



The Spartanburg County Commission for Technical and Community Education Minutes

Date: Monday, March 16, 2026, 4:30 pm

Location: Dr. Benjamin Snoddy Boardroom

Attendees:

Chairman Keller, Vice Chairman Bell, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Hill, Commissioner King, Commissioner K. Fowler, Commissioner O'Neill, Dr. Mikota, Mr. Burroughs, Mrs. Walker, Dr. Williams, Dr. Obi, Mrs. Painter, Ms. Hughes, Dr. Brothers, Ms. Whittenburg

Absent:

Commissioner Kennedy, Commissioner Hamrick, Commissioner J. Fowler, Commissioner Powell-Baker, Commissioner Sarratt, Mrs. Harris

Guest:

Mrs. Cynthia Duncan, Ms. Holly Nix, Ms. Ty'keria Dawkins

Call to Order

Chairman Keller called the meeting to order at 4:34 pm.

Approval of Previous Minutes

Chairman Keller presented the minutes from the February 16, 2026, meeting, which had been previously shared with the Members. Hearing no amendments or objections, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes as written.

Motion: Commissioner Anderson

Second: Commissioner Bell

Vote: All in favor

Consent Agenda Items

Chairman Keller presented the Consent Agenda Items, which previously had been shared with the Members and asked if any Member had edits or questions. Hearing no

amendments or objections, Chairman Keller asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items as presented.

Motion: Commissioner K. Fowler

Second: Commissioner Anderson

Vote: All in favor

Financial Report

Presented by Ms. Melissa Hughes, Director, Finance

Revenues:

Total revenue collected through the end of February: \$64.1 million

Year-over-year increase: \$6.4 million

Curriculum Revenue:

Largest source of revenue

Collected approximately \$2.4 million through February

Represents about 88% of prior year performance

Workforce Development & Continuing Education

Revenues have exceeded budget expectations

Strong performance driven by increased enrollment in occupational health courses and the introduction of the heavy equipment program

Auxiliary Services

Revenues have surpassed budget projections

Bookstore review confirmed no duplicate revenue reporting

Higher-than-expected revenue due to this being the first full year of outsourced textbook sales and the initial budget was conservatively estimated

State & System Funding

Received full allocation from system office, exceeding expectations

Received state funding to support employee salary increases

County Funding Updates

Spartanburg County: ~\$7.5 million (first allocation received)

Union County: First and second quarter payments received, plus \$77,000 from prior-year tax overage

Cherokee County: ~\$614,000 received

Other Revenues

Interest earnings from Local Government Investment Pool: ~\$1.1 million through February

Commissioner King asked when the second allocation from Spartanburg County would be received. Ms. Hughes responded that the request will be made next month. Once the

request is made, the allocation should be received within a few weeks. SCC works with Spartanburg County's timetable.

Expenses

Total expenditure through the end of February equal \$46.3 million with overall spending reflecting approximately 64% of the budget.

Salaries & Benefits

Full-Time Salaries is the largest expense category with \$18.2 million spent, which is approximately 63% of the budget. This includes breakout of employee bonuses issued to eligible employees in the prior calendar year

Full-Time Fringe Benefits equals \$8.9 million spent which is approximately 65% of the budget. Part-Time Salaries & Fringe equal 42% and 40% of budget respectively.

Operating Expenses

Operations & Maintenance (O&M) equal approximately 57% of the budget utilized.

Encumbrances & Allocations

Total encumbrances are approximately \$3 million. Travel allocation continues to be tracked separately for visibility and transparency.

Financial Position Summary

As of February 28, 2026, SCC received 88% of budgeted revenues, which is a revenue increase of \$6,441,065 in comparison to February 28, 2025. There are no major issues regarding the budget. Expenditure as a percentage of the budget was 64%, which is 1% less than the previous year.

Recommendation: The Commission accepts this as information.

The floor was opened for questions. None were put forth.

Chairman Keller asked for a Motion to approve the financials.

Motion: Commissioner K. Fowler

Second: Commissioner Anderson

Vote: All in favor

President's Report

Presented by Dr. Mikota

Dr. Mikota opened his remarks with reflections tied to the eve of St. Patrick's Day, drawing parallels to Ireland's economic history. The discussion emphasized how population shifts, workforce development, and strong institutions contribute to long-term economic growth and sustainability. Also highlighted were demographic trends, including aging populations

and declining worker-to-retiree ratios and noted similar challenges at the local, state, and national levels while reinforcing the need to align programs with workforce demands and high-priority industry sectors. There is now emphasis on measuring outcomes and strengthening institutional effectiveness to avoid structural inefficiencies.

Dr. Mikota then introduced the new Director, Executive Operations, Ms. Tameka Whittenburg, who will now be reporting to Dr. Mikota. This role will support operational efficiency, execution, and alignment of institutional priorities.

A Legislative & Budget Update was provided on the state budget process explaining that the current House version does not include requested recurring funding increases. Capital funding remains limited at this stage and ongoing advocacy efforts continue at the state level.

Dr. Mikota anticipates a recommendation for a tuition increase, not to exceed approximately 3.6%, which is aligned with the Higher Education Price Index. This increase is being driven by lack of recurring state funding and a need to sustain operations.

Union County approved the transfer of facility ownership to SCC expected mid-year. This transfer will support expansion and improved service delivery.

Tyger River/Phase II Expansion is approximately 170,000 sq. ft. of facility under development. The facility will be designed to support workforce training and industry partnerships.

Dr. Mikota highlighted his attendance at the "Afternoon at the Oscars" presented by Know 2 where SCC was recognized as Corporate Partner of the Year in Cherokee County. As well as the SC Technical College System Legislative Luncheon where SCC was represented by SCC students and Chaser.

First Solar was hosted at the Cherokee County Campus where Dr. Mikota met key members of the First Solar team and interacted with them to learn of the company and the plans that are underworks for their facility which is a \$340 million investment.

SCC also hosted Leadership South Carolina at the Spark Center where Dr. Mikota welcomed the group and spoke of the impact of economic development.

Dr. Mikota also presented to Spartanburg County Council where he received a positive reception from the county council where he spoke to the importance of county support for SCC.

At this time, Dr. Mikota gave the floor to Mrs. Amanda Painter, VP of Community Impact.

- Heart of the Chaser Award presented to Ty Dawkins (Union County Campus)
- Recognized for exemplary service, dedication, and positive impact on campus operations

11. Closing Remarks

The President emphasized the importance of engagement, attitude, and execution in achieving institutional success. The meeting concluded with a reaffirmation of the college's mission and commitment to community impact.

At this time the floor was opened for questions; none were put forth.

Chairman Keller asked for a Motion to approve the President's Report.

Motion: Commissioner Kennedy

Second: Commissioner Bell

Vote: All in favor

Announcements

Presented by Chairman Keller

Adjourn

Chairman Keller asked for a motion to Adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Commissioner K. Fowler

Second: Commissioner Anderson

Vote: All in favor

Meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tracey Hill".

Mrs. Tracey Hill, Secretary