

**AMARILLO COLLEGE BOARD OF REGENTS
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
February 24, 2026**

REGENTS PRESENT:

Mr. Jay Barrett, Chair
Mr. John Betancourt
Mrs. Anette Carlisle
Ms. Michele Fortunato Vice-Chair
Ms. Irene Hughes
Mr. Johnny Mize
Dr. Paul Proffer
Ms. Peggy Thomas
Dr. David Woodburn

REGENTS ABSENT:

CAMPUS REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

Ms. Sara Pesina, Representative for the Hereford Hinkson Memorial Campus
Mr. Jeff Turner, Representative for the Moore County Campus

CAMPUS REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT:

CABINET MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Bob Austin, Vice President of Student Affairs
Mr. Kevin Ball, Vice President of Communications and Marketing
Dr. Mychal Coleman, Vice President of Human Resources
Dr. Jamelle Conner, President
Mr. Joe Bill Sherrod, Vice President of Institutional Advancement
Ms. Denese Skinner, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives
Dr. Frank Sobey, Vice President of Academic Affairs
Mr. Mark White, Executive Vice President and General Counsel

CABINET MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. John Adair – Community Member
Ms. Ash Albright – KAMR
Ms. Mary Allen – Community Member
Ms. Melissa Allen – Community Member
Mr. Tristan Allen – Community Member
Ms. Kathy Ancira – Community Member
Mr. Michael Ancira – Community Member
Ms. Jessica Arce – Administrative Assistant
Mr. Martin Birkenfeld – Community Member
Mr. Blake Bogdan – Weaver and Tidwell, LLP
Chief Elizabeth Brown – Amarillo College Police
Mr. Henry Brown – Community Member
Mr. Jasper Brown – Community Member
Mr. Wesley Brown – Community Member

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Ms. Kim Bruce – Communications Coordinator
Mr. Travis Casner – Weaver and Tidwell, LLP
Officer Daniel Chavez – Amarillo College Police
Mr. Ben Dow – Community Member
Ms. Grace Dow – Community Member
Ms. Kristin Dow – Community Member
Mr. Owen Dow – Community Member
Ms. Tammy Coats – Director of Human Resources
Mr. Martin Conner – Community Member
Ms. Tiffani Crosley – Associate Vice President of Business Affairs
Mr. Joe Dwyer – Community member
Mr. McCall Dwyer – Community Member
Mr. Addison Ebarb – Whitley Penn
Officer Ehklo Htoo – Amarillo College Police
Mr. Mike Fisher – Community Member
Ms. Alexis Gonzales – Community Member
Ms. Ally Greenwood – Executive Assistant & Asst. Secretary to the Board
Ms. Amber Hamilton – Director of Student Life
Ms. Holly Hofmann – Director of the HSI STEM grant
Officer David Hagler – Community Member
Sgt. Mike Hancock – Community Member
Ms. Rosie Hancock – Community Member
Dr. Chris Hudson – Faculty Senate President
Ms. Kennedy Juarez – Vice President of Student Government Association
Mr. Jack Kessler – KAMR
Ms. Shannon Kuster – Community Member
Mr. Christopher Key – Coordinator, Marketing Special Projects
Ms. Raygan Lopez – KVII ABC 7
Ms. Brianna Maestas – Amarillo Tribune
Ms. Ashley McLaughlin – Community Member
Mr. Ty McLaughlin – Community Member
Ms. Krystal Mooneyham – Community Mmember
Ms. Patricia Moreno – Community Member
Mr. Kenneth Netardus – AC Attorney
Ms. Sadie Newsome – Director Marketing
Mr. Jesse Pfrimmer – Community Member
Mr. Jason Riddlespurger – City of Amarillo
Ms. Sierra Schaben – Student
Ms. Paige Stockton – News Channel 10
Ms. Kristin Strod – Community Member
Ms. Nell Williams – Amarillo Globe News
Mr. Shon Wagner – Audio Visual Technical Leader - Information Technology
Mr. Michael Woodard – Community Member
Ms. Courtney White – Community Member

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mr. Jay Barrett, Chair of the Board of Regents. He welcomed those in attendance. A quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**PRAYER**

Sierra Schaben prayed with Board.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were two public comments.

SGA REPORT

Ms. Kennedy Juarez, SGA Vice-President, gave the SGA Report. Topics discussed were:

- Badger Connect.
- Mr. Gattis After Hours event.
- Breakfast Club.
- STEM Career Fair.
- SGA's new location, The Student Life and Conference Center.

REGENT'S REPORTS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMENTS REGARDING AC AFFILIATES**Executive Committee**

Mr. Barrett reported that the committee met to discuss the audit report, as well as to set the board agenda, and Sharpened Iron Studios.

