CALL TO ORDER / OPEN SESSION:

Chairman Dr. Walter Tobin called the meeting to order at 9:02AM. The public notice was read. The agenda (Attachment 1), the minutes (Attachment 2) and supporting materials (Attachments 3-9) were previously circulated to the members. Chair Tobin extended the invocation. The roll was called.

Trustees present: Dr. John Corbitt, Mr. Robert Nance, Dr. Walter Tobin, Mr. Maurice Washington, Mrs. Linda Edwards Duncan, Dr. Jackie Epps, Mr. Robert Waldrep, Ms. Patricia Lott, Dr. Dennis Nielsen, Mr. Anthony Grant and Dr. Gail Joyner-Fleming. Ex-officio members: Dr. Larry Watson (via phone) and Mr. Nathaniel Howard (via phone).

Trustees absent: Mr. Jonathan Pinson. Ex-officio members: Dr. Benetta Bell, Dr. Jesse Kinard, Mr. Nathaniel Shazier, Ms. Kay Snider, Mr. Charlton “Chuck” Whipple, and Mr. Edward Williams.

Administrators present: Interim President Dr. Cynthia Warrick, Executive Director to the Board Ms. Joyce Green, Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. W. Franklin Evans, Assistant Vice President for Finance and Management Mr. Eric Eaton, Interim Vice President of Administration Dr. Rita Teal, Athletics Director Mrs. Charlene Johnson, Interim Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Tamara Hughes, Vice President for Research, Economic Development and 1890 Programs Mr. John Rosenthal, Associate Vice President for Institutional Advancement Mr. Michael Hubbard, Assistant Director of Public Relations Ms. Ashley Elliott, Executive Assistant to the President Mrs. Shondra Abraham and Administrative Assistant to the Board and Recorder Mrs. Eartha Mosley.

Media: The Times and Democrat Reporter Mrs. Dale Linder-Altman and The State Reporter Mr. Jody Barr.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chairman Tobin asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Trustee Washington so moves, seconded by Trustee Nielsen. Trustee Corbitt objective to the approval of the agenda as he stated the Board has not officially elected a Chairman of the Board. Trustee Corbitt concerns were noted. A vote was taken on the approval of the agenda. The following Trustees voted yes: Walter Tobin, Dennis Nielsen, Jackie Epps, Gail Joyner-Fleming, Robert Waldrep and Maurice Washington. The following Trustees voted no: John Corbitt, Patricia Lott and Robert Nance. Vote: approved by the majority.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Tobin called for approval of the minutes:

- Board of Trustees Meeting, September 27, 2012
- Board of Trustees Meeting, October 17, 2012
Trustee Washington motioned to approve the minutes as submitted, seconded by Trustee Epps. Vote: unanimously approved.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

Chairman Walter Tobin discussed his and Dr. Warrick’s attendance at the Governor’s Higher Education Conference meeting on held on October 10th. He stated that his perception is that Governor Hailey is very interested in accountability. As she moved her agenda forward, funding for higher education will be placed on accountability, job placement, access and affordability. Chair Tobin shared that he saw some indications that colleges are moving forward in creating ways to comply with the Governor’s agenda.

Chair Tobin stated that the University must change how business is conducted. Funding from the state appropriations were reduced from $30M to just under $15M.

The Chairman would like to see the following created as new visions for the University: 1) recruiting a large number of high performing students which would impact our retention and graduation rate; 2) thinking more about the image, how we are perceived and how people perceive the University and what our image is in the public; 3) promoting and selling to the public the Speech program which is internationally recognized and the ROTC program which generated outstanding leaders for the military across the country; 4) doing a better job of promoting our teachers who distinguish themselves across the state because people talk about our education program; 5) promoting the new engineering program and graduate school and facilities across the country; the new Engineering Technology Building focus on and sell to the public that we are prepared to engage graduates students from this University who are ready to take their place in the workplace; 5) identifying the graduate making great contributions across the state, the nation and world who have never been recognized and acknowledge their accomplishments. The University tends to recognize the same persons over and over again.

As stated by Dr. Warrick, 97% of the University’s students receive some type of financial aid but at the same time the students go out and make contributions to the state, country and the world. So our social mobility is an indication that we are doing a pretty good job.

