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MINUTES OF MEETING
OF
SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

June 5, 1969

The Commission on Higher Education met on Thursday, June 5, 1969, in the Conference Room on the fourth floor of the Rutledge Building. Commission members present were Messrs. Cauthen, Coker, Grier, Lumpkin, Osborne, Rogers, Vance, Wall, and Dr. Morris.

Mr. Vance called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Since there were no corrections or additions to the minutes of the May 1, 1969, meeting, they were approved as written.

The next item on the agenda was a report by Dr. Morris of the Commission's activities for the month of May. Dr. Morris reported that he had attended the public hearing on the two year college bill and had stated the Commission's views in this connection. After the public hearing, the House Education and Public Works Committee did not report out the two year college bill. The general feeling was that even if it had reached the floor of the House, it would have been defeated. Subsequently, a separate bill to create a four year college at Florence with a four year college board was passed by the House. The planning of this college would come under the direction of the Commission on Higher Education and if the bill is passed by the Senate, the Commission will receive \$200,000 which would be allocated for planning the college. The Commission will have the responsibility of assisting in selection of a president and deciding on the most appropriate site for the college. The present board in Florence would be used as an advisory board, with as much responsibility as possible being placed on this board.

Dr. Morris announced that he had met with Senator Dennis on the Charleston higher education situation to express the Commission's views on what should be done for higher education in that area. In talking with Senator Dennis, Dr. Morris explained that he had met with President Stern of the College of Charleston, and also members of their Board of Trustees, and that the College wanted very much to be acquired by the State, retaining the name and site if possible, but becoming a four year public college. Dr. Morris further explained that the Commission felt a consortium type arrangement between the Medical College, The Citadel and a four year public college (the College of Charleston) would best meet the needs of the Charleston area. Senator Dennis asked Dr. Morris to write up these recommendations as a draft bill for the Senate, which Dr. Morris did after conferring with the Executive Committee of the Commission who expressed their approval. The bill which would give the Commission on Higher Education authority to negotiate with the plan of developing a State college and a higher education consortium in Charleston by July 1, 1970, included a

\$50,000 appropriation which the Commission would use in the development of this plan.

In a conversation with the Governor, Dr. Morris learned that there was some interest in the State investigating the feasibility of acquiring Lander College. Dr. Morris met with two representatives from the Greenwood delegation to discuss this and thought the matter should be looked in to carefully. In this connection it was the general feeling of the Commission that before any other colleges were created by the State that criteria must be developed for setting up these colleges, with broad to specific guide lines being drawn up by the Commission.

In general discussion following, it was felt strongly by the Commission that local support must be provided by the communities in which colleges were created and this factor should be included in these basic guide lines. In further discussion Mr. Rogers pointed out he felt that when an existing two year college becomes a four year college that it should become State supported contingent upon the community turning over existing properties, and secondly, all new and existing junior colleges should be supported to some degree by the local people in the area. It was agreed that adequate campus and adequate facilities should be furnished in the beginning by the community.

In summary, Dr. Morris stated that we would have to accept the Florence and Charleston situation as it is, but that the Commission should proceed with setting up guide lines for future State colleges, possibly using the Lander situation as a model.

A motion was made by Mr. Cauthen that the Commission continue working with the Florence and Charleston situation as outlined, that the Lander situation be considered on a long range basis with Dr. Morris and the Commission staff having hearings at Charleston and Greenwood to find out the feelings of the local people, and that the Commission recommend criteria and set up guide lines for establishing new colleges. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lumpkin and unanimously adopted.

Dr. Morris had been requested by the Governor to furnish a list of the capital building needs of the colleges and universities which he would present to the Legislature. Dr. Morris wrote this up in two phases, Phase I - urgent and immediate needs, and Phase II - other needs within five years, with a total amount of \$56 million needed for the present. This request was a follow up on a request to the State Budget and Control Board on April 7 for relief from bonding limits for the colleges and universities so that they would be able to resume their much needed building programs.

Dr. Morris announced to the Commission that Mr. Schachte had been awarded an honorary doctorate degree from The Citadel. Mr. Osborne moved that Dr. Morris send Dr. Schachte a commendation on behalf of the Commission on Higher Education. The motion was moved, seconded and unanimously adopted.

As a matter of miscellaneous information Dr. Morris told the Commission that a bill was in process to create a permanent commission for

Technical Education instead of the Advisory Committee which now exists. This bill would provide for the Commissioner of the Commission on Higher Education to be a member.

The South Carolina Association of School Boards had requested that the Commission become a member, said Dr. Morris, who felt that the Commission should join only those associations which are directly related to its needs and that membership in this particular association would be of no great benefit to the Commission. Mr. Lumpkin moved that the Commission not join the South Carolina Association of School Boards. The motion was seconded and passed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Morris