

**COCONINO COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**FEBRUARY 26, 2026**



**COCONINO COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD  
FEBRUARY 26, 2026**

A Regular Meeting of the Coconino Community College District Governing Board was held in person in the Board Room at Coconino Community College, 2800 S. Lone Tree Road, Flagstaff, Arizona. Board Chair Joey Smith called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

**PRESENT:**        Mr. Joey Smith, Chair  
                      Mr. Patrick Hurley, Vice Chair/Secretary  
                      Mr. Eric Eikenberry, Trustee  
                      Ms. Patricia Garcia, Trustee  
                      Dr. Nat White, Trustee

**Also Present:** President Heiser, Ms. Kirsten Mead, Ms. Dianna Sanchez, Ms. Janel States, Dr. Jami Van Ess, Dr. Sandra Hinski, Mr. Tony Williams, Mr. Shane Pablo, Ms. Cathleen Banier-Goff, Ms. Jennifer Jameson, Ms. Kay Leum, Mr. Keith Becker, Mr. Kurt Stull, Ms. Yolanda Yazzie, Mr. Matthew Hernando, Mr. Nathan Schott, Mr. Ryan Bouwhuis, Mr. Mike Anderson, and Mr. Seth Beer.

The February 26, 2026, documents file contains reports, summaries, background materials, and other documents referenced in these minutes.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Vice Chair Hurley moved to approve the agenda as presented. Trustee Garcia seconded the motion. The agenda was approved unanimously (Trustee Eikenberry, Trustee Garcia, Vice Chair Hurley, Trustee White, and Chair Smith voting in favor).

**ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Trustee Garcia moved to approve the consent agenda, and Vice Chair Hurley seconded the motion. The consent agenda was approved unanimously (Trustee Eikenberry, Trustee Garcia, Vice Chair Hurley, Trustee White, and Chair Smith voting in favor).

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Ms. Janel States introduced Mr. Nathan Schott, attorney for the College, Mr. Mike Anderson, Page community member, and Mr. Seth Beer, Core Construction.

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Mike Anderson expressed his appreciation to the Board and Page Center for the First Aid CPR program; however, feels the equipment is lacking. Mr. Anderson has spoken to the Navajo Nation Department of Health to see if they can provide the equipment he perceives is needed for the College. He would like to see the Page Center used at a greater capacity for the community.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** At 6:12 pm a motion was made by Vice Chair Hurley and seconded by Trustee Garcia to enter into Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(1) (legal advice) to discuss the following items:

- A. Allied Health CMAR (\*Possible executive session per A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(3) (advice from legal counsel))
- B. 4<sup>th</sup> St. CMAR (\*Possible executive session per A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(3) (advice from legal counsel))
- C. Allied Health Architect (\*Possible executive session per A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(3) (advice from legal counsel))
- D. 4<sup>th</sup> St. Architect (\*Possible executive session per A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(3) (advice from legal counsel))

The vote was unanimous (Trustee Eikenberry, Trustee Garcia, Vice Chair Hurley, Trustee White, and Chair Smith voting in favor).

**RECONVENED IN OPEN SESSION** at 7:04 pm.

Trustee Eikenberry motioned to reconvene in open session at 7:04 pm. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Hurley. The vote was unanimous (Trustee Eikenberry, Trustee Garcia, Vice Chair Hurley, Trustee White, and Chair Smith voting in favor).

**ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Allied Health CMAR – Dr. Van Ess**

Dr. Van Ess provided an overview of the post-bond procurement process, including committee evaluation and interview steps, and brought forward the recommendation to enter negotiations.

Dr. Van Ess recommends that the Board approve a motion to approve negotiating a contract with Core Construction for the Allied Health building at the Lone Tree Campus.

**Motion:** Trustee Garcia moved to approve negotiating a contract with CORE Construction for the Allied Health Building (Lone Tree Campus).

