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4 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

5 SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

6 PECONIC BUILDING, ROOM 101

7 EASTERN CAMPUS

8 -----X

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10 May 10, 2007
11 8:30 a.m.

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BEFORE:

17

WILLIAM D. MOORE, Trustee/Chair

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ACCURATE COURT REPORTING, INC.
6 FRANCES LANE
PORT JEFFERSON, NEW YORK 11777
631-331-3753

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2 P R E S E N T:

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4 WALTER C. HAZLITT, Trustee/Vice Chair

5 FRANK C. TROTTA, Trustee

6 DR. SHIRLEY ROBINSON PIPPINS, President, SCCC

7 BELINDA ALVAREZ-GRONEMAN, Trustee

8 ERNESTO MATTACE, JR., Trustee

9 JERRY KANE, Trustee/Secretary

10 MARY LOU ARANEO, Vice President for
Institutional Advancement

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12 GEORGE GATTA, Vice President for Workforce and
Economic Development

13 JAMES CANNIFF, Vice President for Academic and
Student Affairs

14

15 CHARLES STEIN, Vice President for Business and
Financial Affairs

16 ILENE KREITZER, Executive Director of
Legal Affairs

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18 DREW FAWCETT, Assistant Dean for Institutional
Advancement

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A B S E N T:

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22 DENNIS McCARTHY, Trustee

23 DAVID OCHOA, Trustee

24 JOHN KOMINICKI, Trustee

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ACCURATE COURT REPORTING, INC., 631-331-3753

2 (WHEREUPON, the Suffolk County
3 Community College Board of Trustees
4 meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.
5 and the Pledge of Allegiance was
6 recited. Recognition of Middle States
7 Steering and Coordinating Council
8 Members was held in the La Playa Lounge,
9 after which the members entered Room 101
10 and the official meeting began.)

11 (Time noted 9:20 a.m.)

12 CHAIR MOORE: We're going to get
13 started here, without an official
14 quorum, and we're going to do things
15 that don't require a quorum. So if
16 you're following along on your script,
17 we're going to jump down to Item L and
18 that's -- Chuck will give us our College
19 Finance Report.

20 VICE PRESIDENT STEIN: In your
21 packets, you have the monthly finance
22 reports for revenues and expenses. And
23 in addition, there's a third page which
24 we've labeled "Reconciliation of Monthly
25 Finance Reports to County Estimated Fund

2 Balance Carryover." This third document
3 has been prepared and will be prepared
4 monthly to more clearly explain where
5 the finance report -- where the finance
6 activity is going.

7 For the current year, based upon
8 the budget, our revenues are higher in
9 the budget by about \$1.1 million. And
10 we are projecting our expenditures to be
11 below the adopted budget by about
12 \$315,000.

13 The third page that you have there
14 demonstrates what that means. When the
15 current budget was adopted, it was
16 adopted with expenditures higher than
17 the adopted revenues by \$1,789,000. And
18 that was because the adopted budget had
19 a County estimate that that amount of
20 money would be carried over from last
21 year. That didn't happen. So,
22 therefore, we have to try and make that
23 up this year.

24 And that's what this third page
25 shows. It demonstrates that even though

2 our revenues are coming in higher than
3 the adopted budget by 1.1 million, and
4 our expenses are projected to be below
5 budget by about \$315,000, the difference
6 between that and the way the budget was
7 adopted still leaves about \$300,000.

8 And we're hopeful that this third
9 document, on a monthly basis, will more
10 clearly demonstrate what the finance
11 report is to the board, and I'll be
12 happy to answer any questions about
13 that.

14 VICE CHAIR HAZLITT: Is the figure
15 that the County arrived at carved in
16 stone as opposed to the figure that we
17 came up with?

