BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Griffin Campus
March 18, 2026
8:00 a.m.

MINUTES

Present:

Erin Cook	Steve Ivory	Taylor Smith
George Crews	Lisa Johnson	Josh Thomas
Dr. Chon Hester	Dan Owens	Stone Workman

Absent:

Rebecca Hadley-Catter

Staff Members:

Dr. Irvin Clark	Dr. Chris Daniel	Michael Shiver
Stacy Acey	Dr. Alvin Harmon	Dr. Alan Stanfield
Montrese Adger Fuller	Steve Hendrix	Dr. Tonya Whitlock
Richard Andrews	Dr. Xenia Johns	Kim Santerre

A. CALL TO ORDER

Stone Workman called the meeting to order at 8:08 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Workman requested the Board review the agenda and requested any changes or corrections. Hearing none and without objection, the agenda was approved as presented unanimously.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Workman brought forth the minutes of the February 25, 2026 meeting as presented in the Board materials and requested any changes or corrections. Hearing none, the Board unanimously approved the minutes as presented.

D. OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

E. NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Harmon presented the AY2027 Calendar as an information item stating that the calendar as presented meets all requirements of the System and has been vetted by Academic Affairs and the College's Executive Council.

F. DIVISIONAL REPORTS

Divisional highlights were provided from Academic Affairs, Administrative Services, Adult Education, Economic Development, Enrollment Management, Executive Vice President, Institutional Advancement, and Institutional Effectiveness based on the following information included in the Board materials:

1. Academic Affairs

- The College is engaged in discussions with Gordon State College and Clayton State University about establishing a 2+2 agreement in Education.
- The Division is reviewing articulation agreements with Mercer University.
- Students are registering for Summer 2026 courses.
- Dr. Harmon met with community partners to discuss and begin planning for implementation of the Nursing Externship initiative. Summary notes have been provided to each partner to review their facilities areas of need. The student application for participation in the Nursing externship is under development.

2. Administrative Services

Following is the Southern Crescent Technical College Financial Statement of Funds Available and Expenditures Compared to Budget for the period of July 1, 2025 through February 27, 2026 (FY2026). A financial overview and brief explanation of this statement includes:

- The final budget is $43,366,763.00.
- FY2026 Current Year Revenue is $28,046,266.36. Revenue compared to budget is 64.67%.
- Comparative data for FY2025 current year revenue is $26,104,690.70 as reported on February 28, 2025. The variance between FY2026 and FY2025 current year revenue is an increase of $1,941,575.66 in reported revenue for FY2026.
- Actual Expenditures total is $22,575,804.52 comprised of 79.19% in personnel expenses and 20.81% in operating expenses. Expenditures compared to budget is 64.67%.
- Comparative data for FY2025 actual expenses is $21,520,572.73 as reported on February 28, 2025. The variance between FY2026 and FY2025 actual expenses is an increase of $1,055,231.79 for FY2026.
- This financial statement indicates the College's current year (CY) funds available for this report is $5,442,290.57.
- Prior year reserves less prior year outstanding receivables total $3,469,739.39. Current year and prior year total funds available for the period July 1, 2025 through February 27, 2026 is $8,912,029.96.
- Comparative data for FY2025 total funds available as reported on February 28, 2025 was $8,733,503.94, an increase of $178,526.02 in FY2026 reported total funds available.

Southern Crescent Technical College is in a financial position to meet its outstanding obligations and is in good standing.

3. Adult Education

FY2026 goals and progress:

- Enrollment Goal – 1441; –current number of NRS students – 1,041.
- Measurable Skills Gain (MSG) Percentage Goal – 50%; – current MSG percentage is 40.10%.
- Integrated Education and Training (IET) Participants Goal – 55; – current number of completions – 33. Twenty-six of the IET graduates were credit based. This is the largest number in the state! There have been 7 to complete a forklift certification as well. The Division continues to have students taking Early Childhood, CNA Fast Track, and Shielded Metal Arc Welding Technical Certificates of Credit this Spring.
- High School Equivalency (HSE) Goal - 149; current number of HSEs earned – 75. This is the time of the year when these numbers really start to increase. The College has credit for an

additional 12 that were earned by FY2025 students in the first semester of FY2026. We will also receive credit for the 4 Career Plus students who earned their high school diploma in the fall semester.