Chairman Tobin will meet with Dr. Warrick to propose a plan to lead and guide the University into the future. As the Board conducts the annual leaders meeting in June, it should focus on and communicate where the University is headed and what has been accomplished in order to do a better job moving forward.

The following are some of the outcomes that will serve as indicators in meeting the Governor’s new standards for institutions in higher education. South Carolina State University is a major player as the University still serves the same population of students: students in need and students who are first generation college students. This can only be achieved with a strong quality faculty, a strong support system in Student Affairs and resources will be essential. The Board must set the agenda for raising funds and taking this University into the future. This can only be accomplished, if everyone is working together.

Trustee Grant asked that the Board take the appropriate time to address the issue of governance on the Board of Trustees. He stated that once the issue is resolved, the Board can then march forward together.
Trustee Corbitt presented a letter (Attachment 3) from Senator Hugh Leatherman, Chairman of Agency Head Salary Commission, regarding the Agency Head Increases and he asked that the letter be read.

Chair Tobin distributed the revised committee assignments to include Trustee Jackie Epps (Attachment 4).

**INTERIM PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Dr. Warrick distributed her monthly activities for October and November (Attachment 5) to the Trustees along with her 2012-2013 Goals and Objectives (Attachment 6).

She attended an exit interview meeting this morning with the Tanzania Textbook Project, which is closing out. The program officer wanted to know her vision for the University in terms of international affairs to collate that into future opportunities when the Obama administration decides what they are going to do in terms of expanding the proposed consortium from the textbook project.

Dr. Warrick had the pleasure of attending and participating in the Adopt-A-Child/Tree Lighting Ceremony. Over eighty gifts were presented to families in the community. Each student organization on the campus Adopted-A-Child and provided gifts. She thanked Dr. Tamara Hughes, her staff and the Student Government Leaders for facilitating the activity. It speaks to the character and caliber of the University.

A new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was established with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with Claflin University, Aiken Technical and Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical Colleges. The MOU will provide work with the agency to develop grant funding, various projects, and internships for students, and other types of opportunities will be open to our students. The Regional Administrator, Gwendolyn Keyes Fleming, will return in January to establish a work plan to move forward on some of the environmental projects.

The South Carolina University Research Education Foundation Executive Director and the University’s Vice President for Research are giving $600K to expand the nuclear engineer program to allow Mr. John Rosenthal and Dr. Kenneth Lewis to develop more ventures and they are also supporting a part of Dr. Lewis’ salary. Dr. Lewis was hired as a research scientist.

The Department of Transportation University Grant (Federal Funded) has been closed out. All matching funds were successfully provided. The agency was happy and pleased with the participation from the Research Office. The University has applied for new funding. Trustee Grant stated that he would like to know what is the plan going forward. Dr. Warrick said her goals and objectives are integrated into the strategic plan that speaks to that in a broad nature.

The University has established a partnership with ZEUS. The faculty has visited their research center and the scientist may possibly assist with the design of the University laboratories. The students would have expertise in the same type of instrumentation that ZEUS has. The University will be a part of their $40M expansion in Orangeburg and Dr. Warrick is hopeful that this partnership will produce fruitful relationships in the future.

Dr. Warrick’s fundraising strategy is to use existing funds to (she is now soliciting for funds right now) demonstrate how the University can be mutually beneficial to the partnerships and relationships in the community and the state. The usage of our buildings to establish partnerships and relationships in seeing the value and getting them involved.

Dr. Warrick announced the New Engineering Building Open House is February 1, 2013. She introduced Mr. Michael Hubbard as Associate Vice President for Institutional Advancement. Mr. Hubbard is a recent graduate of Leadership Oak Ridge and the East Tennessee Regional Leadership Association. He earned a Master’s degree in Media Technology from the University of Wisconsin-Stout and a Bachelor’s of General Studies in Communication, Art-photography and Electrical Engineering Technology from Oakwood College in Huntsville, Ala.
Trustee Corbitt asked who would respond to the SACS letter dated November 8, 2012 that Dr. Warrick received. Trustee Grant stated that the Board should meet and decide how to respond to the SACS letter from Dr. Rudolph Jackson.

Chairman Tobin commends Dr. Warrick on her report and the partnerships she has developed locally and nationally. She has gone beyond what was asked of her.

