CALL TO ORDER:

Acting Chairman John H. Corbitt presided and called the meeting to order at 3:05 P.M. The public notice was read. The agenda (Attachment 1) was previously circulated to the members. The roll was called.

Trustees present via phone: Trustees: Acting Chairman/Vice Chairman John H. Corbitt, Secretary Robert M. Nance, General Walter F. Johnson, III, Ms. Patricia B. Lott, Mr. Matthew T. Richardson, Dr. Walter L. Tobin and Mr. Maurice G. Washington / Ex-Officios: Mrs. Kay Snider and Dr. Larry Watson.

Trustees absent: Mrs. Linda Edwards-Duncan (excused), Mr. Anthony T. Grant (excused), Dr. Gail Joyner-Fleming, Mr. Jonathan N. Pinson, Mr. Robert L. Waldrep, Jr. and Mr. Lancelot D. Wright.

Administrators present: Executive Director to the Board Ms. Joyce Green, Assistant Public Relations Director Ashley Elliott, Administrative Assistant to the Board Ms. Eartha Mosley and Recorder Mrs. Chrystel Rogers.

Media: The Times and Democrat Reporter Ms. Dale Linder-Altman and WACH Fox Reporter Mr. Zoheb Hassanali.

OPEN SESSION:

Adoption of Agenda

Trustee Tobin moved, seconded by Trustee Washington, to adopt the agenda. Vote: unanimously approved.

CLOSED SESSION:

Trustee Johnson moved, seconded by Trustee Tobin, to go into Executive Session. Vote: unanimously approved.

OPEN SESSION RECONVENED:

Trustee Corbitt indicated that no votes were taken during Executive Session.

Trustee Washington made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tobin, that the Chairman be authorized to request funds from the appropriate Foundation Board, $268K severance pay for Dr. Cooper. Vote: unanimously approved.

Review and Approve Criteria/Profile for Interim/Permanent Presidential Search

Trustee Corbitt indicated that the Interim President Focus Group met on March 22, 2012; he stated that it was a good brainstorming session attended by students, faculty, staff, alumni, community leaders and some Trustees. Everyone was excited to be there and felt good about what had been accomplished. Trustees Lott and Grant stayed after the group meeting to assist the staff in summarizing the comments (Attachment 2).

The Trustees discussed the Presidential Attributes draft (Attachment 2, page 4) and shared their comments. Thereafter, the Trustees came to a consensus on the following revisions to the draft:
• Preamble – the language was replaced with “The Board of Trustees of South Carolina State University specifically requests applications from any person with the desire to provide interim leadership for the University. The following are some of the criteria that may be considered.”;
• #5 – “review” was changed to “reviewed”;
• #8 and #9 – “global” was removed from “Experienced global visionary” and the last phrase of #8 “and an understanding of the mission of an 1890/Research Institution:” was added at the end of #9;
• #13 – “University’s” was added to “Passionate about the University’s environment”.

Trustee Lott thanked Mrs. Erica Taylor also for staying after the meeting and typing pages 1 -3 because they were all on flip-chart paper. She also thanked Ms. Eartha Mosley for working late into the night to make sure that everything was in order so it could be sent out last night.

Trustee Washington suggested that it may be helpful involving Human Resources in this process because there are regulations that they must govern the process by. Trustee Corbitt indicated that he and Ms. Anna Haigler had met the day before confirming that she was involved in the process.

Trustee Lott indicated that Ms. Haigler assisted them after the group meeting with some of the language and thanked her for her assistance.

Trustee Corbitt indicated that he suggested that Ms. Haigler use SC State’s in-house method of advertising the position because of the funds right now; once the search for a permanent president, then they would advertise outside the University. He explained that applications should be sent to Ms. Haigler. When the Interim Presidential Search Committee meets, Ms. Haigler will provide copies of the applications at that time for review.

Trustee Washington moved, seconded by Trustee Joyner-Fleming, that the Board move forward with the criteria recommended by the Committee and revised by the Board today. Vote: 6 to 1, Trustee Richardson opposed. Motion carried.

Trustee Corbitt indicated that the announcement would be placed on the website that day; he thanked everyone for their kindness and participation.

ADJOURNMENT:

Trustee Lott moved, seconded by Trustee Corbitt, to adjourn. Vote: unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 4:44 P.M.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Robert M. Nance
Secretary of the Board of Trustees

Chrystel Rogers
Recorder

Attachments:
1 - Agenda
2 – SC State’s Focus Group Notes dated March 22, 2012