



Regular Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Gillette College

9/16/2026 11:30 AMMDT

@ Technical Education Center, 3251 4-J Road, Gillette, WY 82718

Attendance

Present:

Members: Teri Anderson, Josh McGrath, Robert Palmer, Larry Smith, Nello Williams

Guests: Raveena Devjee, Scott Durgin, Dave Horning, Erin Taylor (remote), Jeff Wasserburger

Administration: Janell Oberlander, Elly Henning, Anne Larsen, Glenn Pauley, Barry Spriggs

Faculty: Amanda Malyurek, Vince Davis, Kiley Dodson, Rachelle Gingerich, Chrisondra Kern,

Salena Loveland, Brandi Martin, Cristian Martinez, Megan Norfolk, Jared Vance, Nicole Wolf

Staff: Shantel Moore, Renee Collins, Rachael Lane, Diana Newman, Lindsay Wakefield, Kwin Wilkes

Absent:

Members: Ellis Day, Tracy Wasserburger

I. Call to Order

[Motion Agenda 9-16-2026.doc](#)

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Trustee Smith led the pledge.

B. Roll Call

There is a quorum.

C. Additions/Deletions to Agenda for Wednesday, September 16, 2026

Motion:

Vice Chair Smith requested a motion to approve the Agenda for the Regular GCCD BOT meeting held today, Wednesday, September 16, 2026, with the deletion of 3C the Student Senate Report from the agenda.

Motion moved by Teri Anderson and motion seconded by Josh McGrath. Motion carried.

D. Approval of Consent Agenda for Wednesday, September 16, 2026

1. Minutes of GCCD Regular BOT Meeting Held on August 19, 2026

[Regular Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes 8-19-2026 - DRAFT.pdf](#)

2. Staffing Report

[Staffing Report 9-11-2026.pdf](#)

3. August 2026 Financials

 [August Dashboard Report.pdf](#)

Motion:

Vice Chair Smith requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda for the Regular GCCD BOT meeting held today, Wednesday, September 16, 2026.

Motion moved by Josh McGrath and motion seconded by Robert Palmer.
Motion carried.

II. For the Good of the District

Trustee Anderson spent 2 weeks in California celebrating her mother in-law's 103 birthday. Trustee Williams shared that he and Marsha are going to have 5 new great great grandchildren in the next few months!

A. Good News from the Trustees

A beautiful pronghorn sculpture was donated to the college from the Rockpile Museum Association fundraising event last week, the Parade of Pronghorns. The donors were the Blikres, Kasperiks, Smiths, Lubnaus and Diana Enzi and we're so pleased to have this beautiful original piece of art on campus. The permanent home on campus has yet to be decided.

B. Good News from the College

Dr. Oberlander introduced Shantel Moore, Senior Director of Human Resources, who introduced the first class of Bridge Builders. Bridge Builders is an internal leadership program that was started and took a year to complete. The ten students (Megan Norfolk, Rachelle Gingerich, Salena Loveland, Nicole Wolf, Brandi Martin, Chrondra Kern, Vince Davis, Cristian Martinez, Kiley Dodson and Amanda Malyurek), learned about influence, personal awareness, leadership skills and so many more things! The next group of 9 employees kicks off next week. This graduating class will stay on and mentor the next class. A few participants shared that the DISC profile was beneficial as well as the networking within the class from different departments across the campus.

Krysten Lee, business faculty, graduated from the Gillette Area Leadership Institute class and Dean Diana Newman is part of the next class. Dr. Oberlander is speaking to the incoming class this Friday at their kick off weekend.

Jared Vance, electrical faculty and Faculty Senate President, shared that the Chief Electrical Inspector for the State of Wyoming shared that our program has the highest first time pass rate for journeymen in the state at 93%. The Independent Alliance of the Electrical Industry training for the past 20 years has been in Thermopolis and this year it is coming to Gillette College! There are also currently between 60-65 students in the electrical apprentice program between all four years.

III. Organizational Reports

A. President's Report - President Oberlander

After the last meeting there was a news story that reflected an unclear picture about our job placement and Dr. Oberlander re-iterated that the report doesn't show the whole story and the response rate was only 44 students. The report was very limited in what it showed. The

trustees and the community should know that the college is doing a good job at placing graduates, our nursing has 100% placement rates as an example. We are working on establishing our own internal data to track our students and their employment going forward as we build up our Career Services department.

November is coming soon and we'd like to have the retreat and planning session on November 5.

Accreditation is moving along, the steering committee has been set with Dean Porter and Dean Newman as the co-chairs. The criterion chairs are relatively staying the same. Dates have been set, the last round of arguments are being reviewed and the next drafts will be worked up. We are waiting on acceptance of the provisional plan, then we'll make the decision on whether or not to apply for early accreditation.

The U.S. Department of Education pre-application was approved and we received the application on September 2 for the full application and the application links don't work. On Sept. 4 a service ticket was sent to the Department to assist with the links and we have not heard anything yet.