18 VICE PRESIDENT STEIN: Well,
19 it's -- it's the balance. In other
20 words, it's the number that the County
21 put into balance the budget. And we
22 didn't achieve it --

23 CHAIR MOORE: In the prior -- from
24 the prior year.

25 VICE PRESIDENT STEIN:

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2 (Continuing) -- in the prior year.

3 VICE CHAIR HAZLITT: Yeah. Okay.

4 VICE PRESIDENT STEIN: So you have
5 to deal with it in the current year.

6 DR. PIPPINS: Walter, what I've
7 asked is that their people and our
8 people meet on a regular basis from now
9 on, especially for the conclusion of
10 this fiscal year, so that there'll be no
11 room for as much confusion as has been
12 given in the past.

13 VICE PRESIDENT STEIN: And if I
14 might add, I had a meeting yesterday
15 over at the County. And the County
16 Executive's Office was represented, the
17 Legislature's Budget Review Office was
18 represented, the Comptroller's Office
19 was represented.

20 I called the meeting because I
21 wanted everybody in the same room, and
22 we discussed a number of things, but
23 the -- the -- the carryover --

24 VICE CHAIR HAZLITT: Carryover.

25 VICE PRESIDENT STEIN:

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2 (Continuing) -- reserves, status of
3 funds, et cetera, were all discussed and
4 everyone agrees that we should get
5 together, and we will be doing that in
6 the next two weeks. We actually talked
7 about getting together next week, but
8 because of the report on the County's
9 capital program, it's going to be a
10 little hectic next week for the County
11 representatives, so we'll be getting
12 together the week after.

13 DR. PIPPINS: And for the record,
14 we've indicated each time that we
15 believe the numbers to be different.

16 VICE PRESIDENT STEIN: So I think
17 everybody's getting onto the same page,
18 and we're going to discuss it.

19 CHAIR MOORE: I'm debating whether
20 to ask the question -- well, I'll ask it
21 anyway, what the heck. I'm going to
22 dread this.

23 DR. PIPPINS: If it's really bad, I
24 won't answer.

25 CHAIR MOORE: I'm -- I'm going

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2 to -- I'm not going to ask it, never
3 mind.
4 SECRETARY KANE: Go ahead.
5 CHAIR MOORE: Nope.
6 SECRETARY KANE: Come on.
7 CHAIR MOORE: Uh-uh.
8 SECRETARY KANE: Guts. Guts.
9 CHAIR MOORE: No.
10 TRUSTEE TROTTA: He reserves the
11 right to ask it at a later time.
12 CHAIR MOORE: I want to say it in a
13 diplomatic way and --
14 MS. KREITZER: If you want to
15 reserve the right to --
16 SECRETARY KANE: You've got
17 support, go ahead.
18 TRUSTEE TROTTA: Perhaps, you two
19 could talk after.
20 DR. PIPPINS: Well, you have the
21 Chairman's Report and the Roundtable --
22 CHAIR MOORE: Well, I guess I've
23 got a chance to say it then, don't I?
24 TRUSTEE TROTTA: You'll get another
25 crack at it.

2 CHAIR MOORE: All right. Has
3 this -- has this carryover optimism?

4 VICE PRESIDENT STEIN: I knew he
5 was going to ask it.

6 CHAIR MOORE: Well, only because
7 I -- there's a cynical way of looking at
8 it and then there's a cold numbers
9 reality way of moving forward, and I was
10 going to ignore my cynicism and focus on
11 the reality. If we're having these
12 informational meetings and people are
13 looking at the data together and coming
14 to what should be a more or less agreed
15 upon conclusion, we're really -- we're
16 really spending -- help me here -- that
17 1.7 carryover, we're doing -- we're
18 engaged in forced savings in this budget
19 year to make up for that artificial
20 source of revenue; am I --

21 VICE PRESIDENT STEIN: Either
22 forced savings or more revenue coming
23 into the budget.

24 CHAIR MOORE: Okay. So we had the
25 benefit this year of the 1.1 --

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2 VICE PRESIDENT STEIN: We had
3 the --