AC Foundation

Mr. Mize reported that the Foundation met on February 12th where they discussed the President's Report, financial effectiveness, treasurers report and financial statements. Mr. Mize reported that assets are at \$92 million. They also reviewed annual performance reports.

Amarillo Museum of Art (AMoA)

Ms. Fortunato shared that the museum board met on February 19th. The Art Alliance presented AMoA a check for \$125,000 from Christmas Roundup. She continued that the recent annual fundraiser gala raised \$57,000. The museum will be participating in a blockbuster exhibit event for the 100 anniversary of Route 66. Amarillo College will be partnering with AMoA on March 27th for Ignite the Arts. She concluded by reminding everyone about the 20x20 event on April 2nd.

Panhandle PBS

Ms. Thomas reported that Panhandle PBS has retained Jacy Jenks with the non-profit connection to conduct a confidential feasibility study to assess the stations readiness and potential success in launching a major gifts campaign. The study will give guidance to determine the direction the station moves forward in the year 2027-2028.

Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ)

No report.

Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone 2 (TIRZ 2)

No report

Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone 3 (TIRZ 3)

No report.

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Mrs. Carlisle reported that the committee met last week to go over the updates on policy after the legislative session and House Bill 37. Staff is working on some policies that need to be changed. These changes will be reviewed soon, either in March or April's board meetings.

Finance Committee (AC Investment, Potential Lease & Sales Opportunities)

Mr. Mize discussed that finance committee met last Tuesday and discussed the two audits on will tonight's agenda.

Legislative Affairs Committee

No report.

Community College Association of Texas Trustees (CCATT)

Mrs. Thomas discussed that in January she took the CCATT new orientation and resource and survey for new trustees.

Nominating Committee

No report.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Dr. Jamelle Conner provided the President's report. Region 16 is developing a Rural Pathway Excellence Program (RPEP), focused on computer information systems and cyber security pathways. RPEP will utilize AC's Moore County Campus as a technology hub to deliver dual credit to 9 rural ISDs.

- IO delivered 19 courses through grant funded programs, customized contract training, an open enrollment offerings 428 participants. This activity reflects strong regional demand for workforce training.
- IO collaborated with academic affairs to host evening academic courses. The IO team met with 11 different business leaders to ask what their training needs are to further develop the offerings at the IO
- Partnership with Workforce solutions to assist with helping employees who were affected by Tyson layoffs. AC is working on a class for advanced manufacturing that can be completed in 10 weeks, as well as looking at AEL & GED programs that could be completed in this timeframe.
- Three faculty members attended TCCTA, where Dr. Robert Fulton, Professor Sara Welshimer were featured speakers. Dr. Chris Hudson also served on a panel to discuss Senate Bill 37 and faculty senates.
- The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has had a delay in disbursing college payments of state funding that was scheduled in mid-February due to increases in certain outcomes in prior year. AC is set to receive 4.6 million dollars.
- Phi Theta Kappa has been recognized as the 2025 Reach chapter.
- American Advertising Federation Awards, AC students received a gold Addie and received a special judges award for the Fall 2024 Current magazine. They will advance to district.
- AC baseball season.
- Discussed AC Foundation events such as Love our Donors and Keep us Live.
- Jam with Love.
- Club West meeting.
- PBS *Lights Camera Murder* event.
- Strategic planning events.

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Ms. Ally Greenwood gave Officer Elizabeth Brown the oath of office and swore her in as the Chief of Police for Amarillo College.

MINUTES

Minutes of the special board meeting on January 28, 2026, and regular board meeting on February 2, 2026, were provided to the Regents.

Dr. Woodburn moved to approve the minutes for the special board meeting on January 28, 2026. Ms. Hughes seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Carlisle moved for approve the minutes of the regular board meeting on February 2, 2026. Ms. Fortunato seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda was provided to the board.

Dr. Woodburn moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Mize seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

AMARILLO COLLEGE REGENT REAPPOINTED TO TAX INCREMENT REINVESTMENT ZONE (TIRZ) 2 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

This item was placed on the agenda so the board could appoint Ms. Denese Skinner to the Board of directors for TIRZ 2.

Dr. Woodburn moved to appoint Denese Skinner to the TIRZ 2 board of directors. Mrs. Carlisle seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT FOR 2024-2025

Addison Ebarb, representing Whitley Penn, presented the regular audit report for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2025. Copies of the audit were provided to the Board. Mr. Ebarb went overview of the audit scope, financial statement audit results, federal and state single audit results, and key takeaways. AC received an Unmodified clean opinion. There were no findings or questioned costs, no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance, and schedule of expenditures of state awards (SESA)'s were prepared accurately and timely.

