

Athens Technical College
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2025
9:00 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Philip Bettendorf
Mr. Kyle Brown
Mr. Tom Denny
Judge Cheveda McCamy
Mayor Fred Perriman
Dr. Reginald Woods

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Tony Ferguson
Mr. Mike Sale
Mrs. Ruth Tellano-Daniel

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Chair Fred Perriman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. welcoming everyone to the February board meeting.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Mr. Scott Anderson presented a PowerPoint presentation giving the board members an update on facilities. The big project we have right now is the Walton County Campus renovation. The campus is the old Monroe High School building that was built in 1956. It needs numerous updates to the building. The project has been awarded to Jerrico Design Architects and All State Construction Company. We are having bi-weekly meetings regarding the project.

Some of the updates to the Walton County Campus include turning the 7,000 square foot structure behind the main building into a Welding Lab. The campus entryway will be designed to look more like the H Building entryway on the Main Campus. There will be system upgrades and some major upgrades to the restrooms. These upgrades we hope will all be part of Phase 1 of the project. Dr. Daniel is working to secure funds for Phase 2 and some of these upgrades may end up rolling over to Phase 2.

Dr. Daniel mentioned that Phase 2 of the project will be around \$5.82 million. These projects take a very long time to complete. There are thirty-six hoops that we must go through on these types of projects. We will not be breaking ground until around December 2025 or January 2026.

We are working on replacement of the roof for Building F. The pre-construction meeting will be in March. We are also needing to repair the roof on Building J due to a bad design and the water pools on the roof.

On January 24, 2025 at 10:20 am a sprinkler head broke on the second floor of Building A causing significant water damage. The total damage is around \$51,000. He has been working with our insurance company on quotes and Rainbow Restoration who will be doing the repairs.

We are replacing some old HVAC units on all three of our campuses.

We recently had to replace a boiler on the Elbert County Campus to get heat back to one of the buildings.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Perriman called for approval of the January 2025 minutes. Phil Bettendorf made a motion to approve the minutes and Judge Cheveda McCamy seconded the motion with the remainder of the board in agreement. The minutes were approved.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Kathryn Thomas presented the Budget Amendments. There is only one budget amendment this month for Perkins Carryover Funds. Ms. Thomas asked for approval of the budget amendments. Phil Bettendorf made a motion to approve and Kyle Brown seconded the motion with the remainder of the board in agreement. The budget amendments were approved.

Kathryn Thomas presented the Financial Report as of January 31, 2025.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS/INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

Dr. Kristen Douglas presented an update on Academic Affairs and Institutional Effectiveness. They have a faculty forum scheduled for May 7th. This is a good opportunity for faculty to get some development. There will be a committee established to plan the details for the forum. The theme this year will be "Celebrating Success".

We hosted a TCSG Healthcare Dialogue yesterday on our campus. There were approximately 50 people in attendance from around the healthcare field. Senator Dean Burke was the guest speaker.

We will have a Women in Trade event on February 25th at 6:00 pm in Building T. The event will target female high school students. She invited board members to attend.

Faculty are excited about the Walton County Campus renovation work, especially the Welding faculty.

The Dual Achievement Program is doing great. Last Spring we had 63 students. This Spring we have 113 students in eighteen different programs. We are expecting to have over 30 students graduating this year. Tia Stroud is doing a great job with recruitment for the program.

Dr. Daniel mentioned that the Dual Achievement Program is a great opportunity for high school students who can obtain their high school diploma along with a college credential all at the same time. This will help them to enter the workforce more quickly.

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Lenzy Reid gave the board an update on Student Affairs. Enrollment is up 5.3% this year and credit hours are up 4.8%.

We have been working very hard on our police department's certification for the last three years. Last week there was a mock assessment, and we did a good job. We should be getting a letter soon stating that and then hopefully get certified soon.

Dr. Daniel mentioned that the police department certification is a key initiative by the Commissioner. We were ranked No. 4 of the twenty-two colleges for getting work done toward certification.

We held the Walton Expo last week on the Walton County Campus. There were approximately 150 high school seniors who attended from the Walton County School District.

We recently held a graduation gala where 69 students participated. They were able to obtain information and apply for graduation.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Al McCall is not here today. He is feeling under the weather. We hope he feels better soon.

ADULT EDUCATION

Dr. Fabersha Flynt presented an update on Adult Education. She is excited to announce that we held an Accelerated Academy recently where nine students participated in the three-day academy to obtain their GEDs. Of the nine students, eight students obtained their GEDS. Of those students, six of them applied to the college and were admitted on the spot.

COLLEGE UPDATES

Antoine Boynton presented an update on Public Relations and the Athens Tech Foundation. He is working on a strategy for the next fiscal year which will involve advertising in different ways including digital, print, social media, and radio.

They are creating a calendar for social media which will post all kinds of information about the college. He is also creating event pages for Facebook and LinkedIn. He is looking at doing radio ads since radio signals go beyond our service area where we could reach potential new students.

He is continuing to run You Tube ads. He is looking at maybe doing some television ads and over the top ads which will play on things like Roku and firestick.

There are still tickets available for the Foundation Illuminate event in April.

Jen Welborn is no longer with the college. A position with the Institutional Advancement Office is now open until Monday.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Andrea Daniel presented the President's Report. She welcomed Caitlin Dye to the meeting. Ms. Dye is the Director of the Elbert County Development Authority, and her office is on the Elbert County Campus.

Graduation will be May 6th at the Classic Center. Credit graduation is at 10:00 am and Adult Education and DAP graduation are at 2:00 pm. The keynote speaker for the credit graduation will be Kessel Stelling who was with Synovus. The Adult Education keynote speaker will be Dexter Fisher who is Mayor Pro Tempore for Clarke County.

She welcomed Kyle Brown back after having knee surgery. Mike Sale is still recovering from his Achilles tendon surgery.

Each board member has a copy of the letter sent to Governor Brian Kemp on their behalf.

She is looking forward to getting our budget soon.

She will be attending SLA in Atlanta with Nick Rucker tomorrow and Thursday. Mr. Rucker will be speaking on the floor of the Capitol on Thursday.

She is pleased to announce that Kyle Brown and Tom Denny have graciously agreed to be reappointed for another three years to the board.

She has been looking at the Chair and Vice Chair positions on the board. Mayor Fred Perriman rolls off the board at the end of this fiscal year. She is happy to announce that Dr. Reginald Woods has graciously agreed to be the new Chair and Phil Bettendorf has graciously agreed to be the new Vice Chair. Both of these will need to be voted on by the board if someone would like to put a motion forward. Tom Denny made a motion to elect Dr. Reginald Woods as Chair and Phil Bettendorf as Vice Chair. Judge Cheveda McCamy seconded the motion with the rest of the board in agreement. Dr. Reginald Woods was approved as the new Chair and Phil Bettendorf was approved as the new Vice Chair.

We will be honoring Mayor Perriman at the next board meeting.

She thanked Becky Allen for her help with her calendar and getting her to the correct meetings and events.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Chair Perriman thanked all the board members for taking time out of their busy schedules to attend the board meetings each month and thanked them for always arriving on time for the meetings.

Tom Denny thanked Caitlin Dye for all of her hard work in Elbert County. He thanked Mayor Perriman for his service on the board. He also mentioned that Kyle Brown was taking two truck loads of food to people in North Carolina after he leaves this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, Chair Perriman adjourned the meeting with appropriate motion and second at 9:50 a.m.

Dr. Andrea Daniel, President
Rebecca Allen
Executive Assistant
February 18, 2025

Next scheduled Board Meeting: March 18, 2025

** Denotes action items that require a vote for approval by the local board.*