

**COCONINO COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD**

**WORK SESSION**

**MARCH 18, 2026**



**MINUTES OF A WORK SESSION  
OF THE  
DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD  
MARCH 18, 2026**

A Work Session of the Coconino Community College District Governing Board was held in person and via Zoom at Coconino County College, 2800 S. Lone Tree Rd., Flagstaff, AZ, 86005. Board Chair Joey Smith called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm.

**PRESENT:** Mr. Joey Smith, Board Chair  
Mr. Patrick Hurley, Board Vice Chair/Secretary  
Mr. Erik Eikenberry, Trustee (Zoom)  
Ms. Patricia Garcia, Trustee  
Dr. Nat White, Trustee

**ABSENT:** None

**Also Present:**

President Eric Heiser, Ms. Kirsten Mead, Dr. Adriana Flores-Church, Dr. Sandra Hinski, Mr. Shane Pablo, Ms. Dianna Sanchez, Dr. Jami Van Ess, Mr. Tony Williams, Mr. Mike Anderson, Ms. Cathleen Banier-Goff, Dr. Nolan Begaye, Mr. Keith Becker, Dr. David Borofsky, Mr. Ryan Bowhuis, Ms. Colleen Carscallen, Ms. Alimah Damgaard, Dr. Marcus Ford, Dr. Mark Hartley, Ms. Kay Leum, Dr. Mark Maciha, Mr. Kurt Stull, and Ms. Amelinda Webb.

The March 18, 2026 documents file contains reports, summaries, background materials, and other documents referenced in these minutes.

**1. DISCUSSION / INFORMATION ITEMS**

**A. Policy Review: 70-00 Strategic Planning – Chair Smith**

President Heiser presented updates to the College’s strategic planning approach, shifting from a five-year plan to a two-year strategic sprint model aligned with Higher Learning Commission expectations. Changes include:

- Transition to two-year strategic “sprints” aligned with institutional goals
- Integration of “High-Impact Objectives (HIOs)” into planning cycles
- Emphasis on agility in response to federal policy, enrollment, and environmental changes

The Board discussed:

- Distinction between policy and procedure
- Need for clarity and continuity for future boards
- Ensuring flexibility while maintaining structure

**B. Municipal Advisor Agreement – Dr. Van Ess**

Dr. Van Ess presented the selection of RBC Capital Markets as the College’s municipal advisor to support bond issuance planning and execution. Dr. Van Ess provided:

- Overview of the request for approval (RFP) process and evaluation criteria
- Role of the municipal advisor as a fiduciary to the College
- Advisory responsibilities related to bond timing, structuring, and financial strategy

The Board discussed:

- The importance of fiduciary oversight to ensure the College's best interests
- Fee structures and cost implications associated with municipal advisory services
- The value of expert guidance in navigating bond issuance

### **C. Construction Updates – President Heiser**

#### **i. Architectural Contracts**

President Heiser explained the ongoing construction planning, including negotiations with selected architectural firms DLR Group and BWS Architects. The Board emphasized the importance of timely contract execution to maintain project momentum and ensure progress remains on schedule. They highlighted the need for coordinated Board review at key design milestones (30%, 60%, and 90%) to provide appropriate oversight, while also ensuring project costs remain aligned with established budget expectations.

#### **ii. Kinsey Property Update**

President Heiser provided an update on the Kinsey Elementary School property lease with the U.S. Forest Service, outlining its potential role in supporting program needs during construction. The Board discussed possible uses of the property, the need to clarify lease terms and allowable activities, and the anticipated timeline for receiving a response from the Forest Service.

#### **iii. Sustainability and Building Design – Dr. Marcus Ford**

Dr. Ford shared his experience serving on the FUSD Oversight Committee for the construction of Killip and Marshall Elementary Schools and emphasized the importance of carefully evaluating sustainability in building design. His remarks highlighted considerations such as energy efficiency, long-term operational impacts, and the sustainability of heating and cooling systems. The Board discussed the need to establish clear sustainability goals, balance environmental priorities with fiscal responsibility, and ensure long-term constructability and operational efficiency.

#### **iv. Board Involvement and Design Process – Trustee White**

The Board emphasized the importance of early and ongoing involvement in the design process to ensure clear expectations are established around sustainability, functionality, and cost. They highlighted the need for a structured approach to resolving competing priorities while developing overarching design goals before advancing into detailed architectural work. Throughout the discussion, the Board underscored the importance of aligning all decisions with community values and the College's institutional mission.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm.

**MINUTES PREPARED BY:**

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Ms. Cathleen Banier-Goff  
Board Recorder

**ATTEST and APPROVED:**

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Mr. Patrick Hurley  
Vice Chair/Secretary of the Board

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Mr. Joey Smith  
Board Chair

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