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Government Affairs Committee, July 21, 2011

Coastal Carolina University

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**Minutes
Coastal Carolina University
Board of Trustees**

**Government Affairs Committee
July 21, 2011**

Committee Members Present: Mr. J. Wayne George, Ms. Natasha M. Hanna, Mr. Mark S. Kelley (teleconference), and Mr. William L. Lyles Jr.

Committee Members Not Present: Representative Nelson Hardwick, and Horry County Council Chairman Tom Rice

Other Board Members Present: Mr. William H. Alford, Mr. Larry L. Biddle, Mr. Samuel H. Frink, Mr. D. Wyatt Henderson, Carlos C. Johnson, Dr. Oran P. Smith, Mr. Eugene C. Spivey, Mr. Robert G. Templeton, and Mr. William E. Turner III,

Others Present: Ms. Stacie Bowie, Dr. David A. DeCenzo, Dr. Edgar L. Dyer, Ms. Haven L. Hart, Ms. Martha S. Hunn, Dr. Keshav Jagannathan, Mr. Tim Meacham, Ms. Ann T. Monk, Dr. Rob Sheehan, Ms. Jennifer Packard and Ms. Chyrel Stalvey

(In accordance with the requirements of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, the news media were notified of the time, location, and agenda for the meeting.)

Chairman Larry Lyles brought the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Mr. Wayne George moved to approve the Government Affairs Committee minutes of May 5, 2011 and Natasha Hanna seconded. The motion carried.

Everyone had received a copy of the summary update concerning the higher education regulatory reform and transparency legislation. Mr. Mark Kelley reported that the transparency bill for online expenditure registries was passed and Coastal Carolina University has been in compliance since March. We were not able to effect change regarding the facilities process of approvals and the human resources process. The bill is presently awaiting ratification by the Speaker of the House and the President Pro-Tem of the Senate. Although, we are cautiously optimistic that the Governor will sign the bill, we are hopeful that they will be able to get the bill to her desk five working days before the House and Senate come back to deal with Congressional redistricting. If this happens and the Governor chooses to veto the bill, then the General Assembly could vote to override and the bill could take effect this year. If not, The General Assembly will have to wait until they reconvene in January to address the veto message. It is believed that the Governor's Office is satisfied with the regulatory relief and transparency bill.

Dr. Oran Smith asked if the discretionary fee waiver had been changed from the current law. Mr. Kelly said that it had not.

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Our General Assembly does not seem to place as high an emphasis on higher education as they do on K-12. Our budget from the state is about half the amount funded in 2007. Work continues with the General Assembly.

Dr. DeCenzo reported that Budget and Control Board Executive Director Eleanor Kitzman had resigned. Mr. Kelley does not feel that her resignation will affect or slow down our projects.

Dr. DeCenzo stated that Senator Lindsey Graham's office was working to lineup some senators and representatives who are veterans to be interviewed by Rod Gragg in our Center for Military and Veterans Studies. Mr. Kelly stated that they anticipated beginning these interviews in the fall and he will follow up with Senator Graham and our lobbyists.

Work continues with our Washington lobbyists, Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP. They are continuing to work with the Sandy Island project, Litchfield, science equipment, vessels, and war veterans. They are aware that we need to have results.

Mr. Lyles wanted to know if the Litchfield and Clyburn initiative is still viable. Mr. Kelly stated that our lobbyists were trying to line up a trip with Clyburn's staff within the next month or so.

Washington initiatives will be discussed in Executive Session of the Executive Committee this afternoon.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Chyrel Stalvey