4 CHAIR MOORE: (Continuing) --
5 million additional revenue --

6 VICE PRESIDENT STEIN: Yes.

7 CHAIR MOORE: (Continuing) -- then
8 what had been anticipated when the
9 budget was put together?

10 VICE PRESIDENT STEIN: Correct.

11 DR. PIPPINS: But the other way to
12 look at it is that at a time when we
13 could use that money to invest in
14 infrastructure and making the
15 teaching-learning environment more
16 state-of-the-art so people are better
17 prepared for transfer or for jobs, we
18 are depleting the reserve and not making
19 those investments. So -- I mean, that's
20 another perspective on that. You know,
21 that's forced savings -- you should make
22 a strategic choice about where you do
23 that. So I would -- I would add that
24 caveat.

25 VICE PRESIDENT STEIN: That's an

2 important point. Whatever you can't
3 make up in the year, ultimately, could
4 be --

5 CHAIR MOORE: Right.

6 VICE CHAIR HAZLITT: Was there a
7 comment in the Mid. States report about
8 our reserves --

9 DR. PIPPINS: Yes.

10 VICE CHAIR HAZLITT:
11 (Continuing) -- that they're inadequate?

12 DR. PIPPINS: Yes.

13 VICE PRESIDENT STEIN: Well, they
14 said they should be higher. And, you
15 know, we've been talking about that for
16 a couple of years that they should be
17 higher.

18 CHAIR MOORE: Okay. Any other
19 questions for Chuck on this?

20 (WHEREUPON, there was no response.)

21 CHAIR MOORE: Thanks for explaining
22 it that way, I think that was helpful.

23 DR. PIPPINS: Yeah, I think the
24 distinction between forced savings and
25 the inability to invest and completion

2 of reserves is important because we're
3 already in forced savings mode. If the
4 numbers were right, we would be in a
5 forced savings mode.

6 CHAIR MOORE: Okay. This may
7 require some graphics at some point,
8 but -- there are implications to all
9 this, I've got to think it through.

10 The Chairperson's Report. I don't
11 have much to report this month, I'm
12 going to skip and move on. We have
13 not -- we talked about our committees,
14 we haven't yet figured out how to use
15 them most effectively. And I'm
16 respectful of those who don't want to
17 have meetings just for the sake of
18 meetings. We have to find a way to use
19 that structure to advance the board's
20 purpose and the work of the board. So
21 I'm still working on that. I have your
22 requested choices before I impose them
23 on you, so we're okay on that.

24 Any issues, topics that the board
25 members want to share for the good?

2 Questions, concerns -- this is your
3 Roundtable, we're down to Item N.

4 (WHEREUPON, there was no response.)

5 CHAIR MOORE: Spring fever's
6 hitting, everybody's looking to mow
7 their lawns and do other things.

8 Dr. Pippins, it's all yours.

9 DR. PIPPINS: Okay. We have a
10 presentation today by Drew Fawcett, a
11 member of our foundation and
12 Institutional Advancement Unit, and I
13 thought it would be good if he could
14 share with you his latest work.

15 MR. FASSETT: Good morning.

16 CHAIR MOORE: Good morning.

17 MR. FASSETT: I'm Drew Fassett.
18 I'm the Associate Dean for Institutional
19 Advancement. I'm happy to share with
20 you this morning two new commercials
21 that we've produced for the college, and
22 I'd like to start by first acknowledging
23 Dr. Pippins and Vice President Araneo as
24 the impetus for these two new spots.

25 The spots are different than what

2 we had been doing. We're very excited
3 about them. They were basically created
4 for two different reasons that converge.
5 One is, obviously, to continue to drive
6 enrollment, and the other one is to
7 really try to articulate to our
8 community at large why the college is
9 such a vital resource. And we decided
10 to do that through a platform of
11 featuring alumni -- these are actual
12 alumni that you're going to see on the
13 TV spots -- and also engaging two
14 members of our faculty -- two
15 distinguished members, Dr. Candice Foley
16 and Craig Void (phonetic), who are not
17 here at the moment, but you will see
18 them in a few seconds.

