

Graham County Community College District

Regular Governing Board Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2026 – 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, Executive Vice President of Administration; Susan Wood, Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs; Kenny Smith, Dean of Student Services; Keith Alexander, Chief Government Affairs Officer; Craig O'Donnal, Director of Support Services and Learning Technology, Information Resources; Pete Chidester, Dean of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Fine Arts; Kevin Peck, Dean of Business, Technology, and Workforce Development; Kris McBride, Director of Marketing and Public Relations; Aaron Burk, Dean of STEM and Health Sciences; Aaron Westerfield, Director of Accreditation and Effectiveness; Lydia Newkirk, Director of Human Resources; David Udall, Executive Director of the Foundation; Joel Robinson, Director of Small Business Development Center; Jodi Keim, Executive Assistant to the President and District Governing Board/Recording Secretary.

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

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

Guests: Chair Larson welcomed all in attendance.

New Administrators and Full-Time Faculty: President Haynie introduced the new administrators and full-time faculty. Associate Professor Tiffany Stringfellow attended the meeting.

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 August 13, 2026. The motion passed unanimously with Kieffer, McMaster, Moody, Montierth, and Larson voting in favor. (Minutes attached and incorporated into the official record.)

Financial Vouchers: Executive Vice President Welker presented the Expense and Payroll Vouchers for the period from July 1, 2026, to July 31, 2026.

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

<u>PAYROLL</u>	<u>EXPENSE</u>
#P1 (July) \$3,444,642.47	#1 (July) \$2,609,941.41

The motion passed unanimously with Kieffer, 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 There were no Old Business items presented for consideration.



New Business

Yearly Disclosure of
Potential Conflict of
Interest Form:

President Haynie noted that a copy of the Yearly Disclosure of Potential Conflict of Interest Form was included in each packet. He reminded members to complete the form annually and to update it promptly if any relevant information changes.

2027-2028 Budget
Development Guidelines
& Budget Schedule:

Executive Vice President Welker presented the 2027-2028 Budget Development Guidelines for approval and the Budget Schedule for review. (Report attached and made part of the official minutes.)

Mr. Kieffer moved, and Dr. Montierth seconded, to approve the 2027-2028 Budget Development Guidelines as presented. The motion was unanimously approved, with Kieffer, McMaster, Moody, Montierth, and Larson voting in favor.

Standing Business

Courses/Curricula:

No courses or curricula were submitted for consideration.

Contracts:

Executive Vice President Welker presented a status update on the 2026–2027 District contracts for informational purposes, noting that additional authorizations may be requested as the year progresses. He reminded the Board that the listed contracts were approved in March 2026 and that this report serves as a review. (Report attached and made part of the official minutes.)

Policy & Regulations:

President Haynie presented Policy 4370.00, Enrollment in District-Sponsored College Classes—Tuition Exemption Privilege, for approval. Regulations 4650.01, Procedures for Full-Time Employee Evaluations, and 4651.01, Procedures for Adjunct Faculty Evaluations, were presented for review only. (Report attached and incorporated into the official minutes.)

Dr. Montierth moved, and Mrs. Moody seconded, to approve Policy 4370.00, Enrollment in District-Sponsored College Classes—Tuition Exemption Privilege, as presented. The motion was unanimously approved, with Kieffer, 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 would be held on Thursday, October 8, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.

Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.02(K), President Haynie briefly summarized current events and provided the following updates:

- The semester is off to a strong start. Estimated FTSE increased 2.5%, or 58.2 FTSE, while headcount decreased approximately 3%, or 111 students, indicating higher full-time enrollment. Online enrollment remains below last year's level, as most traditional full-time students preferred face-to-face classes.
- The Scholarship Banquet is scheduled for September 11, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.
- The Board received a copy of the AZ Transfer Report. AZ Transfer is a statewide, legislatively established organization that supports seamless student transfers from Arizona community colleges to universities. President Haynie noted that the report does not track transfers to private or out-of-state universities.
- Copies of the U.S. Constitution and Declaration of Independence are displayed in every campus classroom and have recently been added to the District Governing Board Room.

Executive Session

Mrs. Moody moved, and Mrs. McMaster seconded, to enter Executive Session at 1:26 p.m. to consult with the public body's designated representatives regarding its position and instructions for negotiations involving the purchase, sale, or lease of real property, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(7), and



negotiations with employee organizations concerning compensation provided as fringe benefits to public body employees, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(5). The motion passed unanimously, with Kieffer, McMaster, Moody, Montierth, and Larson voting in favor.

Reconvened to the Public:

The meeting was reopened to the public at 1:59 p.m.

**Board Direction Regarding
the Sale of Property**

During Executive Session, the Board consulted with its designated representatives regarding the sale of certain real property.

Mr. Kieffer moved, and Mrs. McMaster seconded, to authorize the President or the President's designee(s) to implement the Board's executive-session directives concerning the sale of certain real property and to approve the related resolution. The motion passed unanimously, with Kieffer, McMaster, Moody, Montierth, and Larson voting in favor.

**Board Direction Regarding
the Lease of Property**

During Executive Session, the Board consulted with its designated representatives regarding the proposed property lease.

Mrs. McMaster moved, and Mr. Kieffer seconded, to authorize the President or the President's designee to negotiate and execute a lease for all suites at 1013 N. College Avenue, Thatcher, Arizona, and to sign all related documents necessary to finalize the agreement. The motion passed, with Kieffer, McMaster, Moody, and Larson voting in favor. Dr. Montierth abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest.

**Board Direction Regarding
Employee Benefits**

During Executive Session, the Board consulted with its designated representatives regarding employee compensation, specifically employee benefits.

Mrs. Moody moved, and Dr. Montierth seconded, to direct the administration to implement the Board's executive-session directives regarding employee benefits and to approve the benefit package and premiums as presented. The motion passed unanimously, with Kieffer, McMaster, Moody, Montierth, and Larson voting in favor.

Adjournment

Mrs. Moody moved to adjourn the meeting, and Mrs. McMaster seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Kieffer, McMaster, Moody, Montierth, and Larson voting in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Jodi Keim

Jodi Keim
Recording Secretary

Attest:

/s/ Jeff Larson

Jeff Larson, Chair

/s/ Brad Montierth

Brad Montierth, Secretary

