

Graham County Community College District

Regular Governing Board Meeting Minutes

November 20, 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

Absent: Vince Kieffer, Member

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; Kevin Peck, Dean of Business, Computers, & ITE; Aaron Westerfield, Director of Accreditation and Effectiveness; Kenny Smith, Dean of Student Services; Gary Sorensen, Dean of Students; Aaron Burk, Dean of STEM; Pete Chidester, Dean of Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences; Michael Fox, Professor of Business and Computers; 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 1:01 p.m.

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

Guests: Chair Larson welcomed all in attendance. There were no guests from the community.

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

Minutes: Mrs. Moody moved, and Dr. Montierth seconded, to approve the recorded minutes of the Regular meeting held on October 9, 2025. The motion passed unanimously with 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 September 1, 2025, to September 30, 2025.

Dr. Montierth moved, and Mrs. Moody seconded, to accept the following vouchers:

<u>PAYROLL</u>	<u>EXPENSE</u>
\$2,622,678.79	\$4,327,683.58

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

Reports

Greenlee County Advisory Committee: The report is attached and incorporated into the official minutes.

Foundation/Alumni: The report is attached and incorporated into the official minutes.

Old Business



2026-2029 Academic Calendars: Vice President Wood presented the 2026-2029 Academic Calendars for adoption. (Report attached and made part of the official minutes.)

Mrs. McMaster moved, and Dr. Montierth seconded, to adopt the 2026-2029 Academic Calendars as presented. The motion passed unanimously with McMaster, Moody, Montierth, and Larson voting in favor.

New Business

Consider Turf Field Proposal:

Vice President Welker recommended that Eastern Arizona College enter into a contract with Hellas Construction to install artificial turf at John Mickelson Field, in an amount not to exceed \$3,000,000. This amount includes capacity for additional improvements that may be completed in-house or contracted out. The Hellas proposal is offered through the IGPA purchasing program.

It was noted that while the Hellas contract is not expected to exceed \$2,000,000, an additional \$1,000,000 is budgeted for related improvements such as the concrete border, fencing, parking, and lighting. The turf includes a 12-year warranty and has an estimated 15-year life expectancy. It is approximately 60% cooler than traditional rubber-based turf, is certified for soccer, and will include both soccer and football markings, along with a regulation-size field and a prominent College logo.

Additional facility upgrades include securing and painting the stands, installing hand railings, and exploring additional seating prior to graduation. A walking path is also proposed. (Report attached and incorporated into the official minutes.)

Dr. Montierth moved, and Mrs. McMaster seconded, to authorize the President, or personnel designated by the President, to award and execute a contract, and to sign any other agreements or documents necessary for the installation of artificial turf at John Mickelson Field. The motion passed unanimously, with McMaster, Moody, Montierth, and Larson voting in favor.

Consider AP-113 Classroom Remodel:

Vice President Welker explained that the Administration is seeking approval for the renovation of Classroom 113 in the Academic Programs (AP) Building for the relocation of the Physics and Engineering programs. (Report attached and made part of the official minutes.)

Mrs. Moody moved, and Mrs. McMaster seconded, to authorize the President, or personnel designated by the President, to remodel room 113 in the Academic Programs (AP) Building. The motion passed unanimously, with McMaster, Moody, Montierth, and Larson voting in favor.

Consider Name Change to Campus Building:

President Haynie indicated that the Administration is seeking approval to rename Art Building C to the Multi-Purpose Building to reflect the building's multi-functional role. (Report attached and made part of the official minutes).

Mrs. Moody moved, and Dr. Montierth seconded, to approve the renaming of buildings on Eastern Arizona College Thatcher Campus as presented. The motion passed unanimously, with McMaster, Moody, Montierth, and Larson voting in favor.

Consider Baccalaureate Degree:

President Haynie presented information on the proposed Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Leadership and requested the Board's approval to offer the degree at Eastern Arizona College. This would be the College's fourth baccalaureate program. He also asked that the Board authorize Chair Larson to sign the program feasibility study and execute a resolution to offer the degree.

