

MEETING:

Board of Trustees, Georgia Military College, Usery Conference Room (invite only) and Teleconference

(open to the public), Tuesday, June 1, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

PRESENT:

George Hogan Sr., Chairman of the Board; Members: Mr. Mike Cobb, Mayor Mary Parham-Copelan, Mrs. Doris Renfroe, Rev. Tony Fraley (by phone), LTG William B. Caldwell IV, President of Georgia

Military College, Senior GMC Team members and other interested parties.

ABSENT:

Mr. Ken Vance

## **BUSINESS:**

- 1. Chairman of the Board, Mr. George Hogan, having already declared a quorum to be present, called the meeting to order.
- 2. Chairman Hogan asked for a motion for the minutes of the meeting on April 19, 2021 be approved. Mr. Cobb made the motion, with Mayor Parham-Copelan seconding the motion. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

## 3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Hogan made a special presentation to COL Jim Watkins, GMC Chief Financial Officer, for his retirement from GMC. Chairman Hogan and President Caldwell presented COL Watkins with an engraved saber in recognition of his outstanding dedication and service to GMC for the past seven years. Chairman Hogan also presented COL Watkins with commendation letters from U.S. Representative Jody Hice, U.S. Senator Jon Osoff, and State Representative Rick Williams.

- 4. COL Jim Watkins, GMC CFO, presented the Board with a FY22 Budget Update. The update included the following:
  - On April 19<sup>th</sup>, Mrs. Susie Meeks shared the FY22 Budget with the Board. In that update we showed a deficit of \$3,955,404 because we consciously elected not to include HEERF III funding because we did not know the exact amount at that time.
  - In May, we knew that we would receive somewhere between \$11M to \$12M in HEERF III funding and we conservatively added \$4.2M to the budget which put us at a positive bottom line at \$244,596.
  - The actual HEERF III funding came in at a little over \$11M and once that was added to the budget, along with a couple of other minor changes in staff and reduction in operating expenses in Valdosta, our new budget reflects \$6.8M in the black for FY22.
  - Our operations since FY12 have always finished in the black, we are on glide path in Quarter 1 to make budget or even exceed the budget for FY22, our reserves are strong. Additionally, the GMC Foundation has grown their endowment from \$11M to \$40M in the last eight years, we are completely debt free, and our finances are in great shape.
- 5. Chairman Hogan asked for a motion to approve the updated GMC FY22 Budget as presented by COL Watkins. Mr. Cobb made the motion, with Mayor Parham-Copelan seconding the motion. The motion to approve the updated GMC FY22 Budget was approved by unanimous vote.

- 6. Mr. Mark Strom, Senior Vice President for Institutional Development, gave an update on FY22 and Beyond: Growth Potential and Opportunities. The update included the following:
  - The Global Online College (GOLC) added additional enrollment coaches to help work leads. With an influx of leads, the additional coaches will help to generate more revenue by turning the leads into applications.
  - We have created a centralized marketing function that will do the same (working leads to turn them into applications) for the entire institution, using the same model as the GOLC.
  - We already had a MOU with the Rockdale-Conyers Board of Education to look at moving into the old Board of Education facility that is located in downtown Conyers. BG Rock Donahue, GMC Atlanta Metro Regional Director, has been working this and has already identified an employee from our GMC Fairburn campus to run a field office at the Conyers facility. We believe this campus has the potential to scale to 500 students in the next 3-5 years.
  - We are working with the Stone Mountain Park Association on potentially relocating our GMC Stone Mountain campus to a school building on the grounds of Stone Mountain Park.
  - With the conversion of the Milledgeville campus to the 4+1 schedule, there is potential for additional revenue based on the addition of an extra quarter.
  - Dr. Susan Isaac, Senior Vice President, Chief Academic Officer, and Dean of Faculty, has been working with the Georgia Film Academy and Trilith Studios in Fayetteville in order to come up with a collaborative agreement.
  - The Economic Development Director for Kennesaw, a GMC grad, contacted us about potentially establishing a campus in that area. He did show us a building that was intended for Kennesaw State University that was never occupied, but that was too large of a space. We are excited though to have a contact person in the Kennesaw area to help guide us once we do decide to explore that area further.
  - We right sized our GMC Eastman campus by reallocating and moving people to other locations.
     Our Eastman campus now essentially runs as a night school program that we believe will sustain itself. We are exploring the same option with our GMC Sandersville campus.
  - We are looking to restructure GMC Warner Robins, GMC Augusta, and GMC Valdosta leases.
     With a multi-year decline in in-seat enrollments, all of those campuses have more space than we forecast will be needed.
  - We are continuing to explore the Savannah area for a potential campus location. Representative Gilliard, who was a GMC Milledgeville graduation speaker this year, has offered to assist us in finding a location and we are excited to start working with him.
  - We are continuing to explore the idea for a School for Ethics and Servant Leadership. We have already worked to incorporate character-based education across our curriculum and we are now ready to begin looking at the next component of that initiative which is to offer Continuing Education. Once a Director is in place, Dr. Isaac will work with that person to build certificate programs.
  - Dr. Isaac and the Academic Affairs team are working with Mr. John Melvin, Assistant Director of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, on developing a partnership between GMC and the GBI where students interested in law enforcement, criminal justice, and forensic sciences can earn their degree with us and then work for the GBI upon graduation. We are also looking at potentially having these students be a new type of cadet in our Corps of Cadets so they could simultaneously get the physical training and discipline required to work in law enforcement.

• We have idled our GMC Albany campus but will remain engaged in the community and continue to explore ways in which to continue to serve that community.

