The Spartanburg County Commission for Technical and Community Education Minutes

Date: Monday, June 15, 2026, 4:30 pm

Location: Dr. Benjamin Snoddy Boardroom

Attendees:

Chairman Keller, Vice Chairman Bell, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Hill, Commissioner J. Fowler, Commissioner K. Fowler, Commissioner Kennedy, Commissioner King, Commissioner O'Neill, Commissioner Sarratt, Commissioner Smith, Dr. Mikota, Dr. Brothers, Mr. Burroughs, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Painter, Dr. Williams, Ms. Whittenburg, Ms. Hughes, Mr. Lawter, Ms. Roberson

Guest:

Rob Rodrigues, Anna Mitchell (Media)

Absent:

Commissioner Powell-Baker, Dr. Obi

Call to Order

Chairman Keller called the meeting to order at 4:36 pm.

Approval of Previous Minutes

Chairman Keller presented the minutes of the May 18, 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 King

Second: Commissioner K. Fowler

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 O'Neill

Vote: All in favor

Property Resolutions

Presented by Mr. Ethan Burroughs

SCC Union Campus
Mr. Burroughs presented a resolution authorizing the college to submit A-1 Permanent Improvement Project Phase 1 to renovate the SCC Union Campus located at 1401 Furman Fendley Hwy, Union, SC, by expanding the size of the current campus and addressing immediate and short-term maintenance repairs. The initial Phase 1 is $75,000 for A & E design work. The estimated total budget is $5,000,000. The College utilizes Proviso 118.18 (27)(g) notated as SCC Union County Campus Building Expansion totaling $4,800,000. The remaining $200,000 will come from the College Plant Funds.

The floor was opened for questions. Commissioner King inquired about the value of the building. Mr. Burroughs explained that determining the value of a facility used as a campus with classrooms is challenging; however, he noted that the building had been appraised at approximately $3 million.

Chairman Keller asked for a motion to approve the resolution.

Motion: Commissioner Kennedy

Second: Commissioner O'Neill

Vote: All in favor

STCF Phase 1 Properties, L.L.C Lease Extension
Mr. Burroughs presented a resolution authorizing the college to notify the STCF Phase 1 Properties, L.L.C. , a single-member limited liability company wholly owned by Spartanburg Community College Foundation, in writing the intent to exercise the right to extend the term of the lease for five years upon the same terms and conditions as outlined in the original lease dated May 16, 2005. The lease amount would remain $199,000 based on the amended lease dated September 19, 2005.

The floor was opened for questions. Commissioner O'Neill asked what the building was being used for. Mrs. Painter responded that the facility houses offices for the Cherokee

County Development Board, academic classrooms, a multi-use room, and the Early College program.

Chairman Keller asked for a motion to approve the resolution.

Motion: Commissioner Sarratt

Second: Commissioner O'Neill

Vote: All in favor

Financial Report

Presented by Ms. Melissa Hughes, Director, Finance

Financial Report FY 25-26
Revenues
Total revenue collected through the end of May: $77.9 million
Year-over-year increase: $6.4 million

Curriculum Revenue
Largest source of revenue
Revenues exceeded budget expectations, 104% of the budget received
Will defer a portion of summer tuition revenues to the next fiscal year. Expecting $1.9-$2 million deferral of curriculum dollars

Workforce Development & Continuing Education
Revenues 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, 282% of the budget received
Higher-than-expected revenue due to this being the first full year of outsourced textbook sales

State & System Funding
Received full allocation from the system office, exceeding expectations
Received state funding to support employee salary increases

County Funding Updates
Spartanburg County: ~$13.7 million (final request will be sent at the end of July)
Union County: ~$212,000 received
Cherokee County: ~$768,000 received

Other Revenues
Interest earnings from Local Government Investment Pool: ~$1.6 million

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

Expenses
Total expenditure through the end of May equals $62 million, with overall spending reflecting approximately 85% of the budget.

Salaries & Benefits
Full-Time Salaries are the largest expense category, with ~$25 million spent, which is approximately 86% of the budget. This includes employee bonuses issued to eligible employees in the prior calendar year.

Full-Time Fringe Benefits equals ~$12.2 million spent, which is approximately 89% of the budget. Part-Time Salaries & Fringe equals 63% and 61% of the budget, respectively.

Operating Expenses
Operations & Maintenance (O&M) accounts for approximately 76% of the budget utilized.

Encumbrances & Allocations
Total encumbrances are approximately ~$2.7 million. Travel allocation continues to be tracked separately for visibility and transparency.

Financial Position Summary
As of May 31, 2026, SCC received 107% of the budgeted revenues, which is a revenue increase of $6.4 million in comparison to May 31, 2025. There are no major issues with the budget. Expenditure as a percentage of the budget was 85%.

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 O'Neill

Second: Commissioner K. Fowler

Vote: All in favor

Budget Transfer FY 25-26
Ms. Hughes recommended that the Commission approve a year-end budget transfer from the Operational Budget to the Plant Fund and Board Designated fund of up to $7.5 million, with the stipulation that the transfer does not cause the Operational Budget to close the fiscal year with a deficit. $3 million to support the FY27 Live to Chase Initiative and $4.5 million transferred to the plant fund.

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

Chairman Keller asked for a motion to approve the year-end budget transfers.

