

South Arkansas Community College
Board of Trustees Meeting
Minutes
March 29, 2022 - 3:45 p.m.
ADM Board Room
Zoom
<https://southark.zoom.us/j/524982966>

Or

Phone: 1- 646 -558 – 8656

Meeting ID: 524 982 966

Trustees Present: Steve Cousins-Chair, Gary Griffis-Vice Chair, Crystal Yeager-Secretary, Kerri Brown, Jose Covas

Trustees Via Zoom/Phone: Courtney Crotty

Trustees Absent: Wayne Gibson, Melissa Jerry

SouthArk Staff Present: Dr. Bentley Wallace, Dr. Stephanie Tully-Dartez, Michael Armstrong, Dr. Tim Kirk, John Baine, Kathy Modica, Caroline Hammond, Ray Winiecki, Dr. Cassandra Tavorn, Tim Johnson, Veronda Tatum, Dr. Justin Geurin, Cynthia Reyna, Ann Southall, Philip Shackelford, Christy Wilson, Heath Waldrop, Vanessa Williams

- I. Call to Order – Mr. Steve Cousins, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m.
- II. Recognitions and Awards – Dr. Bentley Wallace
 - Dr. Wallace introduced and welcomed Mr. Michael Armstrong, SouthArk’s new VPFA. Mr. Armstrong comes to SouthArk with extensive experience in finance and senior leadership with public and private entities. Mr. Armstrong has classroom teaching experience, has been the CFO for a large K-12 district in Arkansas, and has been CFO and CEO at Credit Unions in Arkansas and Texas.
 - Welcomed also; were Ray Winiecki, Dean of Career & Technical Education, Garrett Trussell, Welding Instructor, and SouthArk’s first-place winners of the 2022 Weldathon:
 - Evan Pietranski
 - Russell Pridgen
 - Devin Osgood
- III. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes – January 18, 2022. Covas/Griffis. Courtney Crotty, Zoom/Phone – Aye.
Board Approved.
- IV. Approval of Consent Agenda – Mr. Cousins asked if any items needed to be moved from the Consent Agenda to the regular agenda for discussion/comments/questions. Mr. Cousins requested for Policy #23 ENDS 6 – Strategic Planning and Budget, to be moved from the Consent Agenda to the regular agenda for discussion. Griffis/Covas. Courtney Crotty, Zoom/Phone-Aye. **Board Approved.**
Discussion – Mr. Cousins referenced the data reported in Strategic Plan Pathways of Policy #23 for further clarification. Dr. Stephanie Tully-Dartez explained more thoroughly the data reported in Policy #23 ENDS 6 – Strategic Pathways.
 - A. Personnel Report
SouthArk new employees:

Curt Socia	Industrial Technology Instructor	02/14/2022
Michael Armstrong	Vice President for Finance and Administration	02/21/2022

SouthArk promotions/transfers/organizational changes:
SouthArk resignations/retirements/terminations:

Gary White	Institutional Services Assistant	02/04/2022
Michael Roberts	Network Support Analyst	02/18/2022
Marian Jones	Snap E&T Coordinator	02/28/2022
Amelia Yarbrough	Assistant Registrar	02/28/2022
 - B. Monitoring Reports
 - Policy # 6 – Emergency CEO Succession .
 - Policy # 9 – Communication and Support to the Board
 - Policy # 17 – Policy Governance Review
 - Policy #23 ENDS 6 – Strategic Planning and Budget
 - C. Approval of Board Meeting Calendar
Covas/Griffis. Courtney Crotty, Zoom/Phone -Aye. **Board Approved** Consent Agenda Items.

V. Board Committee Reports

- A. Real Estate and Facilities Committee – Ms. Kerri Brown - None
- B. Personnel and Planning Committee – Mr. Gary Griffis - None
- C. Budget and Finance Committee – Ms. Melissa Jerry – In the absence of Ms. Melissa Jerry, Dr. Bentley Wallace reported that the committee met on Wednesday, March 9, 2022. The following FY '23 Fee Change recommendations were presented to the committee:
 - 1. Student Activity Fee to increase \$4 per credit hour – Fall '22 as presented
 - 2. Technology Fee to increase \$4 per credit hour – Fall '22 as presented
 - 3. FY '23 Budget as presented

The Committee recommended to forward the proposed FY '23 Tuition and Mandatory Fees changes to the Full Board for approval.