- Southern Crescent Technical College Academy (Career Plus Students) – There are currently 15 active students, 5 new students, and 3 students in intake. There are 4 fall graduates (need to be coded in Banner that will count with spring graduates) and 5 students on track to graduate in the spring.
- ESL student donated $10,000 for GED scholarships. Steve Ivory asked if the College could publicize the donation in some way.
- The EAGLE student and Teacher of the Year were celebrated March 9–11 in Atlanta. I would like to recognize Ms. Tinesha Teasley (EAGLE) and Mrs. Kristine Thomas (TOTY – Upson/Lamar).

4. **Economic Development**

<u>Programs & Initiatives</u>

First Responder Apprenticeship Program

- Developed in collaboration with Butts and Fayette Counties, with the Butts County first cohort finished this past semester and the Fayette County second cohort starting this semester.
- Supported by PSAP funding and jointly delivered by Academic Affairs and Economic Development.
- Includes Related Technical Instruction (RTI) and Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) credit leading to a Technical Certificate of Credit (TCC) or an Associate degree.

Pre-Assessment Strategy

- Free Electrical and Welding pre-assessments are available across the College's eight-county service area.
- These assessments identify workforce training needs and support the development of apprenticeship partnerships with regional employers.
- Currently, finishing up assessments for Luxottica, which is leading to a cohort of 10 apprentices.

VEX Robotics Clubs

- Three high school clubs have launched at the Butts, Henry, and Spalding locations, along with one middle school program in Butts County.

- Teams were registered for competitions on January 17 (Middle School) and January 24 (Jackson High School). Students have been actively meeting, building their first robots, and practicing in their campus robotics rooms.
- A VEX Robotics Showcase will be held on March 17, highlighting the work of all three high school teams and the middle school team. The event will invite parents, students, school officials, and elected officials to see the robots and demonstrations of the teams' work.
- The robotics clubs serve as a pipeline into SCTC STEM programs and advanced manufacturing pathways.
- Mr. Andrews gave kudos to Dean Eleen Herbert for serving as co-lead and all her efforts in this area.

Digital Skills Expansion

- A new Microsoft Office Suite instructor has been hired to expand digital literacy and business application training.
- This initiative enhances workforce readiness while generating additional revenue opportunities.
- The first training cohort for Henry County is finishing this month.

Employer & Industry Engagement

Active Employer Partnerships & Apprenticeships

- Hoshizaki continues its apprenticeship classes this semester, with a graduation ceremony scheduled for April to recognize the first group of apprentices completing the program.
- Luxottica began its apprenticeship class on January 6, with an additional cohort scheduled to begin in March. A formal Apprenticeship Signing Day will be held to recognize participating apprentices.
- NewCold is scheduled to begin apprenticeship training this month with a Signing Day event planned to recognize the launch of the program and participating apprentices.
- Nexus began its second pre-apprenticeship program on January 20, with graduation scheduled for April 1. The company has hired all of the apprentices.
- Additional active partnerships include Purple, Andersen Windows, Evans Metal Stamping, Yougsan, Dwellinz, and In-Line Plastics.

Workforce Development Engagements

- The College is hosting a Workforce Summit on April 30 on the Griffin Campus.
- Ongoing collaborations with city and county leaders (including Barnesville, Griffin, and Thomaston) to align PSAP resources and apprenticeship opportunities with regional workforce needs and economic development priorities.
- Expanded outreach efforts continue to target logistics and manufacturing employers, including cargo securement training initiatives and new industry recruitment in Lamar County.