19 These spots will start airing on
20 Monday. They will air on News 12,
21 they'll air on Channel 55, they will air
22 on MTV, they will air on Entertainment
23 Television, they will air on TNT, they
24 will air on MTV2 and -- there is one --
25 Comedy Central.

2 So I'm going to -- I'm going to run
3 them for you. There's a couple of
4 seconds of leader before the spots and
5 between the two spots. Also, just as an
6 FYI, this room is not super conducive
7 for viewing television commercials. So
8 the alumni have a -- a caption next to
9 them, which many of you may not be able
10 to see, but, essentially, it'll have the
11 alumni -- the alumnus name, what year
12 they graduated and what they're doing
13 now. For instance, "Dana Stewart, Class
14 of 1998, Veterinary Technician."

15 DR. PIPPINS: And you should focus
16 on the screen because it will move very
17 quickly. So lock your eyes up here --

18 TRUSTEE ALVAREZ-GRONEMAN: Okay.

19 DR. PIPPINS: (Continuing) -- don't
20 blink.

21 MR. FASSETT: I should also say
22 that these spots will be posted on our
23 college web site.

24 (WHEREUPON, the Members viewed the
25 first commercial produced for the

2 college.)

3 MR. FASSETT: Then we have a second
4 one coming up.

5 You also get a sense that -- it
6 shows a broad swath of what -- what --
7 the many opportunities here, from all
8 three campuses, everything from
9 automotive tech to people have gone on
10 for transdegrees for liberal arts and
11 sciences.

12 (WHEREUPON, the Members viewed the
13 second commercial produced for the
14 college.)

15 MR. FASSETT: And there they are.

16 (WHEREUPON, Trustee Mattace joined
17 the proceeding.)

18 (Time noted 9:34 a.m.)

19 MR. FASSETT: As I said, the spots
20 will start running Monday, they run for
21 two weeks to push summer enrollment, and
22 then we'll pick them up again in July
23 and they'll be running for six week to
24 push fall enrollment.

25 Any questions?

2 CHAIR MOORE: That's great.

3 VICE CHAIR HAZLITT: Very nice.

4 TRUSTEE ALVAREZ-GRONEMAN: Very
5 good job.

6 MR. FASSETT: Thank you.

7 DR. PIPPINS: Just to put that in a
8 broader context, this also will be a
9 major torch as we move forward with our
10 plans for the major gifts campaign. The
11 foundation is making significant
12 progress in that area. We're looking at
13 the -- an RFP at this point for
14 feasibility studies for the fall, so we
15 are moving forward with this. And this
16 is just an excellent example of the
17 environment we'll try to create to make
18 that major gifts campaign successful,
19 and I'll be sharing that with you so
20 you'll know what we're getting involved
21 in.

22 This also is a nice segue, too,
23 just a quick moment for you in terms of
24 the wonderful honors convocation we had
25 yesterday, and I thought that, perhaps,

2 Dr. Canniff, with no notice, would stand
3 up and just share with you how -- about
4 that wonderful experience.

5 VICE PRESIDENT CANNIFF: It's an
6 easy program to talk about.

7 Yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock,
8 we had our convocation for our honors
9 program graduates. The largest in the
10 history of the college, about 123, 124
11 graduates. There were 500 people in the
12 Brookhaven Gymnasium yesterday --

13 spouses, parents, children -- and you
14 had to be there to sense the energy, the
15 sense of achievement, the enthusiasm in
16 that room. It's one of the events that
17 I attend, it really makes me proud to be
18 a member of this college because if you
19 listen to those students and what they
20 have achieved and how they feel about
21 this college and their experience, I
22 mean, it really makes you think very
23 positively about what we're doing.

