



**Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes**  
March 12, 2025

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mr. Landon Chavis  
Mr. Kurt Davis (Chair)  
Mr. Gary Evans (virtual)  
Mr. James Futch  
Dr. Janet Goodman  
Ms. Traci Martin  
Ms. Keri Orvin (Vice Chair)  
Dr. Chris Roppe  
Ms. Sara Waters (virtual)

**VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT**

Ms. Kerry McCarty  
(Secretary/Treasurer)  
Mr. Lonnie Roberts  
Mr. Derrin Wheeler  
Mr. Sidney Wildes

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT**

Ms. Jessica Boatright  
Dr. Ryan Flowers  
Mr. Marty Mullis (virtual)  
Ms. Sarah Beth Swain

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT**

Mr. Matt Carter  
Mr. Kevin Ellis  
Mr. Scottie Graham  
Mr. Dell Keith  
Mr. Oakley Perry  
Mr. Perry White

**SPCCA STAFF**

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

**GUESTS**

Dr. Glenn Deibert

**CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME**

The Southern Pines College and Career Academy (SPCCA) Board of Directors met Wednesday, March 12, 2025, at 1:33 p.m. Mr. Kurt Davis called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. A quorum of voting members was present.

**INVOCATION**

The invocation was provided by Mr. James Futch.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*Upon a motion to approve by Dr. Chris Roppe, a second by Ms. Keri Orvin, the Board unanimously approved the agenda for the meeting.*

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Upon a motion to approve by Ms. Keri Orvin, a second by Ms. Tracy Martin, minutes of the February 5, 2024, SPCAA Board of Directors' meeting were unanimously approved.*

## **SPCCA STUDENT PRESENTATION (Isaac Odom)**

SPCCA student, Isaac Odom, addressed the Board to share how the career academy and its programs have positively impacted him. He discussed his career goals and how the skills he has gained through these programs are helping him work toward achieving them. Isaac has completed courses in Carpentry, Introduction to Automotive, Introduction to Diesel, and he is currently enrolled in Diesel Engines. He is employed at Woody Folsom Automotive, where he is applying the skills learned at SPCCA to advance in his career.

## **BUDGET UPDATE (Handout)**

Ms. Jamey Collins presented the Board budget update by request on behalf of Ms. Kerry McCarty, Secretary/Treasurer, who could not be in attendance. The SPCCA budget update covers the period of July 2024 through February 2025. Ms. Collins stated that our budget is healthy and on track. We are at the 67% mark of the year and have only spent/encumbered 51% of the budget.

## **FY2026 SPCCA BUDGET PROPOSAL (Action Item)**

Ms. Jamey Collins presented the proposed SPCCA FY2026 Operational Budget to the Board. Prior to today's meeting, Ms. Collins provided all three superintendents with this proposal to review their respective contribution amounts and offer any feedback regarding the carryover, which we estimate will be around \$118,669.80+. In previous years, the Superintendents have opted to retain the carryover to maintain a cushion in the budget. All three agreed to continue to maintain this cushion.

As outlined in the proposal, the partner contributions have increased slightly: \$739.50 for Applling and \$369.75 for Bacon and Jeff Davis. With the transition of SPCCA from one full-time and one part-time employee to two full-time employees, we were able to keep the contributions nearly the same as last year by incorporating CPTC's \$30,000 annual contribution and adjusting other areas of the budget.

*Upon a motion to approve by Dr. Chris Roppe, a second by Dr. Janet Goodman, the Board unanimously approved the FY2026 SPCCA Budget as presented.*

## **EDUCATION BOARD MEMBER TERMS/APPOINTMENTS (Action Item)**

Mr. Kurt Davis informed the Board that it is time to renew the appointments of our Education Board members. As a reminder, Education Board members serve a two-year term, while Business and Industry Board members serve a three-year term. Board members appointed outside of the regular cycle will serve the remainder of the term of the member they are replacing.

According to our bylaws, each of our three school systems is allotted one voting representative and one non-voting representative. Our voting representatives have traditionally been the superintendents of each system, and each superintendent designates a non-voting representative from their system, typically the CTAE Director. In addition, CPTC is allotted one voting member, traditionally the President. This structure has proven effective for the Board.

Before the meeting, Ms. Jamey Collins reached out to the three superintendents, all of whom agreed to maintain the current arrangement, with the same individuals continuing as designated voting and non-voting representatives. Mr. Lonnie Roberts also agreed to continue to serve as the voting representative for CPTC.

The following Education Board members, if approved, will serve an additional two-year term:

- Appling: Dr. Janet Goodman and Dr. Ryan Flowers
- Bacon: Ms. Traci Martin and Ms. Jessica Boatright
- Jeff Davis: Dr. Chris Roppe and Ms. Sarah Beth Swain
- CPTC: Mr. Lonnie Roberts

*Upon a motion to approve by Mr. Landon Chavis, a second by Mr. James Futch, the Education Board Members listed above were unanimously approved to serve an additional two-year term, effective July 1, 2025.*

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER/SPCCA STAFF REPORT**

##### **Peach Education Tax Credit Update (Jamey Collins)**

At the February 5, 2025, meeting, the SPCCA Board learned about the Peach Education Tax Credit fundraising opportunities through the Georgia Foundation for Public Education. Ms. Sabrina Phelps provided an overview of the program and how to get started. While the initial steps have been more complex than anticipated, the staff have begun gathering project proposals and collaborating with CPTC to move forward with the process.

