



Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

April 1, 2026

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Landon Chavis (virtual)
Mr. Kurt Davis (Chair)
Dr. Elgin Dixon
Mr. James Futch
Ms. Kerry McCarty (Secretary/Treasurer)
(virtual)
Ms. Traci Martin
Ms. Keri Orvin (Vice Chair)
Mr. Lonnie Roberts
Dr. Chris Roppe

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Gary Evans
Ms. Sara Waters
Mr. Derrin Wheeler

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Sarah Beth Barber
Dr. Ryan Flowers
Mr. Scottie Graham
Mr. Marty Mullis (virtual)

NON-VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT

Ms. Jessica Boatright
Mr. Matt Carter
Mr. Kevin Ellis
Mr. Oakley Perry
Mr. Perry White

SPCCA STAFF

Ms. Jamey Collins (CEO)
Ms. Amanda Towns (On-Site Coordinator)

GUESTS

Jersey Fairley
Isabela Rubio-Zarco
Oscar Hernandez-Velazquez

CALL TO ORDER

The Southern Pines College and Career Academy (SPCCA) Board of Directors met Wednesday, April 1, 2026, at 1:37 p.m. Mr. Kurt Davis called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

INVOCATION

The invocation was provided by Mr. James Futch.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

Upon a motion to approve by Dr. Elgin Dixon, a second by Dr. Chris Roppe, the Board unanimously approved the agenda for meeting and minutes of February 4, 2026.

SPCCA STUDENT SPEAKERS

Three SPCCA students representing the three participating school systems shared their experiences with the Board. Jersey Fairly, from Bacon County, spoke about her experience in the Salon and Spa Support Specialist program last semester, as well as her current coursework in Basic Electrical through SPCCA.

Isabela Rubio-Zarco, from Jeff Davis County, discussed her Nurse Aide classes and her goal of becoming a registered nurse in the future, noting that the program has solidified her decision to pursue a career in nursing.

Lastly, Oscar Hernandez, from Appling County, shared his experience in the Heavy Equipment Operator program and how it has encouraged him to pursue his CDL license. He has already passed his Class A CDL permit test and is preparing to enter the next available cohort as a traditional student with Coastal Pines Technical College.

All three students expressed their appreciation to the Board for supporting these programs and the opportunities they provide to students.

BUDGET UPDATE (Handout Provided)

Ms. Jamey Collins, on behalf of Ms. Kerry McCarty, provided a budget update to the Board. As of February 28, SPCCA is approximately 67% through the fiscal year and has encumbered approximately 65% of the budget.

FY2027 SPCCA OPERATIONAL BUDGET PROPOSAL

Ms. Jamey Collins presented the proposed FY27 Operational Budget. Over the past several weeks, meetings were held with each of the three superintendents, as well as Mr. Lonnie Roberts, to review the budget. A copy of the previous year's budget was also shared for comparison.

It was reported that all parties were satisfied with the proposed budget and pleased that contributions have remained nearly identical to the previous year, despite increased electrical costs and without utilizing any carryover funds. As a reminder, during the prior year, approximately \$8,000 in carryover funds was used to offset increases in retirement and health benefits. In previous years, the superintendents have opted to retain carryover funds to maintain a financial cushion, and all three agreed to continue this practice.

The estimated carryover for FY2026 is currently \$141,022.39 or more, and this amount is expected to increase as the fiscal year concludes.

It was further noted that, with Amanda no longer receiving healthcare benefits through SPCCA, the overall salary and benefits total for FY27 has decreased. Salary and benefits figures for FY27 were provided by the Appling County CFO and include projected increases in teacher retirement and health benefits. These figures also reflect the previously approved 2.5% raise to base salaries, in accordance with the SPCCA staff salary scale, which will take effect in FY27 and be implemented every other year thereafter.

Ms. Collins asked the Board if there were any questions regarding the proposed budget.

Following presentation of the proposed budget, Mr. Kurt Davis recommended a slight increase to the gas and miscellaneous line items. After discussion, the Board requested that the additional \$675 be allocated from carryover funds rather than adjusting partner contributions. This adjustment resulted in a revised total budget of \$230,100.

