



WENATCHEE VALLEY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board Meeting

November 19, 2025

Wenatchee Campus, Maguire Center – TEAMS Webinar

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Trustees Present:

Paula Arno Martinez, Chair
Wilma Cartagena
Phylicia Hancock Lewis
Steve Zimmerman
Tamra Jackson

Also Present:

Cabinet Members
Faculty and Staff

TRUSTEE STUDY SESSION – 11:00 am

BOARD OF TRUSTEE COMMUNICATION

Trustees shared updates on statewide engagement, including participation in ACCT Congress and the ACT Fall Conference.

ENROLLMENT UPDATE

The scheduled enrollment report was postponed due to staff absence.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President provided an update on recent campus and community engagement efforts, noting the momentum generated across several initiatives. He highlighted the launch of the Leadership Development Cohort and the Middle Leadership Academy, both designed to strengthen internal leadership capacity and promote professional growth among employees. He also described WVC's participation with the NCW Tech Alliance and the development of the new WVC Speaks lecture series, which aims to broaden community engagement and create opportunities for faculty, staff, and external partners to share expertise. The President reported on the college's continued collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce through CONEXIÓN, and referenced WVC's involvement in World Polio Day events as part of broader regional outreach. He also provided an overview of preparations for the upcoming Dare to Dream event. Finally, he introduced Steve Ward as the Acting Vice President of Administrative Services, emphasizing Ward's extensive system-level experience in financial operations, allocation model development, and statewide policy work. Trustees and cabinet members participated in round-robin introductions to welcome him.

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT PRESENTATION: INSPIRE NORTHWEST CONFERENCE

Dr. Karen Alman presented a case study illustrating student engagement through community-based learning and external partnerships. Students in the case study attended the Inspire NCW Conference.

FIRST READ: TRANSFER CREDIT POLICY (NEW)

Trustees received a first read of the proposed new transfer credit policy. No action taken.

FIRST READ: BOARD POLICY MANUAL REVISIONS

Trustees reviewed draft revisions, including discussion of requiring comments two weeks in advance of board meetings. The

policy will be revised and presented for a second read.

FIRST READ: 2025–2026 OPERATING BUDGET

The proposed 2025-2026 Operating Budget was presented with projected revenues and 2024-2025 actuals.

DEGREE MODIFICATIONS

Instruction presented proposed change in all applicable degree title from Associate in Arts and Science – Direct Transfer Agreement to Associate in Arts – Direct Transfer Agreement. Administration also recommended a change in all applicable degree title from Associates in Technical Science to Associate of Applied Science.

CTEI & FACILITIES UPDATE

Erin Williams and Rich Peters, facilities leadership, shared construction progress, timeline updates, budget status, and adjustments to project contingencies, including reaffirmation that welding remains included in the project scope.

Study Session adjourned at 1:29 PM

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: 3:00 P.M.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

CONSENT AGENDA

October 15, 2025, Regular Board Meeting Minute

Trustee Paula Arno Martinez moved that the consent agenda be approved, The motion was seconded by Phylicia Hancock Lewis and carried unanimously.

MOTION NO 2407

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

The following new employees were introduced: Karina Lahti, Athletic Trainer; Steve Ward, Interim Vice President of Administrative Services.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sharon Weist, WVC Math Faculty: Concerned that the proposed 2025-2026 budget prioritizes non-instruction areas and the need to reduce exempt staff as part of financial stabilization.

Angela Redmon, WVC Math Faculty: Request to consider the CEO's performance that is directly related to the college performance and request to not renew the president's contract. Letter shared with the trustees were submitted anonymously due to fear.

Paul Schmidt, Community Member: Expressed concerns about the president's accessibility and engagement with campus and community members. Mr. Schmidt used to meet with President Richardson regularly in the past.

Janna Goodyear, WVC English Faculty: Job is less about teaching and more about making sure students feel welcomed. Faculty and staff are being harmed by decisions made by higher level leadership: concerns are minimized or dismissed.

Angela Russell, WVC Math Faculty: Would like to see more transparency, and request that the board packet be distributed ahead of time. Would like to see through board review in the contract renewal process.

Jackie Browning, WVC Tutor Center Manger: Shared experience of not having an approved budget. The delayed in the

budget is impacting student services and staffing shortages while noting administrative pay increases.

Kerin Keys. WVC Math Faculty: Ongoing leadership, financial and accreditation concerns warrant consideration before president contract renewal. The Board of Trustees should ensure that the entire 10,000 square feet service area are listened to and taken care of.

SPECIAL REPORTS

AHE President Report

Provided comments regarding instructional impacts and faculty concerns.

WPEA

Not present.

ASWVCO (Omak)

Shared updates on food pantry expansion, FAFSA/WASFA support, increased student activities, and partnerships with local organizations.

ASWVC (Wenatchee)

Submitted a written report outlining SNAP disruptions, food insecurity support, athletics partnerships, and fall programming.

CABINET MEMBER UPDATES

Cabinet members provided brief updates, including:

- Student Affairs programming and athletics developments
- Instructional updates (no further remarks)
- Administrative Services financial planning

ACTION: Action items were reviewed in detail during the board work session

Degree Modifications: Title change from Associate in Arts and Science – Direct Transfer Agreement to Associate in Arts – Direct Transfer Agreement. Administration; Change in all applicable degree title from Associates in Technical Science to Associate of Applied Science.

Moved by Steve Zimmerman; seconded by Paula Arno Martinez; unanimously approved.

MOTION NO 2408

President's Contract Renewal: President Harrison three year contract renewal from January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2029.

The Board conducted a roll call vote on the renewal of the President's contract:

Tamra Jackson: Yay
Steve Zimmerman: Yay
Paula Arno Martinez: Yay
Phylicia Hancock Lewis: Yay
Wilma Cartagena: Yay

The President's contract renewal was approved unanimously by roll call vote.

MOTION NO 2409

3:32 PM

Secretary _____ Date _____

Chair _____ Date _____