Trustee Lott expressed that regarding an article in The State newspaper was not accurate. She has not been claiming chairmanship of the Board and that she has no tension regarding the chairman of the Board. She has been an advocate of the University long before being placed on the Board and will continue to do so. Trustee Lott would like the Board to receive information regarding events on the campus ahead of time in order to make plans to attend.

**COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS**

**Budget, Facilities and Grounds Committee (Attachment 7)**

Trustee Washington led the discussions for critical issues as it relates to:

- **Deferred Maintenance**, Trustee Grant asked that high priority be placed on security cameras and security boxes. He also requested to see more incident reports.
- **Bond Covenants**, Trustee Washington stated that all bonds are in compliance and the debt was paid down by $3M. Trustee Grant asked that in the spirit of refinancing that the group make a short presentation regarding the debt service before the Board. Chairman Tobin asked Trustees Washington and Grant to continue to have discussions with Mr. Eaton regarding the bonds covenants.
- **1st Quarter Report**, Trustee Washington stated the second quarter report will be ready for the February Board Meeting. The second quarter report will begin to provide the trends.
- **Composite Index**, Identify the financial health of the institution. Trustee Grant asked the Board to review and recognized that it is a benchmark of where the University should be.
- **Budget for 2012-2013**, Trustee Grant indicated he felt good with the expertise of the Finance Division and the Board reviewing the numbers and the leadership making tough decisions; however, the administration is to make certain as it relates to SACS that we are not jeopardizing any programs that would place the University out of compliance. Chairman Tobin shared that the Board will continue to discuss the budget, its’ duty to ask questions and the administration will continue to look for ways to meet the goal.

*Trustee Grant motioned that the budget for 2012-2013 be approve, seconded by Trustees Corbitt and Washington*  
*Vote: unanimously approved.*

Trustee Grant expressed concerns regarding the management letter and the Elliott Davis report. Ms. Evelyn Anderson stated that the report is not complete. She suggested that the items be discussed in an Audit Committee meeting when BDO representatives return.

Trustee Washington shared that he will move forward with changing the Times and Effort Policy document. He suggested that the University be in a position to garnish salaries when outstanding reimbursements are made and that criminal action is taken toward anyone falsifying reports.

**Academic Affairs and Faculty-Liaison Committee (Attachment 8)**

*Committee Chair Fleming asked for a motion to approve the fall 2012 graduates, so moved by Trustee Grant. Seconded by Trustee Tobin. Vote: unanimously approved.*
Trustee Nielsen acknowledged Mr. Delbert T. Foster for being elected Chairman of the Association of Extension Administrators.

**ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER**

Trustee Grant nominated Trustee Lott to serve a member of the Executive Committee, seconded by Trustee Duncan. Trustee Lott was elected by acclamation.

**PROCESS FOR SELECTION OF PRESIDENT (Attachment 9)**

Chairman Tobin provided the Trustees with an outline of the Presidential Search Proposal along with a timeline. The Trustees were asked to review the proposal for discussion at a later meeting.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION/CLOSED SESSION**

Chairman Tobin asked for a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the Draft Policy on Contracts and University Village Bond Restructuring. Trustee Corbitt so moved, seconded by Trustee Duncan to go into Executive Session. Vote: unanimously approved.

**OPEN SESSION RECONVENGED**

Chairman Tobin indicated that the Board had a briefing from the University attorney and no votes or actions were taken in Executive Session. Chairman Tobin asked for any actions or recommendations from the Board.

Trustee Fleming stated she would like to amend the recommendation of the Academic Affairs and Faculty-Liaison Committee to include the approval of the honorary degree of the applicant - Mr. Earl W. Stafford, seconded by Trustee Corbitt. Vote: unanimously approved.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Tobin asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Grant so moved, seconded by Trustee Duncan. Vote: unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 2:32pm.

All referenced attachments are made a permanent part of these minutes.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Linda Edwards Duncan
Secretary

Eartha Mosley
Recorder

**Attachments**

1 - Agenda
2 - Minutes
3 - Agency Head Salary Commission Letter
4 - Standing Committee Revised List
5 - President’s Monthly Activities
6 - 2012-2016 Goals and Objectives of the 2011-2016 Strategic Plan
7 - Budget FY2013
8 - 2012 Fall Graduates List
9 - Presidential Search Proposal