

**Garden City Community College
Board of Trustees
June 17, 2025**

Trustees Present: Shanda Smith, Chair
David Rupp, Vice Chair
Dr. Merilyn Douglass, Trustee
Leonard Hitz, Trustee
Bob Larson, Trustee
Jean Clifford, Trustee (Teams)

Others Present: Dr. Ryan Ruda, President
Karla Armstrong, Vice President for Administrative
Services/CFO
Dr. Marc Malone, Vice President for Instructional
Services/CAO
Colin Lamb, Vice President for Student Services/AAD
Madilyn Limberg, Executive Director, Marketing and PR
Jodie Tewell, Executive Assistant to the President
Meghan Flynn, Garden City Telegram Reporter
Cory Kristalyn, Chemistry Assistant Professor
JoAnn Garrier, Counselor
Brittany Martin, Community Member
Mike Muirhead, Director of Public Works and Utilities
Tyler Patterson, Public Works Operation Manager

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Smith called the Board Meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

A. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

Congratulations to Dr. Ruda on his appointment with the Rural
Community College Alliance Board.

B. New Employees

No New Employees

C. Five-Year Department Review: Counseling

JoAnn Garrier, Licensed Mental Health Counselor, reported on the testing center and counseling services. (Supporting Documents Filed with Official Minutes.)

D. Five-Year Department Review: Chemistry

Dr. Cory Kristalyn, Chemistry Assistant Professor, reported on the Chemistry program and department. (Supporting Documents Filed with Official Minutes.)

II. CONSENT AGENDA

Trustees requested to pull Items D, E, and F.

Move to approve Consent Items A, B, and C.

Motion: Marilyn Douglass

Second: Bob Larson

Ayes: Smith, Douglass, Clifford, Hitz, Rupp, Larson

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 6 – 0

(A) Approval of minutes of previous meetings

(Supporting documents filed with official minutes)

(B) Approval of personnel actions- Human Resources

(Supporting documents filed with official minutes)

(C) Approval of Financial Information

(Supporting documents filed with official minutes)

(D.) Approval of Easement with City

Tyler Patterson and Mike Muirhead reported on the project handout and maps given to the Trustees. The project is adding a sidewalk east of Campus Drive and will tie into Tally Tail. Completion of the project is expected early next year. (Supporting documents filed with official minutes)

Move to approve the temporary easement to allow for improving use and access along college property to the newly designed disc golf course and for community benefit.

Motion: David Rupp

Second: Marilyn Douglass

Ayes: Smith, Rupp, Douglass, Hitz, Larson, Clifford

Nays: None

Motion Carries: 6-0

(E.) Property and Casualty Insurance

Dr. Ruda and Karla Armstrong reported on the carrier's renewal Amount. This year, there is a decrease of \$2000. There was discussion on increasing reserves to cover the deductibles. We need to continue looking at ways to increase reserves. We must consider the new legislation on whether schools have more than 6 months' reserves, they will lose funds. (Supporting documents filed with official minutes)

Move to approve the 2025-26 Property and Casualty renewal with KICS for a total of \$695,829.72. Approve the higher cyber limit of \$5,000,000 for an additional premium of \$15,370.

Motion: David Rupp

Second: Leonard Hitz

Ayes: Smith, Rupp, Douglass, Hitz, Larson, Clifford
Nays: None

Motion Carries: 6-0

(F.) Athletic Insurance

Dr. Ruda discussed the information presented to the Trustees. We changed carriers from Star Indemnity to Zurich.
(Supporting documents filed with official minutes)

Move to approve the 2025-26 Athletic Policy renewal with Zurich for an annual premium of \$182,500. Approve the 2025-26 Catastrophic policy with Zurich for the annual premium of \$18,985.

Motion: Marilyn Douglass
Second: Bob Larson

Ayes: Smith, Rupp, Douglass, Hitz, Larson, Clifford
Nays: None

Motion Carries: 6-0

III. CONFIRMATION OF MONITORING REPORTS:

A. Monitoring Reports and ENDS..... Consensus Approval

A-1. Asset Protection

Karla Armstrong reported that the policy change has increased the efficiency of operations.

A-2. Compensation and Benefits

No Comments

B. Review Monitoring Reports

B-1. Treatment of People

No comments or changes to the report.

Trustee Douglass discussed that the rules on public speaking are strict, and she would like to be more welcoming and allow time for everyone who wants to speak. There was discussion on moving the Public Comments before the consent. This will alleviate voting on a topic that may have public comments.

Trustees are in favor of moving Public Comments to section I. Call to Order, with it being the final item.

Discussion on changing from twenty to thirty minutes. Trustee Douglass and Trustee Clifford requested unlimited time for public comments to allow everyone present to speak, whether they were talking on the same topic or not.

Move to change the process of public speaking with the following items: 1. The 20-minute time limit changed to unlimited 2. Keep the 5 minutes per individual. 3. Move Public Comments to Item I as the final item.

Motion: Marilyn Douglass

Second: Jean Clifford

Ayes: Douglass, Clifford, Rupp, Larson

Nays: Smith, Hitz

Motions Carried: 4-2

IV. OTHER

A. Open comments from the public

Brittany Martin, Community Member

B. Presidents Report

Dr. Ruda reported on the Athletic Teams GPAs, Honor Roll, and the STEM Teacher Summit.

August 8 – Budget Retreat at 7:00 am – 1:00 pm, follow up on state and federal updates.

Annually, we update the policy governance manual. The trustees have a handout of where the calendar will fall for the upcoming year. We are building a new website, which will go live in January 2026. We are upgrading to ADA accessibility.

Safety of Campus has traditionally been a bi-annual report, and the reports are similar. It would be more meaningful if we moved to annual in April. The second change has to do with the HLC criterion requirements. Dr. Malone linked the HLC links to the policies.

Chair Smith brought up adding an agenda review annually. The trustees added it to November.

C. Incidental Information

No comments

D. Report from FCEDC

Vice Chair Rupp reported on stats for social media posts.
(Supporting documents filed with official minutes)

E. Report from KACC

Trustee Douglass handed out a summary of the May meeting. Trustee Douglass highlighted number 2. The third page covers the KACC Legislative Committee. There is a call to trustees and

Presidents to work together to form some talking points and events to interact with our Legislators to highlight the value of community colleges to education and their areas.

During the August Retreat, the Trustees will discuss a plan for this. We are hosting a legislative luncheon in December. Trustees discussed inviting industry partners to this event and gathering data on the economic impact of the college on our region. Data points that would resonate with legislators, i.e., the number of businesses we partner with. Trustee Douglass would like to have data points for southwest Kansas.

V. OWNERSHIP LINKAGE

Trustee Hitz commended the Broncbuster Golf Tournament.

Vice Chair Rupp attended the GED Graduation.

Trustees will let Jodie know if they will attend the ACCT Conference in October.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

VII. Adjournment

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:45 pm.

Signature:



Jodie Tewell
Deputy Clerk

Signature:



Dr. Ryan Ruda
President

Signature:



Mrs. Shanda Smith
Chairman of the Board