5. Enrollment Management

Enrollment		
Fall 2025	Spring 2026*	Summer 2026*
7,074	7,385	-
Fall 2024	Spring 2025	Summer 2025
6,185	6,540	3,108
Fall 2023	Spring 2024	Summer 2024
5,804	6,149	2,970

Dual Enrollment		
Fall 2025	Spring 2026*	Summer 2026*
2,582	2,961	-
Fall 2024	Spring 2025	Summer 2025
2,071	2,365	538
Fall 2023	Spring 2024	Summer 2024
1,759	2,073	374

Total enrollment is up 12.9% for the Spring semester with dual enrollment showing a 25% increase over last Spring.

Credit Hours		
Fall 2025	Spring 2026*	Summer 2026*
60,067	62,407	-
Fall 2024	Spring 2025	Summer 2025
51,833	54,214	23,367
Fall 2023	Spring 2024	Summer 2024
48,325	49,286	21,675

Job Placement		
AY	In-Field	Total
AY25*	6.8%	94.8%
AY24	92.7%	98.6%
AY23	95.7%	99.7%
AY22	94.3%	99.6%
AY21	91.1%	99.5%

Graduate Reporting			
Academic Year	Unduplicated Awards	Duplicated Awards	Graduation Rate
AY2026*	703	1,198	69.0%
AY2025	3,039	4,893	80.4%
AY2024	3,023	4,863	83.0%
AY2023	2,784	4,557	83.7%

*These numbers are to date and will not be finalized until mid-September.

Graduation planning is ongoing. With record numbers of graduates wanting to participate, the College is looking into a larger venue.

6. **Executive Vice President**

Tender Tech Child Development Center

- We hosted a "Donuts for Dads" event, welcoming dads, grandfathers, uncles, and father figures to enjoy donuts and coffee with their children during drop-off. The event was well attended and provided a meaningful opportunity for family engagement.
- We celebrated a Dr. Seuss-themed week, where classrooms participated in activities inspired by favorite books. One highlight included serving "green" eggs and ham for breakfast. Children and families enjoyed the fun and excitement throughout the week.
- Current enrollment is 37 children.
- We will begin actively recruiting in the community in the coming weeks as public school Pre-K placements are finalized.

Apprenticeships/Career Services

- Apprenticeship Management is currently supporting 100 active apprentices across 30 apprenticeship partners.
- The 2026 remaining balance of the AER Grant fund is $49,750 (24%).
- The application window for HDAP & PSAP opens July 2026.
- A Regional Career Fair is planned for April 15 and will be hosted on the Griffin Campus. Forty-eight companies have registered to participate.

Student Support Services

- Student Support Services hosted the Annual Student Self-Empowerment Expo on the Flint River and Griffin campuses on March 16 and March 17, respectively. Over 30 students participated at Flint River and over 75 students attended at Griffin. These numbers indicate record participation.

- Special Populations has assisted 71 students through the Lending Library so far for the Spring 2026 semester. Numbers are expected to increase as we approach the remaining mini and micro terms for Spring.

K.O.B.E.

- Dr. Lamar and three students just returned from the Believe, Build, Complete, Become Conference in Tampa, FL, March 4-7.
- K.O.B.E. and SGA are planning a Student Development Day on April 2, 2026. They plan to host a full day of sessions on the following topics:
  - Making AI Work for You
  - Networking and Self Advocacy-Skills that Open Doors
  - From College to Career: Building Skills for Life
  - Leading Yourself Before Leading Others
  - Habits of Highly Effective Student Leaders
  - Personal Success: The Power of Grit and Determination
- Dr. Lamar and K.O.B.E are supporting the Equity from Start to Finish "March ManNess" Series each Tuesday in March. Dr. Lamar will serve as a presenter on March 17 with the topic of Mind Your Brand (How You Show Up Matters). This session will focus on personal presentation, style, and reputation. Dr. Lamar will discuss how the way you present yourself—through dress, hygiene, grooming, and overall appearance—plays an important role in how others perceive you in class, at work, and during interviews. Students will also learn how first impressions matter and how aligning your appearance with your personal and professional goals can open doors.
- Dr. Lamar's presentation proposal for the NISOD annual conference has been accepted. He plans to attend the national conference in Austin, TX with students to represent K.O.B.E. on May 22-26.