Ms. Fortunato suggested postponing approval of the annual audit till the finance committee could meet with the annual auditors on the board's questions. There was no vote on this item.

FORENSIC AUDIT REPORT

Mr. Travis Casner and Mr. Blake Bogdan, representatives of Weaver and Tidwell, LLP, discussed the final report on the forensic audit and investigation of the College's finances for the 2019-2025 period. The summary of findings was:

- That all funds are accounted for. No funds were found to be missing. No payments were found to be made to unknown vendors.
- The bond program projects cost more than anticipated. The scope of these construction projects expanded over time.
- Construction management costs were more than anticipated because the Master Program Plan Manger contract was renegotiated and increased without the approval of the Board of Regents.

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- Cost increases, the expanded scope of projects, and renegotiation of the Master Program Plan Manager contract were not adequately communicated to the Board of Regents.
- These increased expenses were paid primarily out of Amarillo College's unrestricted funds.
- The payment of these costs out of unrestricted funds was not adequately and timely reported to the Board of Regents.

Mr. Casner and Mr. Bogdan answered questions from the Board and engaged in discussion on their analysis.

Mrs. Carlisle moved to approve the forensic audit report. Dr. Woodburn seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Ms. Crosley discussed the monthly financial analysis and discussed the financial statements for December 31, 2025, with the Board.

Dr. Woodburn moved to approve the December 31, 2025, financial reports. Mrs. Carlisle seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

PURCHASE OF HSI FUNDED EQUIPMENT

Ms. Holly Hofmann requested approval for equipment for the Health Science Simulation Center to support OB/GYN training for students. The equipment request included:

- Ultrasound Simulator Base Unit, software, and components.
- OB/GYN 1st Trimester Package & Transvaginal Transducer and components.
- GYN Package 1 - Subserosal Fibroid; Submucosal Fibroid; Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome; Ovarian Torsion; Ovarian Teratoma; Intrauterine Contraceptive Device (IUD); Endometrial Cancer.

The OB/GYN Simulation Equipment will enhance instructional quality and support enrollment growth by providing hands-on simulation learning experiences. The OB/GYN simulator will be purchased from Elevate Healthcare utilizing the Sourcewell Contract #011822-CAE & Sourcewell Member ID 155376 in the amount of \$77,268.07.

Dr. Proffer moved to approve the HSI STEM funded equipment from Elevate Healthcare utilizing the Sourcewell Contract #011822-cae & Sourcewell Member ID 155376 in the amount of \$77,268.07. Mr. Mize seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

UPDATE. PRICE CHANGE. PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES – CDL SIMULATOR

Ms. Denese Skinner explained that the Board approved spending \$122,000 for a CDL Simulator for the Moore County Campus during the January 2026 Board meeting. Subsequently, Moore County leadership opted to add an extended warranty in the amount of \$7,400 and installation for \$3,700. Ms. Skinner requested approval for the additional \$12,777 that will be paid using Moore County's institutional funds.

The original request of \$120,323 will be paid by Perkins (approved in January by the Board) and \$12,777 will be paid using Moore County Institutional funds.

Mrs. Carlisle moved to approve the additional cost of \$12,777.00 for a CDL Simulator for the Moore County Campus through Sourcewell Contract #011822-VIR. Ms. Thomas seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL – KACV-TV/ PANHANDLE PBS GRANT AWARD ACCEPTANCE – Mr. Kevin Ball

Mr. Kevin Ball clarified that this request is for KACV-TV not KACT-TV. Mr. Ball discussed that this item was placed on the agenda to approve the resolution to accept a Grant that was awarded to KACV TV/Panhandle PBS in the amount of \$737,075 from the Public Media Company (“PMC”) which includes funding for capital equipment upgrades that support critical technical infrastructure maintenance and broadcast operations for the grant period 12-1-2025 through 11-30-2026. \$442,245 (60%) of the grant funds were awarded to KACV-TV/Panhandle PBS in December of 2025. All Grant funds must be utilized for upgrades by 11-30-2026 as outlined in the Public Media Bridge Fund Grant Agreement of 12-1-2025. The Grantee primary contact is Kevin Ball, CEO, KACV-TV/Panhandle PBS. In order to receive the final \$294,830 (40%) of Grant funds, Panhandle PBS requests approval from the AC Board of Regents to proceed with the acceptance of the Grant.

Mr. Betancourt moved to authorize and direct Kevin Ball, CEO, KACV-TV/Panhandle PBS to execute the Grant Agreement on behalf of Amarillo College and to take all actions necessary to fulfill the organization's obligations under the Grant. Ms. Hughes seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Carlisle moved to adjourn. Ms. Hughes seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Sara Pesina, Secretary