Ms. Collins shared two project proposals and the staff are awaiting additional proposals from CPTC instructors. These proposals take time, as instructors must obtain quotes and ensure that the requested items cannot be covered by their CPTC budgets.

The first project proposal presented was for the Diesel Engine Service Technician Program. With the program's increasing popularity and demand, additional engines and trainers are needed. Currently, Mr. Anderson has one engine, but at least eight are needed to accommodate his maximum class size of 16 students. The total estimated amount needed to fund this project is \$133,500.00.

The second project proposal is for the Automotive Electrical/Electronics Systems Program. This proposal includes multiple line items identified as necessary to support the program's growth and provide students with hands-on learning opportunities. The total estimated amount needed to fund this project is \$86,417.78.

SPCCA has the potential to start with three projects, though we may begin with fewer, depending on circumstances. Each project must meet the minimum funding requirement of \$54,000 and align with the definition of innovation. All of the proposals meet these requirements under the collaborative category, as their implementation would directly contribute to fulfilling local workforce needs.

Ms. Collins asked for any feedback or questions and inquired whether the Board agreed with her moving forward with these proposals and begin the application process.

Several board members raised questions about how the funds would be allocated if the full amount was not raised. The verbiage in the application leads one to believe, if the target wasn't reached, the funds would be redirected to another project in Georgia. Ms. Collins agreed to seek clarification on this matter as well as inquire about deadlines and the status of the overall cap. Dr. Goodman suggested it might be prudent to initially request a smaller amount for just one project to reduce the risk of losing the funds. Several board members concurred that this was a good approach.

Dr. Deibert shared ideas for reaching out to local businesses, and Mr. Chavis recommended meeting with accountants of potential donors as well. Both Mr. Chavis and Ms. Orvin, with their experience in this area, offered to assist Ms. Collins in any way they could. Mr. Chavis emphasized that if the board wanted to move forward, this decision would need to be made no later than August. After discussion, the board agreed it would be best to start with a request for four engines (instead of seven) and a trainer, totaling approximately \$89,000. The Board agreed that adjustments can be made once Ms. Collins has more clarity on how the funds will be allocated if the fundraising goal is not fully met.

*Upon a motion to approve by Ms. Keri Orvin, a second by Ms. Tracy Martin, the Board unanimously approved to move forward on The Peach Education Tax Credit project by starting the process to submit the \$89,000 Diesel project.*

#### **Student Tours (Amanda Towns)**

Ms. Amanda Towns shared with the Board that SPCCA recently had the pleasure of hosting several large student tours. Last month, Appling County High School brought its 9th-grade group, and Bacon County Middle School brought its 8th-grade group. Providing these students with early exposure to our program offerings is an exciting opportunity that will help expand hands-on learning experiences within our communities. Additionally, we look forward to welcoming a group from Jeff Davis High School tomorrow for a tour.

#### **SPCCA Scholarship Update (Amanda Towns)**

Ms. Amanda Towns informed the Board that the SPCCA Scholarship Committee has finalized the criteria for the first scholarships to be awarded this year. These scholarships are designated for seniors who plan to continue their education as traditional students at CPTC. The scholarship information has been shared with the three high schools, posted on the SPCCA Facebook page, and personally presented by Ms. Towns to each class. Students can obtain an application from SPCCA or their respective high schools. SPCCA plans to award a \$500

scholarship to one student from each of its partnering high schools. Ms. Jamey Collins shared that, to date, no applications have been turned in.

**You Science Report Follow Up (Amanda Towns)**

Ms. Amanda Towns presented data from YouScience reports provided by Appling and Jeff Davis High Schools, highlighting that the majority of the high-interest areas identified in the results were programs already offered at SPPCA, which aligns with our goal. These results also correlate well with the state's recently shared high-demand career list for workforce development. Ms. Towns explained that one of the key benefits of these reports is that they not only measure student interest but also assess aptitude. This combination helps students identify career paths that best match their skills and interests, providing multiple options for exploration. She also shared a few high-interest areas that are not currently offered at SPPCA, noting that these could be potential areas to consider for future programming if interest remains high and they align with the state's high-demand career list. This report will continue to be monitored to ensure we maintain proper alignment.

**OPEN DISCUSSION**

Ms. Amanda Towns shared with the board that a tentative date has been set for all three partnering schools to present a certificate to students who have successfully completed a TCC program at CPTC while a student at SPCCA. SPCCA staff will be a part of these ceremonies and look forward to recognizing students for their achievements. The students will also be provided with instructions on how to print their official Technical Certificate of Credit from Coastal Pines Technical College.


**NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next Board of Directors' meeting is scheduled for May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 1:30 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

Submitted by:



Submitted by Ms. Jamey Collins on behalf of Ms. Kerry McCarty  
Treasurer/Secretary