Equity From Start to Finish

Student Engagement & Weekly Support

- Provided ongoing comprehensive advising and student success support, including assistance with registration, job searches and resume development, academic appeals, FAFSA completion, and guidance related to program admission requirements, both in-person and virtually.
- Conducted continuous audits of DegreeWorks plans for students and student-athletes to ensure they remain on track for graduation. The team also created and adjusted academic schedules as needed to support persistence, timely completion, and proper program sequencing.
- Collaborated with faculty and instructional teams to monitor student attendance and academic performance, providing targeted support for students nearing program completion and making proactive referrals for students identified as at risk in order to strengthen retention and on-time completion.
- Launched the March ManNess Speaker Series, which began the first Tuesday in March and will continue through March 31, 2026. These interactive sessions engage students in holistic programming and professional development opportunities designed to support student success. This initiative provides interactive sessions designed to support students' academic, personal, and professional growth, with topics including:
  - Financial literacy
  - Personal development
  - Academic persistence
  - Career readiness

Upcoming Spring Programming (May)

- A special Health and Wellness event will be hosted to promote student well-being and success, with a focus on health and community awareness, physical and mental wellness, access to healthcare resources, and strategies for developing and maintaining healthier lifestyles. These initiatives support the program's mission to promote holistic student success from entry through completion by addressing students' academic, professional, and life-skills development.

Student Activities

- Georgia State Leadership Conference is scheduled for March 27 - 29, 2026, at The Westin Atlanta Perimeter North. FBLA/NTHS/SGA members have the competitive edge as the best and brightest to convene to compete in leadership events, share their successes, and learn new ideas about shaping their career future through workshops and exhibits.
- GOAL and Rick Perkins Award Statewide Competition is scheduled for April 20-23, 2026 at Grand Hyatt Atlanta in Buckhead.

Student Athletics

- The men's basketball team qualified for the GCAA Conference Tournament, reaching the quarterfinals. This is the program's second appearance at the Division I level.
- The Athletics Banquet is scheduled for March 26 at 6:00 pm.
- Both women's and men's soccer teams are scheduled to begin their inaugural seasons the weekend of August 21–22, competing in the GCAA and NJCAA.
- The Club Soccer season offered valuable insight into the level of competition expected as the programs transition into official conference play in fall 2026.
    - Current roster status: 19 men's players and 11 women's players, all awaiting signing status.
    - Both teams have a complete schedule prepared for the upcoming season.
    - Officials are lined up and confirmed for all matches.
    - All home matches will be played at Locust Grove High School.
    - The agreement for free access to the Locust Grove High School field is in the process of being renewed for the upcoming season.

Campus Safety

Training

February 19	Flint Campus Fire Drill conducted.
February 24	Chief met with Baker Communication, Butts County and Lamar County 911 Center radio integrator, and FirstNet regarding radio over IP integration project.
February 26	Chief met with Baker Communication, Jasper County 911 Center, and Pike County 911 Center regarding radio over IP integration project.
February 27	Chief met with Baker Communications at the Griffin Campus and was scheduled to meet with Upson County 911 Radio integrator Prologic. Prologic called and canceled meeting and informed us they were longer the Upson County 911 Center radio integrator.
March 3	AXON 4 Body Cameras issued to all officers.
March 4	Met with ALERTUS representatives and conducted a walkthrough of the Butts County Center, and the Griffin Campus Building 200 location.
March 5	Attended the Culinary Arts UK Study Abroad WebEx with the Kendal College Point of Contact.
March 9	Conducted security walkthrough of Trilith-Live in Fayette County, possible 2026 Graduation site with the Registrar, Student Services, and Dr. Johns. Location very suitable as a graduation site.
March 19	Jasper County Center Fire Drill scheduled to be conducted.