24 Five of the students of the
25 graduates are going to the University of

2 North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Well, if
3 you know anything about that university,
4 it's one of the most difficult
5 universities to get into from outside of
6 North Carolina -- public university.

7 We have students going to NYU with
8 very large colleges, and colleges all
9 across the country.

10 This is a college within a college.
11 Students are really connected to
12 faculty. They're connected to that
13 staff, and they're connected to this
14 college. And as board members, you
15 really need to be proud of what's going
16 on there -- on this program. And I see
17 continued success.

18 I'll be meeting with them -- with
19 the staff and the honors program in June
20 and we'll be talking about how we go
21 forward to grow this program even more.

22 That's my report. Thank you.

23 DR. PIPPINS: Thank you.

24 Mr. Chairman, Bill and I were
25 talking a little bit before the meeting

2 that the nice thing about the honors
3 program is such a reflection of what we
4 do here in terms of taking -- some of
5 those students come in as honors
6 students, but some of those students
7 don't come in as honors students.

8 And there were two people who kind
9 of stood out in my mind yesterday. One
10 was a person who started in our recently
11 developed college success program, now
12 is an honors graduate, was a
13 chancellor's award recipient and made
14 the USA Today All American Team. This
15 is somebody who started out in
16 developmental courses here at Suffolk.

17 And another one who gave herself a
18 label I had never heard -- and I, coming
19 from New York -- called a "super
20 senior," which means, I guess, you were
21 around a year longer than you would have
22 planned to be -- must be an east coast
23 term -- but, anyway, she was selected by
24 her classmates to be the class speaker
25 because of who she is today. And that's

2 just like such a reflection of what this
3 college is all about, and, again, you
4 could all be very proud of that as Board
5 Members.

6 TRUSTEE ALVAREZ-GRONEMAN: Can I
7 just make a suggestion? Could we
8 videotape these particular sessions?
9 You know, like, we missed yesterday's
10 honors. It would have been great to
11 have that on videotape, something for us
12 to keep.

13 DR. PIPPINS: They told me that
14 they did video it --

15 TRUSTEE ALVAREZ-GRONEMAN: Okay.

16 DR. PIPPINS: (Continuing) -- so
17 maybe they'll edit it and bring them in.
18 I thought we might even invite the young
19 woman who gave the class --

20 TRUSTEE TROTTA: That would be
21 nice.

22 TRUSTEE ALVAREZ-GRONEMAN: I think
23 that would be a wonderful thing to do.

24 VICE PRESIDENT CANNIFF: Yes.

25 DR. PIPPINS: (Continuing) --

2 job -- she did an excellent job. But
3 those are the moments that make it all
4 worthwhile. It was just really, really
5 wonderful.

6 That concludes the President's
7 Report, other than there's a nice letter
8 that we received from the presiding
9 officer that is attached to your
10 documents, which I thought you might
11 enjoy seeing.

12 Well, I'm going to read it, I'm
13 told.

14 It's from Bill Lindsey, the
15 presiding officer, just thanking us for
16 the wonderful job that we did for the
17 special program. But I love the way he
18 concluded it, "Once again, I thank you
19 all for the great presentation and the
20 high standards you have set at the
21 college." I'm having this matted and
22 framed, but I'll pass it around so you
23 can see it.

24 Thank you.

25 CHAIR MOORE: That's great.

2 DR. PIPPINS: That concludes the
3 President's Report.

4 SECRETARY KANE: You have a quorum.
5 (Discussion held off the record)

6 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Let's see,
7 we're going to hop around, we'll go back
8 to Item D.

9 I'll entertain a motion to approve
10 our minutes from our April 18th meeting.

11 VICE CHAIR HAZLITT: So moved.

12 SECRETARY KANE: Second.

13 CHAIR MOORE: All in favor?

14 (WHEREUPON, the Member voted.)

