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Government Affairs Committee, June 12, 2008

Coastal Carolina University

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**Minutes
Coastal Carolina University
Board of Trustees**

**Government Affairs Committee
Williams Brice Recreation Center, Room 159
June 12, 2008**

Committee Members Present: Mr. J. Wayne George, Chairman Liz Gilland, Mr. Mark S. Kelley, and Dr. Oran P. Smith

Committee Members Not Present: Mr. William L. Lyles Jr. and Representative Thad Viers

Other Board Members Present: Mr. William H. Alford and Mr. Robert G. Templeton

Others Present: Dr. Edgar L. Dyer, Ms. Rose Marie Hussey, Ms. Alison L. Hawks, Ms. Nila Hutchinson and Ms. Chyrel Stalvey

Mr. George brought the meeting to order at 4:40 p.m. and reported that Mr. Lyles was unable to attend and had asked him to conduct the meeting.

Dr. Smith made a motion to approve the committee minutes of April 3, 2008. Mr. George seconded and the motion carried.

Dr. Dyer reported that the Horry County Higher Education Commission has passed their 2008-2009 budget based on millage funds from Horry County. The Commission is in the process of acquiring the Colors on Parade building in the Atlantic Center which will be primarily used for storage and miscellaneous office space. Horry County Council has passed a resolution in support of the Commission's borrowing \$4.2M to pay for that building and for making renovations to Atheneum Hall. In the future, Atheneum Hall will be used as an alumni house.

The University has the opportunity of purchasing 10 acres off Highway 544 adjacent to Quail Creek Golf Course for \$1.1M. We are in the process of closing the purchase with the Budget and Control Board. The land has an obsolete fire tower on it.

Because of increasing crime activity in the area of campus, Dr. DeCenzo met with officials from the City of Conway, SLED, the solicitor and the solicitor's drug unit, and other law enforcement entities. As a result, Coastal will now have a representative on the Drug Enforcement Unit and the City of Conway judge will have an associate judge to handle Coastal Carolina University offenders. It was reported that there are about two hundred cases a month—mostly for alcohol, drug, and traffic violations. Some cases are handled by the University's Judicial Affairs Department.

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Mr. Kelley reported that next year's budget process has been difficult and all universities in the State and employees across the board will receive a one percent pay increase. Hopefully, next year we will increase recurring funds in the budget.

A key item with the legislators has been changing state law to enable the Penny Sales Tax Referendum which has a 15-year sunset. As of last night, Governor Sanford allowed it to become law. Mr. Kelley asked everyone to please take the opportunity to thank the Horry County Legislative Delegation and, in particular, Senators Cleary and Leatherman, Representatives Barfield and Clemmons, and Speaker Harrell for their diligence in pushing this law through. Dr. Dyer also complimented Mr. Kelley for his diligence in bringing everyone on board to move the project forward.

In a Memorandum of Agreement, the money will be divided between Coastal Carolina University, Horry-Georgetown Technical College, and Horry County Schools. A list of the proposed projects will have to be agreed upon by August and put on the ballot in November. If the referendum is passed in Horry County, it could mean about \$75M for construction projects at the University.

Mr. Alford is concerned about the future of Coastal Carolina University. He feels we need to do a better job in marketing the institution and public and private fundraising. He would like to have workshops with the cities of Conway and Myrtle Beach and Horry County Council to tell our story of where we are, what we can do, and the assistance we need. We need a better presence in Washington, DC to help us pursue more grants.

There being no further business, Dr. Smith made a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Chyrel Stalvey for
Tommy M. Stringer
Secretary/Treasurer