Motion: Commissioner Anderson

Second: Commissioner Hill

Vote: All in favor

Budget Recommendation FY 26-27

Ms. Hughes presented the FY 26–27 budget recommendation, noting anticipated increases in curriculum revenue driven by a 3.6% tuition increase, differential tuition for health-related programs, and an increase in the student support fee from $75 to $100. Additional revenue growth is expected from workforce development, auxiliaries, SBTCE operations, county allocations, and other sources.

Salary expenses are projected to rise due to new positions and a 2% cost-of-living adjustment, with full-time fringe increasing to 48% and part-time fringe increasing to 27%. Operational expenses are expected to grow across campus operations, academic affairs, and workforce development, while travel expenses are projected to decrease. Strategic initiative funding will increase to support strategic plan priorities and address potential shortfalls.

The proposed FY 26–27 budget totals $80 million, representing a $7 million increase over the current $73 million budget. Ms. Hughes recommended approval of the $80 million budget.

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

Chairman Keller asked for a motion to approve the budget recommendation.

Motion: Commissioner King

Second: Commissioner Anderson

Vote: All in favor

Commission Self-Assessment

Presented by Dr. Jenny Williams

Dr. Williams reminded the Commission that board self-evaluations will be distributed via email in the coming week, with responses requested by June 30. She also noted that ethics statements will be reviewed and signed during the August meeting.

Certificate Proposals

Presented by Dr. William Brothers

Dr. Brothers presented three certificate program proposals to the Commission, including Digital Marketing, Human Resources, and Hospitality. The certificates are intended to serve students on the Business Administration track as well as individuals seeking a standalone credential for additional training. The Digital Marketing and Hospitality certificates will each require 30 credit hours, while the Human Resources certificate will require 27 credit hours, and all can be completed within one academic year. Dr. Brothers noted that these programs will incur no additional cost to the college, as all required courses are already being offered.

The floor was opened for questions. None were put forth. Commissioner King expressed his willingness to assist with the Hospitality certificate.

Digital Marketing Certificate
Chairman Keller asked for a motion to approve the Digital Marketing certificate.

Motion: Commissioner Anderson

Second: Commissioner Kennedy

Vote: All in favor

Human Resources Certificate
Chairman Keller asked for a motion to approve the Human Resources certificate.

Motion: Commissioner K. Fowler

Second: Commissioner Anderson

Vote: All in favor

Hospitality Certificate
Chairman Keller asked for a motion to approve the Hospitality certificate.

Motion: Commissioner King

Second: Commissioner O'Neill

Vote: All in favor

President's Report

Presented by Dr. Mikota
Dr. Mikota opened his report by highlighting the College's recent growth compared to peer institutions, with increases in both enrollment and completion rates. He commended Dr. Brothers, VP Academic Affairs, and his team for their efforts in compiling post-graduate data, which indicated that 90% of the previous year's graduating class achieved placement in employment or continued their education, along with a 94% licensure placement rate among students in healthcare fields.

Dr. Mikota highlighted the expanding opportunities in workforce training, noting the potential impact of Workforce Pell initiatives and partnerships with organizations such as Duke Energy and USA Rare Earth. He emphasized that anticipated changes in higher education present a strategic opportunity for expansion, allowing the institution to better serve citizens and meet evolving workforce needs.

SCC continues to respond to evolving community needs. Dr. Mikota announced that 175 nursing students will join SCC's nursing program this fall, reflecting continued growth in high-demand healthcare education. Additionally, the TEACH Spartanburg program has expanded to Cherokee County, providing a pathway for aspiring educators to earn their degrees without incurring debt.

Dr. Mikota has assumed the role of chair of the South Carolina Technical College System Council of Presidents, a position he previously held in 2019–2020. He will also serve as the incoming chair of College Town, an association representing the seven local colleges in Spartanburg. Dr. Mikota expressed that these leadership roles will support efforts to build team capacity and expand opportunities that contribute to continued growth across the region and the state.

The President highlighted his attendance at the Spartanburgers Memorial Day game, which was sponsored by SCC. He emphasized the importance of sharing South Carolina's story, particularly its role in the American Revolution, its educational impact, its contributions to economic prosperity, and the role that SCC will continue to play. Dr. Mikota recognized Salt Run Entertainment, a partner at the Spark Center, for its role in helping tell Spartanburg's story.

Dr. Mikota reported that he received official notification from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) confirming SCC has been fully reaffirmed for the next ten years, marking the first time in 20 years the College has achieved reaffirmation with no major findings. He expressed appreciation to Dr. Williams, Chief Accreditation Officer, her team, and Cabinet members for their dedication and work in achieving this milestone.

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.

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

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

Motion: Commissioner K. Fowler

Second: Commissioner Hill

Vote: All in favor

Executive Session

Chairman Keller asked for a motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee, a student, or a person regulated by a public body, or the appointment of a person to a public body.

Motion: Commissioner K. Fowler

Second: Commissioner Kennedy

Vote: All in favor

The meeting entered Executive Session at 5:25 pm.

Chairman Keller asked for a motion to return to Open Session.

Motion: Commissioner Kennedy

Second: Commissioner Sarratt

Vote: All in favor

The meeting returned to Open Session at 5:56 pm.

No action was taken during the Executive Session, and no action is required by the Commission.

Adjourn

Chairman Keller asked for a motion to Adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Commissioner Kennedy

Second: Commissioner K. Fowler

Vote: All in favor

Meeting adjourned at 5:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Tracey Hill

Mrs. Tracey Hill, Secretary