

## **GCCC Board of Trustees**

**Date:** August 18, 2026

**Location:** Omar D. Angeles Endowment Room

**Chair:** Shanda Smith

**Recorder:** Jodie Tewell

### Attendance:

Trustees Present:

David Rupp, Vice Chair

Dr. Merilyn Douglass, Trustee

Bob Larson, Trustee

Jean Clifford, Trustee

Reynaldo Mesa, Trustee

Trustees Absent:

Shanda Smith, Chair

### Others Present:

Dr. Ryan Ruda, President

Karla Armstrong, Vice President for Administrative Services/CFO

Colin Lamb, Vice President for Student Services and Athletics

Dr. Lance Hawvermale, Vice President for Instructional Services

Jodie Tewell, Executive Assistant to the President

Madilyn Limberg, Executive Director, Marketing and PR

Oscar Rivera, Computer Support Specialist

Dana Nanninga, Director of Trio Student Support Services

Lindsey Hawvermale, Accessibility and Tutoring Services Coordinator

Keller Metzker, Assistant Professor of Agriculture and Livestock Judging Coach

Barbara Hernandez, Fine Arts Building Secretary

Bruce Lobmeyer, Assistant Professor of Electrical Technology

Chuck Pfeifer, Dean of Technical Education and Workforce Development

### **Key Actions and Motions**

- Consent Agenda: Approve as presented.

**Motion:** Merilyn Douglass | **Second:** Bob Larson | **Vote Carried:** 5-0

- Monitoring Reports: Reported and will continue work on evaluations
- Review of Monitoring Reports: Approved B.1, 2, and 4 as presented. Trustees will reevaluate B.3 at September's Board meeting.

## **Highlights & Reports**

Vice Chair Comments: Called meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Vice Chair Rupp congratulated Mireya Valadez, August Bustin Buster Award Recipient.

New Employees: Introduced four new employees

Non-Academic Program Review, Student Support Services: Dana Nanninga provided an overview of the TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) program, which serves eligible students through academic support, peer tutoring, college visits, financial literacy education, wellness programming, and resources for non-traditional students. Trustees discussed the program's impact and success, including a recently awarded \$1 million grant, while expressing concern about long-term federal funding uncertainty and emphasizing the importance of continued advocacy for TRIO, SSS, and STEM programs.

Open Comments: None

Consent agenda:

**Move to approve the consent agenda as presented**

**Motion:** Marilyn Douglass

**Second:** Bob Larson

**Ayes:** Rupp, Douglass, Mesa, Larson, Clifford

**Nays:** None

**Motion Carried:** 5-0

Monitoring Reports:

A.1 Board Job Description #8:

Trustees discussed revising the Board self-assessment process in preparation for the upcoming HLC visit, focusing on governance, training, board effectiveness, and processes

for addressing disagreements while ensuring assessments remain constructive and process-oriented rather than personal. The Board agreed to review and refine the assessment language, with updates to be presented next month and consideration given to conducting assessments monthly to document ongoing board evaluation efforts.

### Review of Monitoring Reports

#### B.1 Annual Mission Statement:

Board reached consensus to accept the mission statement as presented.

#### B.2 Annual, Budgeting/Financial Planning/Forecasting #1 and #2:

Consensus to accept as presented.

#### B.3 Annual, Financial Condition

Trustees reviewed proposed revisions to the financial policy related to cash, capital, and uninsured loss reserves, discussing the need for clearer language, inflation-adjusted flexibility, measurable standards, and adequate funding mechanisms for deductibles and unforeseen events while ensuring alignment with audit requirements. The Board supported further evaluation of reserve requirements and requested that proposed revisions, including Policy C, be brought back next month for additional discussion.

#### B.4 Bi-Annual, Executive Constraints #7 and #8

Approve as presented.

### President's Report:

Dr. Ruda provided updates on the start of the fall semester, including in-service activities, campus safety drills, student orientation, legislative engagement, and the importance of continued federal support for Title III, TRIO, and STEM programs. Trustees also reached consensus to move regular Board meetings to noon on the third Tuesday of the month to better accommodate KBOR meeting schedules, with adjusted September and October meeting dates also approved.

Incidental Information: No comments

FCEDC: No report

KACC:

Merilyn reported on KACC discussions, highlighting advocacy efforts for Pell Grants, workforce funding, adult education, extension of tax credits, and the Kansas Promise Act, as well as recent bylaw and code of conduct updates. Trustees also discussed ongoing legislative outreach, concerns about community college funding and potential mergers, and opportunities for stronger collaboration and advocacy under new KBOR leadership.

Ownership Linkage

No comments

Calendar Events: Chamber breakfast tomorrow.

**Adjournment**

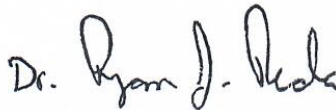
Time: 7:36 pm

**Approval Signatures:**

Jodie Tewell, Deputy Clerk:



Dr. Ryan Ruda, President:



David Rupp, Vice Chairman of the Board:

