

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS
GALVESTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
4015 Avenue Q
Galveston, Texas 77550
Room M-220 – Moody Hall
September 9, 2026
5:30 p.m.**

At the Regular Meeting of the Galveston Community College District Board of Regents, duly held on Wednesday, September 9, 2026, in Room M-220 of Moody Hall, commencing at 5:30 p.m., the following Regents were present:

Ms. Carolyn L. Sunseri, Chairperson
Mr. Fred D. Raschke, Vice Chairperson
Mr. Michael B. Hughes, Secretary - Excused
Mr. Garrik Addison -Excused
Mr. Armin Cantini
Ms. Karen Flowers
Dr. Norman Hoffman – Attended Virtually
Mr. Raymond Lewis, Jr.
Ms. Mary R. Longoria

Faculty and staff present included Dr. Tracee L. Watts, President, Mr. Daniel Alcantar, Dr. Carmen Allen, Ms. Karen Bell, Dr. Conrad Breitbach, Mr. Ron Crumedy, Ms. Erika De Leon, Ms. Valerie Guidry, Ms. Nicole Levy, Ms. Breanne Lorefice, Mr. Tracy Morgan, Dr. Van Patterson, Ms. LT Rivera, Mr. Stephen Rowe, Mr. Ed Chrnko Salas, and Ms. Kimberly Thomas.

- I. CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING:** Chair Sunseri opened the Regular Meeting at 5:30 p.m. in Room M-220 of Moody Hall and determined a quorum was present.
- II. MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Ms. Sunseri began with a moment of silence and asked Mr. Lewis to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. CERTIFICATION OF POSTING NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING:** Dr. Watts confirmed that the notice of the Regular Meeting had been properly posted on September 2, 2026.
- IV. RECOGNITION OF GUESTS:** There were no guests in attendance.
- V. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE WORKSHOP/SPECIAL MEETING OF AUGUST 5, 2026, THE REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 12, 2026, AND THE PUBLIC HEARING/SPECIAL MEETING OF AUGUST 19, 2026:**

A reading of the minutes was waived. Ms. Sunseri asked for a correction to the August 19th Public Hearing/Special Meeting minutes. Mr. Raschke moved to approve the minutes with the correction to the August 19, 2026, Public Hearing/Special Meeting minutes; Ms. Flowers seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. CITIZENS DESIRING TO APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD ON AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS: There were no citizens desiring to appear before the Board.

VII. INFORMATIVE REPORTS:

1. Student Success Story: Dr. Watts introduced this agenda item. Ms. Carmen Allen, Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Research, presented on the Whitecaps Wellbeing Survey. Takeaways included that students demonstrate strong resilience and optimism, mental health and financial stress continue to surface as primary challenges, signaling the need for continued investment in wellbeing and basic-needs support, and connection is the key improvement opportunity.
2. Monthly Financial Reports –August: Mr. M. Jeff Engbrock, Comptroller/CFO, presented the financial report for the month of August. With 100 percent of the year completed, income generated was \$32,674,846 or 103.7 percent of the fiscal year 2025-26 revenue budget compared to 104.3 percent this time last year. State funds for July are \$5,245,994 or 99.5 percent of the budget, based on the change in how state funds are now distributed. Tuition and fees were \$6,894,509 or 122.8 percent of the budget compared to 116 percent last year. Local taxes are \$19,138,227 or 98.9 percent of the budget compared to 102 percent last year. Local Revenue is \$1,396,115 or 110.1 percent of the budget, compared to 121 percent last year. He reported that total expenses are \$29,605,835 or 94 percent of the expenditure budget, compared to 89.4 percent last year.
3. Presentation of Chief Executive Officer Certification and Report Under Texas Education Code, Section 51.253(c) for the 2025-26 Academic Year – First Through Fourth Quarters: Dr. Watts presented this item to the Board. The College is required to report, in either the fall or the spring, on the issues related to sexual harassment, sexual assault, date violence, and stalking that are defined under the Texas Education Code. When complaints are received the College is required to assess those complaints and act on those complaints. Over the last 12 months, six Title IX reports were received.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA: Ms. Sunseri proceeded with the Consent Agenda. Mr. Raschke moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Action Items No. 1, 3, 4, 5 and 7; Ms. Flowers seconded. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of the Consent Agenda is attached as **Exhibit A**.

IX. ACTION ITEMS:

1. Consider Acceptance of Fiscal Year 2025-26 Fourth Quarter Investment Report: The Board unanimously accepted the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Fourth Quarter Investment Report. This item was passed in the Consent Agenda.
2. Consider Approval of Information Technology and Facilities Departments Listed Preferred Vendors for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year, Which Are Anticipated to Have Goods and/or Services Purchased in an Amount Greater Than \$100,000: Dr. Watts presented this item to the Board. These are vendors primarily in the IT and Facilities Department that we anticipate will go over \$100,000 in the next fiscal year. It does not authorize them to have to go over \$100,000. According to state law we need to notify the Board and since we know that these vendors typically will, because of the nature of these services, we wanted to bring this forward for prior notification and approval. This is something you will start seeing every September, as we start our fiscal year.

Ms. Longoria moved to approve the listed preferred vendors for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, which are anticipated to have goods and/or services purchased in an amount greater than \$100,000; Mr. Lewis seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Consider Acceptance of U. S. Department of Education TRIO – Student Support Services Grant Award – Building Bridges to Success for Project Year 2026-27: The Board unanimously accepted the TRIO – Student Support Services Grant Award – Building Bridges to Success for Project Year 2026-27. This item was passed in the Consent Agenda.
4. Consider Ratifying Acceptance of Texas Workforce Commission Grant: The Board unanimously ratified acceptance of the Texas Workforce Commission Grant. This item was passed in the Consent Agenda.
5. Consider Ratifying Acceptance of Jobs and Education for Texans Grant: The Board unanimously ratified acceptance of the Jobs and Education for Texans Grant. This item was passed in the Consent Agenda.
6. Consider Appointment of Voting Delegate and Alternative for the 2026 Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Leadership Congress: Dr. Watts presented this item to the Board. The ACCT Conference is coming up in October and every college is to authorize a delegate that will take part in a vote at the Congress. We will need to identify a delegate and an alternate.