March — Field Training Officer (FTO) Program Training, completed by assigned FTOs, Lt. Little, Sgt. Berry, Officer Nixon, Officer D. Little, Officer G. Little, and Officer Watts. GLECP/SCTCPD Mandatory Off Duty Conduct Policy Training.

Strategic Collaboration

March 10 — Chief attended TCSG Curriculum Planning Team for new Basic Law Enforcement Academy Degree meeting. Final draft of degree is ready to present to IFCC in April 2026.

March 11 — TCSG PS Chief of Polices Update WebEx with TCSG Chiefs of Police and TCSG PS Certification Manager Jeff Miller.

March 13 — Study Abroad Check-in with Culinary Arts Instructor.

March 16 — Chief Mercado attended the TCSG PS Police Job Description WebEx meeting. Final draft approved by the committee to present to Chief Ziifle for review.

Community Engagement

March 11 — Chief Mercado attended first GACP Police Chief Magazine planning topics selected for the 2026 first edition. Seeking authors for topics.

March 16 — Flint River Campus Self-Empowerment Expo, extra patrol and assisted with parking.

March 17 — Griffin Campus Self-Empowerment Expo, extra patrol and will assist with parking.

March 18 — Griffin Campus College Fair, extra patrol and will assist with parking.

March 19 — Griffin Campus Career Showcase, extra patrol and will assist with parking.

March 26 — Griffin Campus College Professional Development, Chief Mercado will be presenting "Why, What, and How to contact SCTCPD."

7. Institutional Advancement

Key Highlights

- Five Southern Crescent Technical College Culinary Arts students and one Culinary Arts faculty member are studying abroad in the United Kingdom, and they departed for their travels on March 6, 2026. Southern Crescent Technical College is partnering with Kendall College in the United Kingdom where the students are taking their International Culinary Arts courses over the next 3 weeks.

Recent Gifts

- The Adult Education Program recently received a $10,000 gift from a donor, and a press release will be coming out soon about this generous gift.
- The Adult Education Program received $2,820 from the Flint Energies organization. The donor was thanked wholeheartedly by the Adult Education and Advancement units, and a photo-op was taken for the website and social media.
- Steve Hendrix is working on a $3,000 donation.

Upcoming Events

- The Internal Campaign kick-off is scheduled for March 26. Last year, 67% of our faculty and staff gave back. The four-week internal giving campaign invites faculty and staff to come together in support of student scholarship gap funding. By contributing, employees help remove financial barriers and ensure students have the resources they need to continue their education and complete their programs.
- The Food and Wine Pairings Event is scheduled for April 16, 2026. There are 150 who have registered for the event so far. Tickets are now on sale for the 2026 Food and Wine Pairings. The event will be held in the Frank and Constance Allen Johnson Event Center on the Griffin Campus at 5:30 p.m. Corporate sponsorships for a table for eight are available for $1,250 and individual tickets are available for $90.00. Mr. Workman encouraged participation in this event.

- Community Engagement Dinners – Summer and Fall of 2026 in six counties. These dinners will showcase programs. The first one will be held in Upson County at the Farmer's Market. Dr. Hester requested that the Board be provided a one-pager with talking points.

8. **Institutional Effectiveness (IE)/Information Technology (IT)**

SACSCOC

- IE will be submitting following notifications to SACSCOC:
- New Program: Basic Heavy Equipment TCC to offer 25-49% of this program at the Pike County HS Off-Campus Instructional Site beginning fall 2026.
- IE will be submitting the following prospectuses to SACSCOC:
- New Program: Basic Heavy Equipment TCC to offer >50% of this program at the Pike County HS Off-Campus Instructional Site beginning spring 2027.
- New Off-Campus Instructional Site: Creekside Christian Academy to offer >50% of a program beginning spring 2027. The College currently offers <49% of a program at this site.

