

**Minutes**  
**District Board of Trustees**  
**Tallahassee State College**  
**444 Appleyard Drive**  
**Tallahassee, FL 32308**  
**Monday, October 21, 2024**  
**Business Meeting & Workshop – 2:30 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

On Monday, October 21, 2024, Chair Karen Moore called the Tallahassee State College District Board of Trustees meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

Chair Moore asked everyone to stand for a moment of silence in memory of Sarah Shaw, a Trustee from 1970 to 1982, who recently passed, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Members Present:** Chair Karen Moore, Vice Chair Eugene Lamb, Monte Stevens, Charlie Ward, Monesia Brown, Jonathan Kilpatrick, and Frank Messersmith.

Vice Chair Eugene Lamb by phone.

**Others Present:** President Jim Murdaugh, Candice Grause, Bobby Jones, Bertie Culbreath, Cerissa Fondo, Shelly Bell, Lei Wang, Logan Lane, Heather Mitchell, Tricia Rizza, Sean McGovern, Alison Fleischmann, Donmetrie Clark, Bill Spiers, Barbara Wills, Christen Givens, Amanda Clements, Kilisha Fain, Frank Mix, Chuck Moore, Katie Watkins, Clay Culpepper, Dustin Frost, Riley Landy, Angela Long, Trevoris McDaniel, Calandra Stringer, Nyla Davis, Kalynda Holton, Craig Knox, Glenn K. Alston, Wayne Almy and Janet Hartman.

**COMMENTS**

- i. Chair Moore congratulated TSC on receiving a perfect score from SASCCOC (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission of Colleges) during the recent reaccreditation visit, noting that no recommendations or further actions were required. She extended her thanks to Dr. Lei Wang for her hard work and diligence in this accomplishment. Chair Moore commended the recent Tallahassee Science Festival for being a successful, family-friendly event and thanked everyone for their involvement. She shared that Tallahassee Collegiate Academy won the People's Choice Award at the festival for the second consecutive year and mentioned that TCA recently received a \$500,000 grant for its Robotics program.

- ii. Board Members: Trustee Messersmith made a motion for Vice Chair Lamb to be able to participate in the meeting by phone.

**MOTION:** Trustee Messersmith                      **SECOND:** Trustee

Kilpatrick

Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Messersmith shared that he had the opportunity to meet with the SACSCOC committee and recently toured the Tallahassee Collegiate Academy. Trustee Kilpatrick commended the Alumni and Friends Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Tallahassee Science Festival, noting that both were wonderful events. Trustee Ward shared his appreciation for regular updates from the College and requested additional information on the Pitch For the Skilled Trades competition at the National Association of Community Colleges Entrepreneurship (NACCE) conference. President Murdaugh invited Cerissa Fondo, TSC's Director of Business and Workforce Development, to elaborate on the award. Fondo explained that the College was awarded \$24,000 in grant funds for the Landscape and Turf Management Program, set to launch next fall with dual enrollment planned for Wakulla High School students. Trustee Ward praised this outstanding initiative.

Vice Chair Lamb extended thanks to VP Heather Mitchell and her team for a successful Alumni and Friends Hall of Fame banquet. Trustee Stevens shared news of the Forensic Team's recent achievements, congratulating faculty member John Schultz and student assistant coach Elizabeth Blair. He also mentioned Chuck Moore, TSC Athletic Director, who recently hosted sixteen teams on campus for the Men's Basketball Jamboree.

Trustee Brown requested President Murdaugh to share how TSC helped other colleges during the recent hurricanes. President Murdaugh asked VP Candice Grause to provide highlights. VP Grause shared that TSC's Association of Florida Colleges (AFC) chapter organized donations for North Florida College following Hurricane Helene, and efforts continue to support colleges impacted by Hurricane Milton. President Murdaugh added that St. Petersburg College was heavily impacted, with hundreds of students in need of assistance, noting ongoing communication coordinated by the Department of Education and Risk Management Consortium.

President Murdaugh invited VP Barbara Wills to provide an update on how the recent hurricanes affected TSC. Dr. Wills outlined TSC's comprehensive preparedness and response efforts, detailing how

Facilities began preparations as soon as adverse weather was forecasted. TSC's Chief of Police, the Emergency Management Team, and the Communications Department worked collectively to ensure timely updates. Within a two-week span, Hurricane Helene (September 26) and Hurricane Milton (October 9) affected the area, resulting in minor roof leaks and damage primarily from tornadoes in May. Dr. Wills acknowledged that TSC hosted 200 National Guard members, 150 Utility Line workers, and Chief McGovern at the Student Union for two nights. FPSI provided rooms, meals, and accommodations for 550 FEMA contractors and first responders, serving over 5,000 meals during their eight-night stay. Dr. Wills expressed gratitude to Director Janet Hartman and her team for their exemplary service.

President Murdaugh asked Dr. Angela Long to provide a summary of the Future Ready Tallahassee Design-Thinking Session, a follow-up from the August Chamber Retreat. Dr. Long shared that 170 participants attended the session which featured a distinguished panel, including members from the Florida Chamber Foundation and industry leaders, including Dr. Calandra Stringer. She noted the session received positive feedback, resulting in the creation of a roadmap and the assembly of planning committees. Chair Moore remarked that the session offered valuable insights for businesses and our community, and thanked Dr. Long for her expertise.

President Murdaugh congratulated Chair Moore on receiving the 2024 National PR News People of the Year Award as Mentor of the Year, honoring her exceptional leadership and positive impact on her colleagues and the community.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. September 2024 Minutes  
Approve minutes as presented.

