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Government Affairs Committee, May 9, 2019

Coastal Carolina University

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**Minutes
Coastal Carolina University
Board of Trustees**

**Government Affairs Committee
E. Craig Wall Jr. Board Room
May 9, 2019**

Committee Members Present: Mr. John H. Bartell Jr., Mr. Dalton B. Floyd Jr., Ms. Natasha M. Hanna, Mr. William L. Lyles Jr., Mr. George E. Mullen, and Dr. Samuel J. Swad

Other Board Members Present: Mr. William S. Biggs, Mr. D. Wyatt Henderson, Mr. Carlos C. Johnson, Ms. Sherry I. Johnson, Mr. Charles E. Lewis, Mr. Daniel W. R. Moore Sr., Dr. Oran P. Smith, Mr. Patrick S. Sparks, Mr. Eugene C. Spivey, and Mr. H. Delan Stevens

Others Present: Ms. Sandra Baldrige-Adrian, Ms. Katherine Brooks, Ms. Susan Butcher, Dr. Brian Bunton, Dr. J. Ralph Byington, Ms. Nedy Campbell, Mr. Joshua M. Chesson, Dr. Debbie C. Conner, Ms. Julianne H. Cooke, Ms. Amanda E. Craddock, Dr. Melvin D. Davis, Dr. David A. DeCenzo, Dr. Daniel J. Ennis, Mr. Samuel H. Frink, Mr. David A. Frost, Ms. Lindsy M. Glass, Ms. Kasey D. Harrington, Mr. Stephen K. Harrison, Mr. Matthew L. Hogue, Dr. Sara N. Hottinger, Ms. Martha S. Hunn, Ms. Jasmine Jackson, Dr. Edward Jadallah, Dr. Gregory L. Krippel, Mr. Timothy E. Meacham, Mr. Travis E. Overton, Ms. Jennifer Packard, Dr. Barbara A. Ritter, Mr. David Roper, Dr. Renée J. Smith, Ms. V. Chyrel Stalvey, Mr. Gregory T. Thompson, Mr. David Yancey, and Dr. Robert Young

(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. Ms. Katie Powell of the Horry Independent and Erin Edwards of WMBF TV were in attendance.)

Chairman Natasha Hanna brought the Government Affairs Committee meeting to order at 9:44 a.m.

Dalton Floyd moved to approve the February 21, 2019 Government Affairs Committee minutes. Wyatt Henderson seconded, and the motion carried.

Larry Lyles moved to renew the contract with Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 at the current rate (Motion 19-31). Samuel Swad seconded, and the motion passed.

Mullen opposes lobbyists and wants to make certain their work has been beneficial to the University.

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President David DeCenzo said he receives a monthly report from them. Dean/Vice President of Research & Emerging Initiatives Mike Roberts coordinates with the firm regarding pre-work of sourcing grants which necessitates help in Washington. Our congressmen may be supportive of projects, but someone is needed to make sure letters are written on time and delivered to the appropriate places. Some grants and projects, especially for Marine Science, have been attributed to their efforts. A decade ago earmarks disappeared, and it now takes boots on the ground to get something through the House Ways and Means Committee. Also, Clemson has been exceptionally supportive of programs where David Wilkins has been influential. DeCenzo feels that the firm has been very beneficial, and not having a lobbyist would put us at a disadvantage.

Chairman Bill Biggs stated that lobbyists help congressmen across the state to push the votes for grants and programs across the board for the universities.

Mullen would like to have access to an end-of-the-year report. Biggs requested that an end-of-the-year report be available prior to renewing the contract in the May meetings.

DeCenzo stated that the state budget had not been completed. The Senate budget bill basically says that it is not going to include pass throughs and health care. Yesterday the House of Representatives said they would only allow increase to cover pension. Health care is about \$400,000 and pension is approximately \$1.7M.

Until the budget is completed, DeCenzo recommends not setting tuition. Most other schools are also waiting to announce tuition.

The S298 Higher Education Opportunity bill will be moved to next year's docket.

Associate Provost for Admissions and Merit Awards Amanda Craddock noted that Admissions needs to know tuition and housing by early July in order to have time to redo the admission packets and send them out.

Hanna stated that all trustees up for renewal this year have been renewed. New trustees Lee Belcher will join the Board of Trustees on July 1 and will be at the meeting tomorrow.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Chyrel Stalvey

Chyrel Stalvey
Recorder