**Second:** Trustee White

**Abstention:** Vice Chair Hurley abstained due to participation on the selection committee.

**Vote:** Trustee Eikenberry, Trustee Garcia, Chair Smith, and Trustee White voting in favor.

**Result:** Motion carried, 4-0-1

**B. Fourth Street CMAR - Dr. Van Ess**

Dr. Van Ess recommends that the Board approve a motion to approve negotiating a contract with Core Construction for the Fourth Street rebuild.

**Motion:** Trustee Garcia moved to approve negotiating a contract with CORE Construction for the Fourth Street Building project.

**Second:** Trustee White

**Abstention:** Vice Chair Hurley abstained due to participation on the selection committee.

**Vote:** Trustee Eikenberry, Trustee Garcia, Chair Smith, and Trustee White voting in favor.  
**Result:** Motion carried, 4-0-1

**C. Allied Health Architect – Dr. Van Ess**

Dr. Van Ess recommends that the Board approve a motion to approve negotiating a contract with DLR Group for architectural/engineering services for the Allied Health building at the Lone Tree Campus.

**Motion:** Trustee Garcia moved to approve negotiating a contract with DLR Group for architectural/engineering services for the Allied Health building at the Lone Tree Campus.

**Second:** Trustee Eikenberry

**Abstention:** Vice Chair Hurley abstained due to participation on the selection committee.

**Vote:** Trustee Eikenberry, Trustee Garcia, Chair Smith, and Trustee White voting in favor.

**Result:** Motion carried, 4-0-1

**D. Fourth Street Architect – Dr. Van Ess**

Dr. Van Ess recommends that the Board approve a motion to approve negotiating a contract with BWS Architects for the Fourth Street reconstruction project.

**Motion:** Trustee Garcia moved to approve negotiating a contract with Burns Wald-Hopkins Shambach (BWS) for architectural/engineering services for the Fourth Street reconstruction project.

**Second:** Trustee Eikenberry

**Abstention:** Vice Chair Hurley abstained due to participation on the selection committee.

**Vote:** Trustee Eikenberry, Trustee Garcia, Chair Smith, and Trustee White voting in favor.

**Result:** Motion carried, 4-0-1

**E. Foundation Board Representative Confirmation – Chair Smith**

Chair Smith confirmed the current Foundation Board Representative as Trustee White and noted that Trustee White was not present at the January Board meeting.

**Motion:** Trustee Eikenberry nominated Trustee White to continue as Foundation Board Representative.

**Second:** Trustee Garcia

**Vote:** Trustee Eikenberry, Trustee Garcia, Vice Chair Hurley, Chair Smith and Trustee White voting in favor.

**Result:** Motion carried unanimously

**F. Tuition and Fees – Dr. Van Ess**

Dr. Van Ess presented FY2027 tuition and fee recommendations, including adjustments to select non-class fees, a tuition increase, a technology fee increase, and updates to course fees, with implementation effective Fall 2026.

Dr. Van Ess recommends the Board approve tuition and fees as presented, to begin Fall 2026.

**Motion:** Vice Chair Hurley moved to approve tuition and fees for FY2027 as presented.

**Second:** Trustee Garcia

**Vote:** Trustee Eikenberry, Trustee Garcia, Vice Chair Hurley, Chair Smith, and Trustee White voting in favor.

**Result:** Motion carried unanimously

**G. Salary and Benefits – Dr. Van Ess**

Dr. Van Ess presented recommended salary and benefit assumptions for FY2027 budget development, including adjustments for faculty, adjunct faculty, and staff, and benefit-related changes.

Dr. Van Ess recommends the Board direct staff to incorporate the salary and benefits package as presented in the FY2027 budget development.

**Motion:** Vice Chair Hurley moved to direct staff to incorporate the salary and benefits package as presented in the FY2027 budget development.

