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Government Affairs Committee, October 11, 2007

Coastal Carolina University

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**Minutes
Coastal Carolina University
Board of Trustees**

**Government Affairs Committee Meeting
Edwards Building, Room 164
October 11, 2007**

Members of the

Committee Present: Mr. William L. Lyles Jr. and Dr. Oran P. Smith

Committee Member

Not Present: Mr. J. Wayne George

Other Board

Members Present: Mr. William H. Alford, Mr. Clark B. Parker, and

Mr. Tommy M. Stringer

Others Present:

Dr. David A. DeCenzo, Dr. Edgar L. Dyer, Mr. Mark S. Kelley, Ms. Nila Hutchinson, and Ms. Chyrel Stalvey

Mr. Lyles call the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Dr. Dyer reported that the University is planning a Horry-Georgetown Legislative Reception for the evening of December 14 at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center.

Mr. Kelley said the Grand Strand Legislative Reception sponsored by the Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce, Coastal Carolina University, Horry-Georgetown Technical College, and Horry County Schools reception will be held on February 6, 2008. The Governor and members of the House and Senate will be invited. Members of the Board were encouraged to attend.

Dr. Dyer and Mr. Kelley participated in the I-73 Corridor Fly-In to Washington with the Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce. Favorable meetings were held in the offices of Congressman Henry Brown and Senator Lindsey Graham. Senator DeMint's office was not as receptive.

Dr. Dyer stated that we are moving forward with grant opportunities. It is felt that regular visits to Washington by Drs. DeCenzo and Dyer and Messrs. Alford and Kelley would be helpful in moving projects and grant opportunities forward.

Dr. Dyer and Mr. Rabon met this morning with Horry County Council's Infrastructure Committee which considered Coastal Carolina's request for additional acreage in the Atlantic Center. They voted unanimously to move that forward to the full council. Some of the campus operations could be moved there and free up

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classroom space on campus. Once the land is transferred to the Horry County Higher Education Commission, the Commission will seek a full millage from the County. This will add another \$1M for the Commission budget. Horry-Georgetown Technical School is receiving a full mill.

Mr. Lyles asked how close we are to getting an extra millage. Dr. Dyer said that this year we will be seeking the Atlantic Center land. Next year is an election year and the council will be geared on political issues. We will put together an approach and start the discussions after the elections. We can show that the money goes to the Commission and right back into the community through scholarships for Horry County students and the four Centers.

Senator Leatherman requested a list of 2008-2009 budget requests and a letter was sent to him in September. This will make House Ways and Means Chairman Dan Cooper's job easier. Mr. Kelley needs to get direction from the Board and start laying some groundwork. He believes that financing will be harder this year because of the economy and tax cuts. This year there will be elections in the House and the Senator and the focus will be on political issues, rather than legislative issues.

The committee went into Executive Session and no action was taken.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Tommy M. Stringer
Secretary/Treasurer