Government Affairs Committee, May 5, 2017

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Chairman Larry Lyles brought the Government Affairs Committee meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

*Sam Frink made a motion to approve the February 23, 2017 Committee minutes with the correction of “three Ph.D. programs.” Dan Moore seconded. The motion carried.*

The Honorable Mark Kelley reported that there is only one week left in this session in Columbia, and the House and Senate have different versions of the budget. He doesn’t expect the budget to be finished until the end of May. Not much money has been allocated for higher education but there is some for FTE’s for CCU in the House but not in the Senate budgets. The picture is bleak.

The new Education Administration doctorate has been signed off by the Governor. A bond bill is not anticipated this year, but the Senate might bring it up in January. The Governor said that he would veto any bond bills. The last bond bill was in 1999. There is a huge outcry of need for maintenance in the state. Columbia is still dealing with the pension plan and insurance.

Kelley feels that it is important to have representation in Washington, D. C. Nelson Mullins Riley and Scarborough, LLP is important to us. One of the partners is our point man.
Projects they are working on include unmanned aerial system, reauthorization or education act, federal appropriation for projects, grant notification of opportunities monthly, students and faculty working with the homeless population, federal policy updates, and CCU baseball team being recognized by United States. On the local level, the firm has helped with the new Ph.D. program and bringing Clemson online in support of the program.

**Dan Moore moved to approve the renewal of the contract with Nelson Mullins Riley and Scarborough, LLP. (Motion 17-31). Marion Lee seconded, and the motion carried.**

Dr. Michael H. Roberts stated that the T5 initiative to offer micro loans up to $150,000 to businesses trying to expand business in Horry and George is progressing. Three loans have now been signed and two more are in the pipeline.

As there was no further business, Moore moved to adjourn and Marion Lee seconded. The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

*Chyrel Stalvey*

Chyrel Stalvey
Recorder