15 CHAIR MOORE: Now then, I do
16 apologize to everyone, but you all have
17 to depart the room for a couple of
18 minutes. We've got the Executive
19 Session that I'm to discuss, which
20 involves litigation, and once we have
21 that conversation, we'll come back and
22 pass our resolutions and -- we will be
23 back in an open session after Executive
24 Session. So give us a moment.

25 (WHEREUPON, Executive Session was

2 held, after which the following
3 transpired:)

4 (Time noted 9:55 a.m.)

5 CHAIR MOORE: All right. At this
6 point, I'm going to entertain a motion
7 to approve a series of resolutions;
8 2007.35, .36, and .38 through .42.
9 We're not doing .37, I'll tell you why
10 in a second.

11 TRUSTEE TROTTA: Motion made.

12 TRUSTEE MATTACE: Second.

13 CHAIR MOORE: All in favor?

14 (WHEREUPON, the Members voted.)

15 CHAIR MOORE: Okay. Thank you.

16 We're holding onto .37, which is
17 the Accepting of the Independent
18 Auditor's Report, because the report
19 hasn't been received yet. So we can't
20 accept something we haven't received.
21 So Item 3 will be on our agenda next
22 month.

23 TRUSTEE ALVAREZ-GRONEMAN: Item
24 No. 3.

25 CHAIR MOORE: Item No. 3 will be on

2 next month's agenda, an opportunity to
3 discussion the report.

4 Okay. That wraps up our
5 resolutions.

6 We do have -- you guys are great to
7 come back in and get comfortable.
8 There's no more public business to
9 attend to, and we're going to enter
10 Executive Session again. I apologize.
11 We had -- we had a lawsuit that we were
12 settling and we had to understand the
13 terms and conditions of settlement
14 before we passed the resolution moments
15 ago. That's why we did this in and out
16 and back and forth.

17 But we do have some contracts and
18 diploma issues to discuss in Executive
19 Session, no public business will take
20 place afterwards, so with that --

21 VICE CHAIR HAZLITT: Can I ask one
22 question on the record? What is the
23 change in the -- dealing with the -- the
24 whatchamacallits.

25 CHAIR MOORE: That's helpful.

2 VICE CHAIR HAZLITT: I know, I'm
3 trying to think --

4 DR. PIPPINS: On the revolutions?

5 VICE CHAIR HAZLITT: The -- you
6 made the change in the conditions when
7 you hire a consultant --

8 DR. PIPPINS: That changes the
9 amount.

10 VICE CHAIR HAZLITT:
11 (Continuing) -- is that all --

12 DR. PIPPINS: It goes up to 20,000,
13 as opposed to --

14 MR. DE MAIO: Really, only two
15 changes may effect at what point we
16 would go through a full-fledged RFP
17 process to hire a consultant.
18 Originally that was a \$10,000 threshold,
19 it's now \$20,000.

20 VICE CHAIR HAZLITT: Okay.

21 MR. DE MAIO: And there's also been
22 a waiver policy put in, in the event
23 that there's a project where there's a
24 particular consultant that makes a lot
25 of sense, we can go through a written

2 waiver process up to \$60,000. Beyond
3 that, it would be a full-fledged RFP
4 process as before, and everything would
5 be confirmed by the Board of Trustees.

6 VICE CHAIR HAZLITT: Thank you.

7 CHAIR MOORE: Thanks, John.

8 Okay. Any other comments,
9 questions or concerns from the
10 community?

11 (WHEREUPON, there was no response.)

12 CHAIR MOORE: Thank you all for
13 being here and thanks for sharing in the
14 earlier ceremony.

15 (WHEREUPON, this proceeding was
16 adjourned at 9:58 a.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, THERESA PAPE, a Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public of the State of New York, do hereby certify:

That the foregoing is a true and accurate transcription of the stenographic notes taken herein.

I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage; and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 10th day of May, 2007.

THERESA PAPE