Greenville Technical College Area Commission

MINUTES

Wednesday, June 17, 2026
Barton Campus, Student Success Center 102, Community Room
506 S Pleasantburg Drive
Greenville, SC, 29607

Members Present

Ray Lattimore, Chair
Paul Batson
Tom Britt
Jo Hackl (via phone)
Hunter Howard (via phone)
Dean Jones (via Zoom)
Ray Martin
Dr. Burke Royster
Coleman Shouse
David Stafford
Keith Smith

Members Absent

Meghan Barp

Staff Present

George Abraham
Eric Bedingfield
Julie Eddy
Babette Jones (Foundation)
Dr. Candice Lewis
Becky Mann
President Larry Miller
David Cartee
Executive Assistants

Guests

Gina Blohm (incoming Foundation Director)
Keith Munson

Remote Guests: Amy Munoz, Eric Burch, Jillian Farrell, Jodey Harper, Juhi Gor, Melisa Dukes, Nancy Sutton, Ray Lambert, Stephen Anastos

Call to Order

Chair Ray Lattimore called the meeting to order at 12:11 p.m. and welcomed board members, staff, attendees joining via Zoom, and guests. He confirmed that the press had been notified in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act and that the meeting agenda had been publicly posted on the Greenville Technical College website. A quorum of board members was present.

Proposed FY 2026-2027 Tuition and Fees

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Mr. Hunter Howard presented the proposed FY 2026-2027 tuition and fees for approval by the board. After brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Keith Smith and seconded by Mr. Paul Batson to approve modest adjustments to tuition and fees for Fall 2026, including small increases across academic and career-technical programs, along with updates to certain out-of-county and out-of-state charges. A new per-term parking and maintenance fee was also adopted. These changes were presented as measured steps to keep pace with program costs while remaining within state guidelines. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of April 15 and May 20, 2026, Minutes

Chair Lattimore presented the minutes from the April 15 and May 20, 2026, meetings for approval. A motion to approve the minutes was made by David Stafford and seconded by Mr. Ray Martin. The motion carried unanimously.

Finance Committee Report

Budget Report as of 5/31/2026

Mr. Hunter Howard reported that the college's financial position is very strong with almost all variances positive, year-to-date results indicating a surplus, and revenues growing faster than expenses.

Proposed FY 2026-2027 Institutional Budget

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Mr. Howard presented the proposed FY 2026-2027 budget for approval, based on conservative assumptions, that includes funding to conduct and implement an employee classification and compensation study over time. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Paul Batson and was seconded by Mr. Coleman Shouse. The motion carried unanimously.

President's Report

President Miller reported that Greenville Tech had its best year on record, with the graduation rate reaching 34%, a 300% increase over seven years, and a 23% year-over-year gain. He highlighted that 61% of the first-time, full-time entering class is Pell-eligible, up eight percentage points from the prior year and well above the 35% national average, underscoring the college's open-access mission. He noted that the share of programs breaking even or better on a direct-cost basis rose from 48% to 59% in one year. The report also announced key leadership appointments.

Strategically, he emphasized initiatives such as expanding welding capacity from 120 seats to a combined 420, strengthening campus security through weekly law-enforcement training on campus, advancing McAlister Square redevelopment via opportunity zone application and an LLC structure, and regaining the top spot in the state for dual enrollment with especially rapid growth among homeschool students.

Performance & Evaluation Report

President Miller reported strong progress on institutional objectives in student success and fiscal sustainability. Greenville Tech's institutional objectives focus on improving student success by investing in advising, student engagement, and other supports that help more students complete their programs and transition into strong careers.

Foundation Report

Babette Jones reported steady fundraising progress, with hundreds of gifts received to date, growth in endowed scholarships, and a strong pipeline of additional commitments and planned gifts. Scholarship activity and emergency aid remain robust. The grants portfolio is healthy, with multiple grants awarded, positioning the Foundation to continue supporting institutional and student needs.

South Carolina Association of Technical College Commissioners (SCATCC) Update

Mr. Coleman Shouse reported that SCATCC will resume updates at the September meeting following its summer break.

Commission for Higher Education (CHE) Update

Mr. Paul Batson reported that the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education (CHE) held a two-day meeting in Charleston hosted by the Medical University of South Carolina. He highlighted workforce-focused tours and discussions at the Mercedes-Benz plant and visits to MUSC. Mr. Batson reported that the Commission approved a sonography program for a for-profit college in South Carolina.

An update was also provided on the replacement of CHE's legacy information system, with a new data platform expected to launch in August.

Old and New Business

There being no other business to discuss, Chair Lattimore requested a motion to enter executive session to discuss personnel and fiscal matters. He asked Mr. Keith Munson to remain with the Board during executive session. A motion was made by Mr. Paul Batson and seconded by Mr. Coleman Shouse. The motion carried unanimously, and the Board entered executive session at 1:16 p.m. The Board exited executive session at 1:36 p.m. The Commissioners voted unanimously to adopt the Performance and Evaluation Committee’s compensation recommendation. A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.