• **Mandatory Fees Discussion** – Dr. Wallace presented detailed data/reports to support the requested FY '23 Fee Change recommendations, and addressed all questions/concerns from the Board. Griffis/Covas. Courtney Crotty, Zoom/Phone-Aye. **Board Approved** All FY '23 Fee Change recommendations as presented.

The following two requests were presented for approval:

- Elimination of the ARNEC Proctoring Fee (\$75.00)
- Course and Program Fee Changes - (Pages: 55 – 62)

Brown/Griffis. Courtney Crotty, Zoom/Phone-Aye. **Board Approved.**

- D. Policy Governance Committee – Mr. Steve Cousins - None

VI. Chair's Report – Mr. Cousins

- A. Board Evaluation of Own Performance Initiated – Mr. Cousins encouraged the Board to promptly complete the Board's self-evaluation.
- B. Board Process & Performance Monitoring – Mr. Cousins stated that the Board has been meeting efficiently without issues or concerns.
- C. Determine Date for July 2022 Board Retreat – A poll to determine the date for the Board Retreat is to be sent to the Board.
- D. President advised to prepare Annual Goals Report
- E. 3rd Party Presidential Evaluation Scheduled – Mr. Gary Griffis requested for Dr. Wallace to contact Collen Allen, ACCT, for directions/steps on the process of the 3rd Party Presidential Evaluation.

VII. Financial Services Reports

- A. January Monthly Statements
January 2022 highlights included total unrestricted revenue of \$8,942,659, which is 61.84% of the total budget of \$14,460,183. Total unrestricted expenses of \$6,976,623, which is 48.25% of the total budget of \$14,460,183. Total revenues over expenditures at January 31, 2022 were \$1,966,035. Total cash and investments at January 31, 2022, were \$8,138,509.45.
- B. February Monthly Statements
February 2022 highlights included total unrestricted revenue of \$9,548,520, which is 65.97% of the total budget of \$14,474,860. Total unrestricted expenses of \$8,135,078, which is 56.20% of the total budget of \$14,474,860. Total revenues over expenditures at February 28, 2022 were \$1,413,442. Total cash and investments at February 28, 2022, were \$7,650,706.73.
- C. El Dorado Conference Center Quarterly Marketing Report

VIII. President's Report – Dr. Bentley Wallace

- A. Administrative Reports – Included in the Board Packet
- B. President's Updates
 - 1. COVID-19 – Currently, SouthArk has zero cases for students and faculty of COVID-19.
 - 2. Forestry Tech Grant – SouthArk has received the Forestry Grant to launch a new 2-year pilot program. (forestry technology is to be integrated with industry programs)
 - 3. High School LPN Pilot Project – A Grant funded program received for High School juniors and seniors from local K-12 districts. (launched through the secondary career center)
 - 4. HLC Conference – (Regional Accreditation for the college) – April 1-5, 2022 - Dr. Wallace will attend the conference in Chicago, and some staff will attend virtually for professional development.
 - 5. McWilliams House (Student Center) – Renovations are going well and moving forward. (backyard to include: out-door restroom facility, patio space, and pergola)

6. Welding Competition – SouthArk welding students placed first in the “2022 Weldathon” competition.
7. E/V Charging Stations – Six electric vehicle charging stations; that will be free for public use; are being installed on the backside of the El Dorado Conference Center. (anticipated completion in April)
8. Bistro Operations – New operations are in use and now include SouthArk’s branding concepts for regular and flavored coffee. (Stars Branding)
9. Exploring eSports – Video Gaming has become very popular, and SouthArk is looking to include eSports as another incentive for students. (more information to come)
10. ARE-ON Board of Directors - (Arkansas Research and Education Optical Network) – ARE-ON is a consortium of the research and education institutions and public service agencies that was formed to foster the development of Arkansas research, education, public service and economic development. Dr. Bentley Wallace has been elected to serve on the ARE-ON Board as a college representative.

IX. Executive Session (if required)

X. Announcements

XI. Adjournment – 5:04 p.m.

Ms. Crystal Yeager, Secretary

Action Item Request – from the January 18, 2022 Board Meeting:

1. The Board’s Evaluation of own Performance to be sent to the Board.

Follow -Up to Action Item Request – from the January 18, 2022 Board Meeting:

1. The link for the Board’s Evaluation of own Performance was emailed to the Board on 3/9/22.

Action Item Request – from the March 29, 2022 Board Meeting:

1. A poll for the date for the July 2022 Board Retreat to be sent to the Board.
2. Dr. Bentley Wallace is to contact Colleen Allen (ACCT) for directions/steps on the process of the 3rd Party Presidential Evaluation.