

# Graham County Community College District

## Regular Governing Board Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2025 – 1:00 p.m.  
Student Services Building - District Governing Board Room – 244

Roll Call: Present: Jeff Larson, Chair  
Brad Montierth, Secretary  
Lois Ann Moody, Member  
Tina McMaster, Member  
Vince Kieffer, Member

Absent: None

Also Present: Todd Haynie, President; Heston Welker, Vice President of Administration; Susan Wood, Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs; Phil McBride, Senior Dean of Gila County Campuses; Laurie Pennington, Director of Enterprise Risk Management; Kenny Smith, Dean of Student Services; Nathan Smith, Director of Budgets and Purchasing; Gary Sorensen, Dean of Students; Pete Chidester, Dean of Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences; Kevin Peck, Dean of Business, Computers, & ITE; Keith Alexander, Chief Government Affairs Officer; Pam Woods, Executive Assistant to the Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs; Kris McBride, Director of Marketing and Public Relations; Joel Robinson, Director of Small Business Development Center; Aaron Burk, Dean of STEM; Craig O'Donnal, Director of Support Services and Learning Technology, Information Resources; Jodi Keim, Recording Secretary.

Call to Order: Chair Larson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: Those present at the meeting stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests: Chair Larson extended a warm welcome to all attendees. Guests in attendance included Mitchell Beals, Joni Molloy, Mary Bingham, and Lisa Kieffer.

Administration of Oath of Office: Mrs. Keim, Executive Assistant to the President and the District Governing Board, administered the Oath of Office to elected District Governing Board members, Tina McMaster and Vince Kieffer. (Report attached and incorporated into the official minutes.)

Election of Board Officers: In compliance with A.R.S. §15-1443, officers of the District Governing Board were elected for 2025. (Report attached and incorporated into the official minutes.)

Mrs. McMaster nominated and moved, and Mrs. Moody seconded, that Mr. Larson remain as Chair and that Dr. Montierth remain as Secretary. The motion passed unanimously with Kieffer, McMaster, Moody, Montierth, and Larson voting in favor.

AACCT Representative: The Board was asked to consider designating a member to serve as the District's representative on the Arizona Association of Community College Trustees (AACCT) for 2025. (Report attached and incorporated into the official minutes.)

Mrs. McMaster nominated and moved that Mrs. Moody serve as the AACCT representative for 2025, with Dr. Montierth seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously, with Kieffer, McMaster, Moody, Montierth, and Larson all voting in favor.

Call to The Public: Two members of the public provided comments during the meeting.

Joni Molloy addressed the Board, highlighting the importance of the Oath of Office and their vital role in ensuring checks and balances on spending. She encouraged the Board to consider moving district board meetings to the evening and recommended streaming the meetings online for greater accessibility.

Mitchell Beals expressed his gratitude to the Board for their dedication and service. He underscored the significance of the Oath of Office and encouraged the Board to prioritize the interests of taxpayers in their decision-making processes.



Minutes: Mrs. Moody moved, and Dr. Montieth seconded, to approve the recorded minutes of the Special and Regular meetings held on November 19, 2024. The motion passed unanimously with Kieffer, McMaster, Moody, Montieth, and Larson voting in favor. (Minutes attached and incorporated into the official record.)

Vouchers/  
Financial Reports: Vice President Welker presented the Financial Reports for the period from July 1, 2024, through November 30, 2024, providing an individual synopsis of all funds. (Financial Reports attached and incorporated into the official minutes.)

Dr. Montieth moved, and Mrs. McMaster seconded, to accept the following vouchers:

<u>PAYROLL</u>		<u>EXPENSE</u>	
#P1 (October)	\$3,001,952.41	#1 (October)	\$3,186,084.17
#P1 (November)	\$3,031,177.50	#1 (November)	\$1,327,203.92

The motion passed unanimously, with Kieffer, McMaster, Moody, Montieth, and Larson voting in favor.

### **Reports**

Greenlee County Advisory Committee: Report attached and made part of the official minutes.

Gila County: Report attached and made part of the official minutes.

Foundation/Alumni: Report attached and made part of the official minutes.

### **Old Business**

There were no Old Business items presented for consideration.

### **New Business**

Presentation from Safford Lions Club: President Haynie introduced Safford Lions Club President Kevin Ticer and First Vice President Edmond Lopez, who presented a donation check of \$70,000 to the Eastern Arizona College Foundation. This donation will establish an endowed full-tuition scholarship for a student each year, in perpetuity. The scholarship will be awarded to a graduate of a Graham County high school who resides in Graham County.

President Haynie provided background on the donation, noting that this endowed scholarship is in addition to other financial contributions from the Safford Lions Club. Over the past twelve months, their total cash contributions have amounted to approximately \$120,000. For example, the Safford Lions Club has funded an annual scholarship for the past twenty-five years, currently supporting three scholarships. They also fund a reentry program for former prisoners through a tuition initiative established by Judge Michael Peterson. Additionally, they provide funding to the Counseling Department for student-related expenses.

The Safford Lions Club played a key role in establishing the Eastern Arizona College Lions Club for Students, an active student organization on campus. This past fall, two students were able to attend the Lions Leadership Forum in Louisville, KY, with the support of the Safford Lions Club. (Report attached and incorporated into the official minutes.)

### **Standing Business**

Courses/Curricula: Vice President Wood presented three new course proposals, one course modification, two course deletions, and one new curriculum for consideration. She clarified that HCE 125, "Future Health Professionals," and HCE 126, "Future Health Professionals I," will be deleted after the conclusion of the Spring 2025 semester. (Report attached and incorporated into the official minutes.)



Mrs. Moody moved, and Dr. Montieth seconded, to approve the courses and curricula as presented. The motion was unanimously approved, with Kieffer, McMaster, Moody, Montieth, and Larson voting in favor.

Contracts: There were no contracts presented for consideration.

Policy & Regulations: President Haynie presented Policy 7020.00, "Facilities," for approval. He also presented Regulations 7020.01, "Facility Guidelines," and 7020.02, "Facility Charges," for informational purposes only. (Report attached and incorporated into the official minutes.)

Mrs. McMaster moved, and Mr. Kieffer seconded, to approve Policy 7020.00, "Facilities," as presented. The motion was unanimously approved, with Kieffer, McMaster, Moody, Montieth, and Larson voting in favor.

Personnel: President Haynie provided an update on personnel openings. (Report attached and incorporated into the official minutes.)

**General Information**

Chair Larson announced that the next District Governing Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 20, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

As permitted by A.R.S. §38-431.02(K), President Haynie provided a brief update on current events. He mentioned it's been a busy week with faculty returning to campus on Monday. This week, we held our Monster Symposium for faculty and staff, featuring a series of trainings on our new ERP, Anthology, which is set to go live on Monday, February 3, 2025. The entire team has worked diligently to ensure a smooth transition. Special kudos were given to Dr. Susan Wood and Dr. Aaron Westerfield for their management of this project with the core team. Additionally, we conducted trainings for the new related systems that integrate with Anthology.

Today is Gila Institute for Technology (GIFT) Day, and we welcomed over 400 high school students to campus to introduce them to some of the programs the college offers. It's wonderful to have them here. President Haynie will invite GIFT Superintendent, Clay Emery, to provide a report to the Board at the February meeting.

President Haynie also welcomed our new board member, Vince Kieffer, and congratulated him on his election, along with Tina McMaster on her reelection to the Board.

Looking ahead, President Haynie will be heading to the State Capitol on Monday, January 13. He and Keith Alexander have been invited to attend the Opening Day of the legislative session by Representative Lupe Diaz. They will also attend a reception following the governor's state of the state address at the executive tower, providing an opportunity to visit with the governor. Additionally, President Haynie and Keith Alexander have been invited by Representative Juan Ciscomani to attend President Donald Trump's inauguration in Washington, D.C. on January 20, 2025. January is shaping up to be a busy month.

Students return on Monday, January 13, 2025, and we are excited about the new semester at Eastern Arizona College.

**Adjournment**

Mrs. Moody moved to adjourn the meeting, and Dr. Montieth seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, with Kieffer, McMaster, Moody, Montieth, and Larson all voting in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 1:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



/s/ Jodi Keim

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Jodi Keim  
Recording Secretary

Attest:

/s/ Jeff Larson

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Jeff Larson, Chair

/s/ Brad Montierth

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Brad Montierth, Secretary