**MOTION:** Trustee Kilpatrick  
Motion passed unanimously.

**SECOND:** Trustee Ward

## **INFORMATION AND NEWS ITEMS**

VP Candice Grause provided an overview of recent media coverage for the College. She highlighted a widely circulated photo taken by Sean Rayford, Getty Images, of one of our adjunct professors wearing a new TSC t-shirt, assisting with sandbagging before Hurricane Helene. The photo was featured in the New York Times, NBC, BCC, and many other national outlets. MLB.com also reported on TSC's response to the recent storm, noting that Head Baseball Coach Bryan Henry contacted each of his players to check on their well-being.

VP Grause shared additional news coverage, including features on Worlds of Work (WOW), which TSC is hosting on campus, and the dedication ceremony for Tallahassee Collegiate Academy, celebrating its first-year designation as an “A” school, and the \$500,000 Workforce Development Capitalization Incentive Grant awarded to support its robotics program from the Florida Department of Education.

TSC was recognized in college rankings as well, with College Values naming it one of the top ten hidden gem colleges for student resources, program offerings, and affordability, while Intelligence ranked TSC’s criminal justice program among the most affordable associate degree options.

Broadcast clips were shown.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

## **PRESENTATIONS**

VP Heather Mitchell announced three significant donations. She introduced Clay Culpepper of Miller’s Tree Service, who donated \$10,000 to support athletics. A generous \$100,000 donation from the Jacarlene Foundation, given anonymously, will fund the Finish Strong Scholarship. Additionally, an extraordinary \$1 million donation from Paul Shovlain, also given anonymously, will establish an endowed nursing scholarship.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### ***Approval of Consent Agenda***

The consent agenda format is an organization process for meetings that allows the governing board to focus their time and attention on action items that require more elaboration, information, and/or discussion. The intent of the consent agenda is to support the efficiency and effectiveness of the meeting.

If a trustee has a question or plans to cast a negative vote regarding a specific recommendation, then the trustee/trustees need to acknowledge their intention to the Chair. This action item will be considered in the regular order of business as an individual action item.

Those action items that the trustees plan to approve without further question or discussion will remain on the consent agenda. Upon the final determination of the consent agenda, a motion, second to the motion, and unanimous approval of the Board of Trustees is needed to approve the action items. Upon approval of the consent agenda, the Board of Trustees will proceed with the remainder of the agenda.



## ***Administrative Services***

12. Fund Analysis - September  
Presented as an information item only.
13. Renewal of Professional Services Contract – Legal Services  
Approval of the renewal of the professional services agreement with Andrews, Crabtree, Knox and Longfellow, LLP for one (1) year.  
  
**MOTION:** Trustee Messersmith    **SECOND:** Trustee Kilpatrick
14. Guaranteed Maximum Price – TSC Center for Innovation (CFI) Third Floor Renovations Project – Correct Contractor Typo Error  
Approve the attached Construction Manager Contract and Guaranteed Maximum Price from Childers Construction Co. for the TSC Center for Innovation (CFI) Third Floor Renovations Project.  
  
**MOTION:** Trustee Kilpatrick                      **SECOND:** Trustee Messersmith
15. Construction Status Report  
Presented as an information item only.
16. Architect Invoices  
Authorize payment of architectural invoices as presented.  
  
**MOTION:** Vice Chair Lamb                      **SECOND:** Trustee Stevens
17. Disposition of Surplus Property Assets  
Authorize the College to dispose of the items designated as surplus.  
  
**MOTION:** Trustee Stevens                      **SECOND:** Trustee Ward
18. Acquisition of Door Access System for Public Safety Student Housing  
Approve the College’s request to purchase an automated door-locking system at FPSI.  
  
**MOTION:** Trustee Stevens                      **SECOND:** Trustee Messersmith

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

## **WORKSHOP**

### **President Murdaugh: Strategic Plan Final Report, 2019-2024**

The Strategic Plan booklet, highlighting key achievements, was distributed, and President Murdaugh reviewed major points. He extended his gratitude to Dr. Angela Long for her proactive efforts in securing recognition for TSC and identifying valuable conference opportunities for professional development and presentation. President Murdaugh noted the growing attention on Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and the institution as a whole, and directed trustees to the final page of the booklet listing the awards and recognitions of the past five years.

President Murdaugh proposed a half-day board retreat to discuss and create a new five-year strategic plan. He invited feedback from trustees to be shared immediately or after further reflection.

Chair Moore commended the institution's achievements, acknowledging the dedication of faculty, staff, students, and the leadership team in realizing the vision set five years ago. Trustee Brown expressed her admiration for the College's ability to stay on track to achieve incredible results, despite many challenges, affirming that the College is on a strong and promising path. Trustee Stevens echoed her sentiment, noting his involvement midway through the last strategic planning cycle and congratulating the team for simplifying a previously complex process. Trustee Ward requested for staff members have the opportunity to provide input for next strategic plan. Trustee Kilpatrick thanked the staff for their crucial role in translating strategic objectives into effective operations. Trustee Messersmith thanked President Murdaugh for the comprehensive summary, suggesting that a professional with credentials similar to Madeline Pumariega might lead us through the development of the next strategic plan, as she was a professional educator. Chair Moore expressed confidence in President Murdaugh or a member of his team to facilitate the board retreat but would consider an external facilitator if recommended. She thanked President Murdaugh for his leadership and suggested scheduling the board retreat for the first quarter of 2025.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Upcoming events:

- October 23: Worlds of Work 2024 Welcome Reception, 4:30 p.m. in FPAC
- October 25: Worlds of Work Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
- November 4-8: AFC Annual Conference and Council of Presidents meeting in Orlando

- November 14: TSC to cohost Cyber Security with DOE, Center for Innovation

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

November 18, 2024

Location: **Florida Public Safety Institute**

**ADJOURNMENT 4:16 p.m.**

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**Karen Moore**  
Chair

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**Jim Murdaugh, Ph.D.**  
President