A motion to approve the FY2027 SPCCA Operational Budget, as presented with the noted changes, was made by Ms. Keri Orvin and seconded by Mr. James Futch. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Dixon shared that Appling County is exploring the addition of Centegix coverage at the SPCCA building to enhance safety. He noted that there would be no cost to the Board at this time but wanted to make members aware. The other school superintendents expressed their support and indicated a willingness to share in any future costs, as all districts have students in the building.

SPCCA EMPLOYEE EVALUATIONS

Mr. Kurt Davis informed the Board that SPCCA staff evaluations were completed during the month of March. He reported that both Ms. Collins and Ms. Towns met or exceeded all expectations. Mr. Davis expressed his appreciation for the SPCCA staff and noted that he believes they are focused on the right priorities to support the continued growth of SPCCA.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER/SPCCA STAFF REPORT

SPCCA Speaking Engagements and Community Involvement

Ms. Jamey Collins shared that SPCCA has had numerous opportunities over the past several months to engage with the community and promote program offerings. These engagements included presentations to the Appling County Retired Educators, participation in the Appling County Chamber of Commerce Coffee and Conversations focused on education, the Jeff Davis County Chamber JD Forward Luncheon, and the Jeff Davis Rotary Club.

Ms. Collins noted that SPCCA is always eager to share information about student opportunities with community members, as well as business and industry partners, and emphasized the value of promoting these programs throughout the community.

SPCCA Scholarship Update

Ms. Amanda Towns reported to the Board that the scholarship committee has been established and that several applications have already been received. The original application deadline of March 31 was extended to April 17. She noted that there has been an increase in the number of applications submitted this year.

Ms. Jamey Collins presented a discussion item regarding the current practice of awarding one scholarship per county. She asked the Board to consider whether, in the event a county does not have any applicants, the scholarship could be awarded to a qualified applicant from another county.

Following discussion, the Board agreed that the scholarship criteria should be revised to clarify this provision. Additionally, the Board determined that the Scholarship Committee will select an alternate recipient. In the event a selected recipient does not enroll at Coastal Pines Technical College, the alternate will be eligible to receive the scholarship.

The clarification will read as follows: "The SPCCA Board, through its Scholarship Committee, reserves the right to reallocate scholarships and award more than one scholarship per county if another county has no eligible applicants."

A motion to approve the added provisions to the SPCCA Scholarship process was made by Ms. Keri Orvin and seconded by Mr. Lonnie Roberts. The motion carried unanimously.

BOARD TRAINING

Community Needs Assessment (Lonnie Roberts)

Mr. Lonnie Roberts provided Board training on the workforce needs of the three participating communities. He utilized JobsEQ economic overview data to present information on local employment trends, in-demand industries, workforce gaps, populations growth, and regional wage data. This training will contribute to the annual community needs assessment update required by TCSG.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Ms. Jamey Collins reported to the Board that Ms. Amanda Towns will be attending dual enrollment training in April to remain current on updates and requirements.

Ms. Collins also informed the Board that nominations for Board officer positions will be forthcoming and asked if members were agreeable to following the same nomination process used previously, which includes an anonymous Google Form. The Board agreed to proceed with the same process.

She further reported that, based on the bylaws, the Vice Chair and Secretary are eligible to serve an additional term and have both expressed willingness to do so if nominated. However, the current Board Chair has reached the maximum allowable term and will be required to roll off for at least one year before being eligible to serve again as an officer.

Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

April 1, 2026

Page 5 of 5

Ms. Keri Orvin opened a discussion on potential property tax reform and referenced pending House and Senate legislation. She encouraged Board members to reach out to their representatives to express concerns regarding the potential impact on local governments, noting that such changes could reduce local government and school funding flexibility.

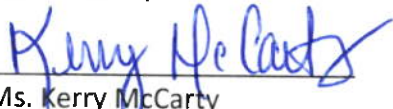
NEXT MEETING DATE

The next Board of Directors' meeting is scheduled for May 6, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Submitted by:


Ms. Kerry McCarty
Treasurer/Secretary