

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
SOUTH CAROLINA FIRST STEPS TO SCHOOL READINESS
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
A SOUTH CAROLINA NONPROFIT CORPORATION**

**September 30, 2009
*Via Conference Call***

MINUTES

Voting Directors Present: Mr. Lewis Smoak, Vice-Chair
Ms. Lisa Van Riper, Secretary
Ms. Judith Aughtry
Dr. Floyd Creech
Ms. Katherine Davis
Ms. Julia Ellen Davis
Dr. Francis Rushton
Ms. Kristin Hook
Ms. Nicky Wallace
Rev. Reece Yandle

Voting Directors Absent: Governor Mark Sanford
Superintendent Jim Rex
Representative Rita Allison, excused
Representative Jimmy Neal
Senator Michael Fair, excused
Senator John Matthews
Ms. Marileen Chapman
Ms. Linda O'Quinn
Mr. Henry Parr, excused

Non-Voting Directors Present: Ms. Susan Jones (designee, SC DOT)
Mr. Tim Ervolina, President/CEO, United Way of SC
Ms. Cindy Sweigart (designee for Mr. C. Earl Hunter,
Director, SC DHEC)

Non- Voting Directors Absent: Ms. Jennifer Buster (designee for Mr. Stan Butkus, SC DDSN)
Ms. Kathleen Hayes, Director, SC DSS
Ms. Angela Flowers (designee, for Ms. John McGill, SC DMH)
Ms. Emma Forkner, Director, SC DHHS
Mr. Lee Catoe, Director, DAODAS
Mr. Jim Griffith, Director, Transportation Assn. of SC
Dr. Paul Krohne, President, SC School Board Association
Dr. Nancy Freeman, Regulatory Advisory Committee
Mr. Bobby Bowers, Director, SC B&CB/ORS
Ms. Lane Jeselnik (designee for Dr. Garrison Walters, SC Commission on
Higher Education)
Dr. David Goble, Director, SC State Library
Ms. Jennifer Buster (designee for Mr. Stan Butkus, SC DDSN)
Ms. Stephanie Frazier (designee for Mr. Barry Russell, President, SC Tech
College System)

Others Present: Ms. Susan DeVenny, SC First Steps
Mr. Rodney Jenkins, SC First Steps
Ms. Debbie Robertson, SC First Steps
Dr. Dan Wuori, SC First Steps
Ms. Mary Payson, SC B&CB, First Steps

Call to Order

Mr. Lewis Smoak called the meeting to order.

Finance and Administration / Executive Committees

Ms. Judith Aughtry provided an update on the impact of the Budget and Control Board's 4.04% cut on the agency. The September cut to First Steps reduces our base by \$604,000 and our CDEPP funds by \$97,000. Ms. Aughtry reported that no action is required on the CDEPP budget at this time.

Ms. Aughtry, on behalf of the Finance and Administration Committee and the Executive Committee, offered the joint committee proposal for addressing the \$604,000 base budget cut. She reviewed the plan to provide board subsidies to local county partnerships, and reviewed the expectations associated with the subsidies. After some discussion, the board voted to accept the committees' recommendation.

Mr. Lewis Smoak thanked Ms. Aughtry and the members of the two committees who worked on the recommendations over the last few weeks, applauding their focus on preserving services to the most at-risk children and on leveraging First Steps limited resources to draw other dollars to the needs of our young children.

Special Recognition

Mr. Smoak thanked Rodney Jenkins for his 10 years of service at First Steps and invited the entire board to join the Executive Committee in a special recognition of Rodney and his family at the next board meeting, October 16, 2009.

Other Business

Mr. Smoak reminded the board of the upcoming VISION 2013 work session in Columbia on October 16, 2009. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.