be set up so that anybody that wants to attend can. Trustee Tobin suggested that the Internal Auditor be involved in that process as well. Chairman Pinson asked the Trustees interested in attending such a meeting to let Ms. Joyce Greene know so it can be coordinated. Trustees Tobin, Washington, Lott and Joyner-Fleming expressed their interest. Ms. Greene will coordinate the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:
Trustee Corbitt moved, seconded by Trustee Waldrep, to close the meeting. Chairman Pinson declared the meeting adjourned at 5:08 P.M.
All referenced attachments are made a permanent part of these minutes.

Attachments:
1 - Agenda
2 – Supporting materials (Tuition at Peer K-12 Institutions in South Carolina)

Respectfully submitted,

Robert M. Nance
Secretary of the Board of Trustees

Chrystel Rogers
Recorder