(NOTE: SACSCOC was notified of the closure of the GMC Albany campus site at Albany Technical College on 8/25/20 with an implementation date of 10/01/20.)

- We are looking at opportunities to relocate our GMC Columbus campus to the midtown or downtown area of Columbus.
- We have been presented with several opportunities to sublet classroom space in Fayetteville and are looking at this closely and expect we will do something like this.
- 7. Mr. Jeff Gray, Vice President of Engineering, provided an Engineering Update. The update included the following information:
  - Prep School Projects:
    - o K-12 Classrooms Project construction has begun on the first floor of the Old Capitol Building for the 6-12<sup>th</sup> Prep Art Room and in the Annex for the new STEAM classroom.
    - o Engineering team is currently moving furniture around and modifying restrooms for the K-5 students.
    - o Still working on Food Service items, refrigerated self-service shelving, and portion size modifications.
  - Track and Field Complex:
    - o Had the groundbreaking ceremony on May 25, 2021.
    - o Sellers has already begun work on the complex as of May 26<sup>th</sup>, we expect them to be finished by mid-July.
    - We are going to do multiple aerial views of the construction of the track and field complex and periodically post the progress on social media so everyone can watch the construction happen in real time.
  - Junior College Student Success Center (SSC):
    - o The City signed an intergovernmental agreement allowing GMC to move forward with our plan for the additional parking located in the right of ways on the corner of Baldwin St. and South Jefferson St. We will need the Board to vote on the agreement as well.
    - Construction drawings have been submitted to the state. We should not be too far off from having final approval.
  - Parham Hall Human Resources Expansion:
    - o This project is next in line behind the SSC, so construction drawings are just beginning.
    - o This is a smaller project that would probably take about eight months to complete.
  - State Funded MR&R Projects:
    - o New legislative initiative that provided GSFIC with \$25M
    - o GMC requests resulted in 3 Projects for 4 Buildings = \$910K
      - 1. New Library Chiller already ordered, should arrive around June 21st
      - 2. New Miller Hall Cooling Tower already ordered, should arrive around June 21st
      - 3. Stucco Repairs and Water Proofing to OCB repairs started today
      - 4. Canteen Redesign & College Cafeteria Upgrades currently in progress
  - Motor Pool Upgrades
    - o Extending the Motor Pool shelter for our buses

- o Upgraded our bus fleet within last couple of months swapping out two of our older buses
- Center for the Education of the Arts (CEA):
  - o Working with GSFIC on seeking and qualifying bids.
  - o The project is "shovel ready" and we are ready to proceed once the Board approves.
- 8. Chairman Hogan asked for a motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Milledgeville that allows us to add parking spaces for our Junior College Student Success Center in the city's right of ways on the corner of Baldwin St. and South Jefferson St. Mr. Cobb made the motion, with Ms. Renfroe seconding the motion. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote, with Mayor Parham-Copelan recusing herself. Rev. Tony Fraley lost connectivity and did not vote.

## 9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Hogan asked for a motion to move to an Executive Session. Mayor Parham-Copelan made the motion, with Mr. Cobb seconding the motion and an Executive Session was called to order by unanimous vote.

• The Board had a donor discussion.

Chairman Hogan asked for a motion to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene regular session. Mr. Cobb made the motion, with Mayor Parham-Copelan seconding the motion and regular session reconvened by unanimous vote.

- 10. Mayor Parham-Copelan asked Chairman Hogan and the other Board members to revisit the decision to postpone the construction of the Center for the Education of the Arts. After hearing the updated FY22 Budget from COL Watkins and the FY22 growth potential and opportunities presentation from Mr. Mark Strom, and the Executive Session Donor activities and request, she feels strongly that GMC is in a strong financial state and should move forward with the construction of the CEA as soon as possible. Mr. Cobb voiced that his previous concerns have also been alleviated after hearing these updates and he is also supportive of moving forward with this project.
- 11. Chairman Hogan asked for a motion to approve the construction of the Center for the Education of the Arts. Mr. Cobb made the motion, with Mayor Parham-Copelan seconding the motion. The motion to approve the construction of the Center for the Education of the Arts was approved by unanimous vote.
- 12. The next meeting of the Board was scheduled for July 19, 2021. Please note that the time of the meeting has changed to 10:00 a.m.
- 13. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

President, Georgia Military College

George Hogan Chairman	Doris Renfroe Secretary-Treasurer
Reviewed by: LtGen. William B. Caldwell, IV	

## CLOSED MEETING AFFIDAVIT [A copy of the affidavit must be filed with the minutes of the meeting]

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF BALDWIN AFFIDAVIT OF PRESIDING OFFICER

My commission expires: February 2, 2024

Mr. George Hogan, Presiding Officer of the Georgia Military College Board of Trustees, states under oath that the following is true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and belief: The Georgia Military College Board of Trustees met in a duly advertised meeting on June 1, 2021. During such meeting, the Board voted to go into closed session. The executive session was called to order at 11.03 (a.m/p.m. The subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting was devoted to the following matter(s) within the exceptions provided in the open meetings law: Consultation with the board attorney or other legal counsel to discuss pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the county or any officer or employee or in which the county or any officer or employee may be directly involved as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1); Discussion of tax matters made confidential by state law as provided by O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(2) and (insert the citation to the legal authority making the tax matter confidential) \_\_\_\_\_; Discussion of the future acquisition of real estate as provided by O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1); Discussion or deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(2); X Other (describe the exemption to the open meetings law): Discussion on private donor as provided in O.C.G.A. 50-18-72 (29). \* Signature Mr. George Hogan, Presiding Officer, Georgia Military College Board of Trustees Sworn to and subscribed Before me this 1st day of June, 2021. **Notary Public** Signature: