

Graham County Community College District

Regular Governing Board Meeting Minutes

August 14, 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 (via Zoom)
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; Kris McBride, Director of Marketing and Public Relations; Keith Alexander, Chief Government Affairs Officer; Craig O'Donnal, Director of Support Services and Learning Technology, Information Resources; Aaron Burk, Dean of STEM; Gary Sorensen, Dean of Students; Nathan Smith, Director of Budgets and Purchasing; Troy Ainsworth, Director of Fiscal Control/Controller; Pete Chidester, Dean of Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences; Kevin Peck, Dean of Business, Computers, & ITE; Aaron Westerfield, Director of Accreditation and Effectiveness; Teresa Bailey, Associate Director of Institutional Research; Pam Woods, Executive Assistant to the Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs; and Jodi Keim, Executive Assistant to the President and District Governing Board/Recording Secretary.

Call to Order: Chair Larson called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

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

Guests: Chair Larson welcomed all in attendance. Guests included Ms. Carla Wall, Technical Manager with the Arizona Auditor General's Office, and Mr. John Dominguez, Auditor at CWDL.

Call to The Public: There were no comments from the public.

Minutes: Mrs. McMaster moved, and Dr. Montierth seconded, to approve the recorded minutes of the Special, Regular, and Executive Session meetings held on June 12, 2025. The motion passed unanimously with Kieffer, McMaster, Moody, Montierth, and Larson voting in favor. (Minutes attached and incorporated into the official record.)

Financial Vouchers: Vice President Welker presented the Expense and Payroll Vouchers for the period from May 1, 2025, to June 30, 2025.

Mr. Kieffer moved, and Dr. Montierth seconded, to accept the following vouchers:

<u>PAYROLL</u>		<u>EXPENSE</u>	
#P1 (May)	\$3,108,948.92	#1 (May)	\$2,306,668.22
#P1 (June)	\$2,433,371.29	#1 (June)	\$2,915,146.95

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



Reports

Greenlee County Advisory Committee:

Chief Alexander proposed the reappointment of Donald Merrell to a three-year term on the Greenlee County Advisory Committee and Terry Hinton to a two-year term. (Report attached and incorporated into the official minutes.)

Dr. Montieth moved, and Mrs. McMaster seconded, to approve the reappointment of Donald Merrell to serve a three-year term and Terry Hinton to serve a two-year term, on the Greenlee County Advisory Committee, effective August 14, 2025. The motion passed unanimously, with Kieffer, McMaster, Moody, Montieth, and Larson voting in favor.

Foundation/Alumni:

The report is attached and incorporated into the official minutes.

Old Business

There were no Old Business items presented for consideration.

New Business

District Financial Audit:

The Arizona Auditor General's Office contracted the District's financial audit to the CPA firm CWDL. Director Troy Ainsworth introduced Carla Wall, Technical Manager with the Auditor General's Office, and John Dominguez, Auditor with CWDL, who both joined the meeting via Zoom. Mr. Dominguez expressed appreciation to Vice President Heston Welker, Troy Ainsworth, Alma Flores, and their teams for being extremely cooperative and well prepared. He reported that the District received an "unmodified" financial audit opinion, confirming that the financial statements were accurate and complete. He further stated that the information in the District's fiscal year 2024 financial statements and the schedule of expenditures of federal awards is reliable. Vice President Welker added that it has been a pleasure working with Mr. Dominguez and CWDL and noted that work has already begun on the 2025 audit. (The report is attached and incorporated into the official minutes.)

2020-2025 Strategic Plan Closeout:

Director Aaron Westerfield provided a summary of the strategic plan, highlighting key outcomes, achievements, and lessons learned over the past five years. He reviewed major milestones and the four initiatives: Foster a Culture of Student Engagement, Enhance Program Offerings, Strengthen Fiscal Responsibility, and Develop a Strategic Enrollment Plan. He expressed appreciation to leadership, staff, faculty, and students for their contributions and announced the launch of a new strategic plan in the spring semester. (Report attached and incorporated into the official minutes.)

Standing Business

Courses/Curricula:

Vice President Wood presented two new Health Care Education (HCE) course proposals for the Board's consideration. (Report attached and incorporated into the official minutes.)

Dr. Montieth moved, and Mrs. McMaster seconded, to approve the new courses 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.

Regulations:

President Haynie presented Regulations 6100.01, "Course Designs for Credit Courses"; 6120.02, "General Education Course Criteria for Transfer Degrees"; 6400.04, "Grade Changes"; 6400.06, "Withdrawal from a Course or from the College"; and 6400.11, "Attendance" for informational purposes only. (The report is attached and incorporated into the official minutes.)

Personnel:

President Haynie provided an update on personnel openings. (Report attached and incorporated into the official minutes.) Not included in the report, Jeff Jones has accepted the position of Associate Professor of Electrical and Instrumentation Technology, effective August 18, 2025.



General Information

Chair Larson announced that the next District Governing Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 11, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

President Haynie noted that the 2026 Profile and housing update contains very positive information. The overall Graham District FTSE for the 2025 academic year increased by 5.41% from the previous year. Housing information indicates 100% occupancy in the residence halls, with significant revenue growth over the past few years. President Haynie noted that if additional beds were available on campus, they would be filled; currently, 45 students remain on the housing waiting list. The 2026 Profile also includes key data points about the College.

As permitted by A.R.S. §38-431.02(K), President Haynie presented a brief summary of current events and provided updates on various topics:

- President Haynie attended the ACCT Governance Leadership Institute last week in Pittsburgh, PA, with Board Member Vince Kieffer and Chair Jeff Larson. President Haynie and Chair Larson participated in a panel discussion on the CEO–board relationship.
- On August 13, he participated in the Voice of the Valley radio program with David Bell, resulting in a positive interview. The recording is available on Gila Valley Central’s website.
- On August 13, the District Executive Team had dinner with the new student officers of the Associated Students of Eastern Arizona College (ASEAC), providing an opportunity to engage with incoming student leadership for the upcoming school year.
- President Haynie will welcome new students at the Monster Bridge on August 14; classes begin Monday, August 18.
- Results from the latest economic study indicate that Eastern Arizona College’s economic impact increased 50% from \$228.7 million last year to \$342.3 million this year—the largest increase of any Arizona community college. President Haynie emphasized that this reflects the significant impact of education on students’ lives and the community. The study is conducted every three years.

Adjournment

Mrs. McMaster moved to adjourn the meeting, and Dr. Montierth seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, with Kieffer, McMaster, Moody, Montierth, and Larson all voting in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 1:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Jodi Keim

Jodi Keim
Recording Secretary

Attest:

/s/ Jeff Larson

Jeff Larson, Chair

/s/ Brad Montierth

Brad Montierth, Secretary