Ms. Sunseri moved to appoint Ms. Longoria as the voting delegate and Mr. Cantini as the alternate. Mr. Lewis seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Consider Ratifying Appointment of Full-time Instructors: The Board unanimously ratified the appointment of Curt Meyer, and Dr. Ashlyn Alvarado. This item was passed in the Consent Agenda.

X. SPECIAL REPORTS AND COMMENTS:

1. Student Representative: Ms. Alyssa Berry, SGA President gave the SGA report. The following student activities were held:

- Donuts and Directions – 122 people participated
- Food for Thought – 39 students were provided food
- Banana Split Day – 175 people participated
- Primetime Movie Night – 44 students attended

Upcoming Events:

- The Board was provided a calendar in their board folder.

Dr. Watts recognized LT Rivera, Student Activities Coordinator, who found an anonymous donor who provided the food for 39 students for our Food for Thought event.

2. Faculty Representative: Dr. Janene Davison presented on Faculty tenure. She encouraged the board to look at tenure as an investment in faculty. She talked about the process for faculty to gain tenure and addressed some misconceptions around tenure. The College currently has 22 tenured faculty.

3. President: Dr. Watts pointed out the Dates to Remember Sheet, and the Student Activities calendar that were in the Board folders. Other updates included:
 - Dr. Watts thanked all faculty and staff that have helped with enrollment. Enrollment is currently 2,770, which is a 5 percent increase over Fall 2025. Dual credit is up 39 percent at 1,069. The College is currently in week four of Fall A, and Fall B starts October 12th.
 - Tracy Morgan received the 2025 Facilities Maintenance Distinguished Service Award from the Texas Association of Physical Plant Administrators and was recognized on the Texas House of Representatives floor by Representative Terri Leo-Wilson. He was also recently featured in an article for FacilitiesNet, and they are working on a cover feature article.
 - Four Galveston College instructors are in the top five finalists for the Galveston Daily News' Reader's Choice award for "Best Professor"
 1. Dr. Matthew Walker
 2. Hank Deslaurier
 3. Donna Swartz
 4. Dr. Julia Ramirez
 - Galveston College is one of four finalists for the Best University/College and winners will be announced on September 26th.

- At General Assembly it was announced that we were looking to be going into the Caring Campus Initiative with the Institute of Evidence Based Change. Dr. Watts had a meeting with them this week and we will be receiving a grant to implement Caring Campus for our faculty and staff at no cost. While we are implementing staff we will be working on implementation for faculty. It is about making sure our students feel a real sense of belonging here at Galveston College. It is putting real strategy and research behind that. We are thankful for the Institute of Evidence Based Change, and the Trellis Foundation, who is providing the grant.

4. Regents: There were no Regent reports.

5. Chairperson: Ms. Sunseri thanked everyone for all the work they are doing. Having over 1,000 dual credit students is incredible. Ms. Sunseri added that she would like the College to work towards getting all high school graduates, not just dual credit, to feel welcome at Galveston College. Thank you to faculty, staff, and administrators for everything you do to educate, and make our students feel welcome. She expressed sympathy for Mr. Addison and his family. She also reminded everyone that this week is the anniversary of September 11th.

XI. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board, the Regular Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

APPROVED AS CORRECT:

Michael B. Hughes, Secretary

Carolyn L. Sunseri, Chairperson

Consideration of Consent Agenda

The consent agenda format is an organization process for meetings that allows the governing board to focus its time and attention on action items that require more elaboration, information, and/or discussion. The intent of the consent agenda is to support efficiency and effectiveness of the meeting.

A roll call of individual action items will determine the consent agenda. If a Regent has a question or plans to cast a negative vote regarding a specific recommendation, then the Regent(s) need to acknowledge their intention to the Chairperson by show of hand during the roll call. This action item will be considered in the regular order of business as an individual action item.

Those action items that the Regents plan to approve without further question or discussion will be placed on the consent agenda during roll call of individual action items. Upon the creation of the consent agenda, a motion, a second to the motion, and unanimous approval of the Board of Regents is needed to approve the action items. Upon approval of the consent agenda, the Board of Regents will proceed with the remainder of the agenda.

Tally of
Action Items:

	<u>Consent Agenda</u>	<u>President Recommended Separate Action</u>	<u>Board Separate Action</u>	<u>Page #</u>
#1 – Consider Acceptance of Fiscal Year 2026-26 Fourth Quarter Investment Report	✓			57
#2 – Consider Approval of Information Technology and Facilities Departments Listed Preferred Vendors for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year, Which Are Anticipated to Have Goods and/or Services Purchased in an Amount Greater Than \$100,000		✓		61
#3 – Consider Acceptance of U.S. Department of Education TRIO – Student Support Services Grant Award – Building Bridges to Success for Project Year 2026-27	✓			62
#4 – Consider Ratifying Acceptance of Texas Workforce Commission Grant	✓			67
#5 – Consider Ratifying Acceptance of Jobs and Education for Texans Grant	✓			69
#6 – Consider Appointment of Voting Delegate and Alternative for the 2026 Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Leadership Congress		✓		71
#7 – Consider Ratifying Appointment of Full-time Instructors	✓			72