**Second:** Trustee Garcia

**Vote:** Trustee Eikenberry, Trustee Garcia, Vice Chair Hurley, Chair Smith, and Trustee White voting in favor.

**Result:** Motion carried unanimously

**Board Comment:** The Chair and trustees expressed appreciation for the improved process and clarity of budget-related materials and discussions.

**H. Library IGA – Dr. Van Ess**

Dr. Van Ess presented an updated Library IGA, including adjustments related to rental rate, relocation flexibility in anticipation of construction, and other operational items. The Board discussed non-substantive vs. substantive changes and the role of legal counsel.

Dr. Van Ess recommends the Board adopt a motion to approve the Library IGA and authorize the President to sign, including authority to make non-substantive changes in consultation with legal counsel.

**Motion:** Vice Chair Hurley motioned to approve the Library IGA and authorize the President to sign, including authority to make non-substantive changes in consultation with legal counsel.

**Second:** Trustee Garcia

**Vote:** Trustee Eikenberry, Trustee Garcia, Vice Chair Hurley, Chair Smith, and Trustee White voting in favor.

**I. Detention Academy IGA – Dr. Hinski**

Dr. Hinski presented the updated IGA and cost-sharing addendum, noting minor language changes requiring Board approval.

Dr. Hinski recommends the Board approve the Detention Academy IGA and cost-sharing addendum as presented.

**Motion:** Trustee Eikenberry moved to approve the Detention Academy IGA and cost-sharing addendum as presented.

**Second:** Trustee White

**Vote:** Trustee Eikenberry, Trustee Garcia, Vice Chair Hurley, Chair Smith, and Trustee White voting in favor.

**Result:** Motion carried unanimously

## **INFORMATION AND REPORTS**

### **A. Board Reports**

- i. **Arizona Association of Community College Trustees (AACCT) – Trustee Eikenberry**  
AACCT met in January, electing officers (new Chair, Marie Sullivan) and April 22-23, 2026 was picked for the All Trustee meeting.
- ii. **Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) – Trustee Garcia**  
The ACCT National Congress will be in Chicago and registration is currently open.
- iii. **Foundation Board – Ms. Dianna Sanchez on behalf of Trustee White**
  - Reported the Foundation has engaged an external consultant to support progress toward a \$10 million goal
  - Shared planning underway for a campaign kickoff targeted for the start of the next fiscal year
  - Identified the consultant as **Christy Farley**
- iv. **Alliance Report – Dr. Van Ess**  
Nothing to report until the April DGB meeting.
- v. **Other Reports**
  - None

### **B. President’s Report – President Heiser**

President Heiser provided state and federal updates, including:

- Recent federal budget actions and the District’s future consideration of congressionally directed spending requests
- Accreditation-related developments at the federal level and continued monitoring
- A Department of Labor training grant opportunity and potential district participation, including discussion of longitudinal data systems and workforce outcomes reporting
- State budget status and legislative activity, including monitoring bills of interest

**Campus Highlights:** President Heiser shared the January Comet Chronicles video.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** At 7:49 pm a motion was made by Trustee Garcia and seconded by Vice Chair Hurley to enter into Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(1) (personnel) to discuss the Mid-Year evaluation of the President. The vote was unanimous (Trustee Eikenberry, Trustee Garcia, Vice Chair Hurley, Chair Smith, and Trustee White voting in favor).

**RECONVENED IN OPEN SESSION** at 8:40 pm.

Trustee White motioned to reconvene in open session at 8:40 pm. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Hurley. The vote was unanimous (Trustee Eikenberry, Trustee Garcia, Vice Chair Hurley, Chair Smith, and Trustee White voting in favor).

## **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 8:40 pm.

**FOLLOW UP**

None.

**MINUTES PREPARED BY:**



Ms. Kirsten Mead  
Board Recorder

**ATTEST and APPROVED:**



Mr. Patrick Hurley  
Vice Chair/Secretary of the Board



Mr. Joey Smith  
Board Chair