Remodeling the Main Building needs to be considered as the work on the Enzi Building starts.

The Main Building renovation as well as the soccer field lights are going through the capital construction process so they will be ready when we're ready and at least approved through the process but it doesn't mean we have to actually start them.

The 4th week of classes kicked off and all is well. There will be activities in the Main Building Commons for Constitution Day tomorrow.

B. Administrative Services and Financial Report - Vice President Larsen

Vice President Larsen went over a slide show with updates on the 20 Year Facilities Plan, the next steps for the bond issuance for the Enzi Building.

C. Student Senate Report - President Josh Rogers

This item agenda was taken off.

D. Gillette College Advisory Board Report - Scott Durgin

Scott shared that the Advisory Board sponsored a lunch for the college employees during professional development week. Their first meeting after the summer break was last week. The sub-committees are going well. There are a lot of things going on in the community with the new high school building and the Enzi Building and other it looks like there are also a lot of home lots for sale right now and things seem to be looking really good for Gillette. Heidi Hurley, their newest board member, has been a good addition and she was introduced to the opportunity after her visit to the college during the Gillette Area Leadership Institute 6 months ago.

IV. Old Business

A. Master Plan Approval - Dr. Oberlander

Motion:

Vice Chair Smith requested a motion to approve the 25 Year Master Plan, to include a review in 5 years.

Motion moved by Teri Anderson and motion seconded by Nello Williams. Motion carried.

V. New Business

- A. First Reading Policy 1000.0 Update - Non-Discrimination - Dr. Oberlander

 [1000.0 - Non-Discrimination Statement DRAFT.pdf](#)

Motion:

Vice Chair Smith requested a motion to approve the first reading of Policy 1000.0 – Non-Discrimination.

Motion moved by Josh McGrath and motion seconded by Robert Palmer. Motion carried.

- B. First Reading Policy 1000.9 Update - Conflict of Interest - Dr. Oberlander

 [1000.9- Conflict of Interest DRAFT.pdf](#)

 [1000.9 - Conflict of Interest CURRENT.pdf](#)

Motion:

Vice Chair Smith requested a motion to approve the first reading of Policy 1000.9 – Conflict of Interest.

Motion moved by Robert Palmer and motion seconded by Josh McGrath. Motion carried.

- C. First Reading Policy 1000.13 - Strategic Planning - Dr. Oberlander

 [Policy 1000.13 - Strategic Planning DRAFT.pdf](#)

Motion:

Vice Chair Smith requested a motion to approve the first reading of Policy 1000.13 – Strategic Planning.

Motion moved by Teri Anderson and motion seconded by Josh McGrath. Motion carried.

- D. Constitutional Ballot Measure Discussion - Vice Chair Smith

Erin Taylor, Wyoming Association of Community College Trustees (WACCT) Executive Director, gave an overview of the upcoming property tax initiative that will be on November ballots. Discussion continued regarding the mechanisms of property tax relief, specifically between existing statutory exemptions and the proposed 50% reduction, clarifying that these do not simply add up to a 75% reduction but result in a calculated reduction of approximately 62%. Erin emphasized the need for rational public discourse and education regarding property tax initiatives. Trustees highlighted the importance of local control over tax dollars and the potential risks of giving that control to state-level decision-makers.

Erin provided a detailed overview of resources available on the WACCT website that includes advocacy pages, FAQs regarding Wyoming property taxes, and information about the impact of residential property taxes across various college districts.

Attendance

Present:

Members: Tracy Wasserburger

Motion:

Trustee McGrath moved to pass resolution 002-2027 to oppose the proposition #1 ballot initiative, with the change of reformatting the title to start with affirming the importance of stable revenues for all of Wyoming's community colleges and other entities.

Motion moved by Josh McGrath and motion seconded by Nello Williams. Motion carried.

- VI. Committee Reports
- VII. Public Comments
- VIII. Executive Session pursuant to Wyoming Statute 16-4-405(vii) on matters concerning real estate

Motion:

Vice Chair Smith requested a motion to enter into executive session pursuant to Wyoming Statute 16-4-405 (vii), real estate.

Motion moved by Josh McGrath and motion seconded by Nello Williams. Motion carried at 1:10 p.m.

- IX. Upcoming Events
 - A. September 16, 2026 - Student Senate and Trustees Dinner, 5:30 p.m., Tech Board Room
 - B. October 3, 2026 - Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet, 5:30 p.m., Tech Center
 - C. October 11, 2026 - University of Wyoming exhibition game, TBD, Pronghorn Center

The board re-convened at 1:34 p.m.

- X. Adjourn

Motion:

Vice Chair Smith requested a motion to adjourn.

Motion moved by Josh McGrath and motion seconded by Nello Williams. Motion carried at 1:35 p.m.

Tracy Wassenaar

Ellis Day