President Haynie noted that the program is not limited to Business majors and will benefit local industry employees as well as transfer students from other community colleges. ASU has discontinued offering Organizational Leadership in the area, creating an opportunity for EAC to serve this need. The estimated annual cost of \$25,000 reflects the additional load for existing faculty; any need for new full-time faculty would be driven by increased enrollment. (The report is attached and incorporated into the official minutes.)



Dr. Montierth moved, and Mrs. McMaster seconded, to approve the Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Leadership degree as presented and to authorize Chair Larson to sign the program feasibility study and execute a resolution regarding the same. The motion passed unanimously, with McMaster, Moody, Montierth, and Larson voting in favor.

2026-2030
Strategic Plan:

President Haynie and Director Aaron Westerfield presented the 2026–2030 Strategic Plan. They noted the successful completion of the previous five-year plan and emphasized that a strategic plan is effective only when actively used.

The presentation included an overview of the plan’s development process, proposed implementation timeline, and a summary of the key initiatives, objectives, strategies, and impact metrics that will guide the College over the next five years. The plan is organized around the President’s three foundational pillars—Student Success, Community Engagement, and Fiscal Responsibility—which frame all strategic priorities. It emphasizes measurable outcomes, continuous assessment, and alignment with institutional goals to support long-term growth and institutional excellence.

The plan will be launched campus-wide in January 2026. Chair Larson commented that the presentation was very well done. (Report attached and incorporated into the official minutes.)

Standing Business

Courses/Curricula:

Vice President Wood presented one new Technical Education Course (TEC) proposal for the Board’s consideration. (Report attached and incorporated into the official minutes.)

Dr. Montierth moved, and Mrs. McMaster seconded, to approve the new course as presented. The motion was unanimously approved, with McMaster, Moody, Montierth, and Larson voting in favor.

Contracts:

Vice President Welker presented an intergovernmental agreement with the Arizona Board of Regents and the Safford Unified School District for the Board’s consideration. This marks the College’s first participation in the Arizona Teachers Academy. (Report attached and made part of the official minutes.)

Mrs. Moody moved, and Dr. Montierth seconded, to authorize the President, or the President’s designee, to negotiate and execute the Intergovernmental Agreements with the Arizona Board of Regents and the Safford Unified School District, as presented. The motion was unanimously approved, with Trustees McMaster, Moody, Montierth, and Larson voting in favor.

Policy & Regulations:

President Haynie presented the following policies for approval: 2330.00 Quotes and Competitive Bids; 3480.00 Student Activity Funds; 4350.00 Flexbenefit Plan; 4400.00 Retirement Incentive Benefit; and 5310.00 Student Clubs and Organizations. Regulations 4010.01 Guidelines for Full-Time Instructional Faculty – Internal Funding Sources and 4350.01 Flexbenefit Plan Guidelines were presented for review only. (Report attached and incorporated into the official minutes.)

Dr. Montierth moved, and Mrs. Moody seconded, to approve Policies 2330.00 Quotes and Competitive Bids; 3480.00 Student Activity Funds; 4350.00 Flexbenefit Plan; 4400.00 Retirement Incentive Benefit; and 5310.00 Student Clubs and Organizations as presented. The motion was unanimously approved, with McMaster, Moody, Montierth, 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, January 15, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.

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



- The College received notification that its third Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree was approved by the Higher Learning Commission. Curriculum development will take place in summer 2026, with courses starting in fall 2026.
- President Haynie and the Arizona Community College Coordinating Council (AC4) met with Governor Hobbs yesterday to discuss the community college legislative priorities including funding the Arizona Promise scholarships, workforce funding and healthcare dollars.
- Enrollment for the spring semester continues to look positive, with headcount up 3.57% and estimated FTSE up 3.59% as of this morning.
- Cosmetology construction is progressing well.
- The Employee Holiday Luncheon is scheduled for Friday, December 12, at 11:30 a.m.
- President Haynie concluded by wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas.

Adjournment

Mrs. Moody moved to adjourn the meeting, and Dr. Montierth seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved, with McMaster, Moody, Montierth, and Larson voting in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 2:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Jodi Keim

Jodi Keim
Recording Secretary

Attest:

/s/ Jeff Larson

Jeff Larson, Chair

/s/ Brad Montierth

Brad Montierth, Secretary