Other

- IE is currently coordinating the college-wide Professional Development Day, scheduled for March 26, 2026. The day will begin in the Event Center with keynote speaker Elena Withers with Anderson Corporation. The afternoon session will have concurrent sessions relevant to faculty and staff. The Board was invited to participate.
- The HRSA Grant carryover budget allocation has been approved. The College was able to use Year 1 carry over funds to double the student stipends and adjust salaries for the 8 positions funded by the grant. The College also added a full-time HRSA Coordinator.
- IE has developed a draft Fall 2026 Schedule along with a static Geographic Enrollment Dashboard. IE used Ad Astra scheduling data combined with current student enrollment by major and county of residence. These tools are designed to work together to support informed decision-making as the College finalizes fall offerings. The expectation is that this will help the College be more efficient.
- The February SCTC PIE is included in your packet.

Information Technology

- Audio-visual systems in the Film Technology classrooms have recently been upgraded to enhance both instructional delivery and student learning. The upgrades include new projectors, projector screens, and improved audio systems to support video presentation and classroom teaching. In addition, the AV system in Room 206 on the Griffin Campus has been updated with a new projector, screen, enhanced audio, and integrated video conferencing capability, allowing the space to support hybrid instruction and remote collaboration.
- Interactive touchscreen TVs and monitors have been installed in several classrooms to support more engaging and flexible instruction. These devices allow instructors to use the screen as a virtual whiteboard, annotate content during lessons, and save the whiteboard notes as a PDF that can be shared with students. The touchscreen capability also provides additional opportunities for interactive teaching strategies that enhance classroom engagement and learning.
- Help desk tickets for the month of February 2026 totaled 244 (9 tickets/day average).

G. PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

- Dr. Clark informed the Board that he recently presented at the Peachtree Rotary Club, the Kiwanis Club of Griffin, and the Georgia Association for Water Professionals.
- The College is making progress with the Medical Laboratory Technician program in Upson County, the Radiologic Technology program in Henry County, and the Electrical/Construction/Plumbing

programs in Butts County. The Diesel Technology program currently housed at the Butts County Center will be moving to the Henry County Center.

- Meetings will begin in June with the mayors of the cities in the service delivery area. Discussions will include workforce development and what the College can do to support the local cities and the communities.
- Enrollment is up 8% in the System and credit hours have exceeded the 1 million mark.
- The College is moving forward with the Aviation Maintenance program to be located in Fayette County. The job description for the Aviation Maintenance position is posted.
- George Crews offered kudos to Dr. Clark and the College for the great job with the *Stranger Things* project in Butts County.
- The Governor has to make the final decision on the budget. The College is working with Lobbyist to try to get an appropriation for Aviation Maintenance equipment for welding. They are working to obtain an ~$1 million allocation for Aviation welding equipment. This has passed the House and is now in the Senate. Dr. Clark has met with Senator Brian Strickland and has upcoming meetings scheduled with Senator Rick Williams and Senator Marty Harbin next week. This allocation is contingent upon the Senate keeping this allocation in the budget. Taylor Smith suggested that Dr. Clark also meet Senator Steven McNeel. The System Office is supportive of this request.

H. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion by Steve Ivory, and a second by Dan Owens, the Board voted unanimously to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel and real estate matters at 9:07 a.m.

Following the discussion of the personnel and real estate matters, a motion was made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Crews to reconvene into regular session at 9:15 a.m. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

I. ADJOURN

Mr. Workman thanked everyone for their attendance and participation in the Board meeting. The next Board of Directors meeting will be April 15, 2026. The Board meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

_____

Dr. Irvin T. Clark III, Executive Secretary