AMARILLO COLLEGE BOARD OF REGENTS
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
May 19, 2026

REGENTS PRESENT:
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:
Mr. Jay Barrett, Chair

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
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:
Mr. Joe Bill Sherrod, Vice President of Institutional Advancement

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

The Regular Board Meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by Ms. Michele Fortunato, Vice-Chair of the Board of Regents. She welcomed those in attendance. A quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRAYER
Student Jocelyn Hernandez prayed with Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT
There were no public comments.

HEREFORD CAMPUS UPDATE
Ms. Tina Babb and Ms. Emmy Ruiz provided the Hereford Campus update which discussed:
- Community partner donations to support Kid's College which starts on June 1st.
- A recent $10,000 scholarship donation
- Campus engagement in community events
- Partnerships with HISD to increase engagement and outreach
- Expanded summer offerings in ESL/GED and Microbiology
- New 5-week CDL program for Fall 2026
- The Academic Success Centers expansion of science tutoring services, modernized learning environments, and increased testing capabilities.
- Student Life and Clubs
- CE expanded offerings in phlebotomy, ESL, and Dual Credit
- Retention.
- Badger Bound.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT
Dr. Jamelle Conner provided the President's report which discussed:
- Commencement ceremonies on May 15th.
- The upcoming Texas Tribune and Amarillo Chamber of Commerce discussion at the IO on AI data centers.
- Headcount for summer classes is at 3,961 students, which is a 12.9% increase compared to last year. Fall registration is showing 4,340, a 9% increase in growth due to an increase in dual credit. Enrollment is ahead of schedule.
- Mr. Matt Franklin has joined Panhandle PBS as the new station manager as of May 1st.
- PBS annual meeting in Austin.
- State Auditor's Office DEI audit.
- Proposed student demographic weight adjustment changes.
- CEO Summer TACC meeting
- Associate Degree Nursing Program 2025 NCLEX first time pass rates have fallen below the average. There will be a self-study report due by July 1st.
- Texas Workforce Commissioner visit to AC for a JET Grant check presentation.
- Pizza with the President event.
- WT Community Scholars awards.
- Texas Tech visit to discuss strengthening pathway partnerships scholars' programs.
- Meeting with Dr. Jill Hernandez from Texas Tech on Honors programs.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
Dr. Woodburn reported the nominating committee met. The committee's recommendation is to keep Mr. Jay Barrett as Chair, Ms. Michele Fortunato as Vice-Chair, and adding Ms. Irene Hughes as Secretary.

Upon recommendation of the committee, the motion carried with Mr. Betancourt abstaining.

MINUTES
Minutes of the special board workshop on April 23, 2026, and the regular board meeting on April 28, 2026, were provided to the Regents.

Mr. Mize moved to approve the minutes for the special board meeting on April 23, 2026. Ms. Thomas seconded. Mrs. Carlisle noted an error on the minutes, she was showing as absent when she was present. The minutes were corrected. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Hughes moved to approve the minutes for the regular board meeting on April 28, 2026. Dr. Proffer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. APPOINTMENTS

There were no appointments to report.

B. BUDGET AMENDMENTS

The Budget Amendments for approval were provided to the board.

C. ITEMS OVER $50,000

New Computer Hardware Purchase

The college is requested to approval the purchase of new computer hardware GCON DCS 480 Series Server 128TB R5 with ExacqVision VMS Software 149 licenses, 1 IP camera and Rackmount with accessories to install at WSC SLCC 201 as part of the Server Room upgrades in the amount of $64,388.57 to Insight Public Sector.

Funding will be provided from the IT Infrastructure budget.

Prison Education Program Equipment Purchase

Amarillo College sought approval to purchase specialized instructional equipment from Toolkit Technologies for use in the Prison Education Program. The equipment includes industry-standard cutaway training systems for transmission, hydraulic clutch, diesel exhaust aftertreatment, differential, and braking systems, supporting hands-on instruction in diesel and automotive programs. These systems enhance student learning through safe, visual, and practical demonstration of complex components aligned with workforce needs. The total cost of the purchase is $80,969.00, including shipping and handling. Funds for this purchase will be reimbursed to Amarillo College through its contract with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ). This investment supports workforce preparation and career readiness opportunities for incarcerated students.

Biology Department and Health Sciences Simulation Center classroom/lab training tablets

The college requested approval of the purchase for 25 portable, hands-on simulation opportunities via tablets for student instruction to enhance instructional quality in AC's Biology and Health Sciences programs while also supporting work-based learning components. The tablets offer instant access to digitized real human cadavers, anatomy videos, and pathology references and will demonstrate industry-relevant stills and tools.

The tablets will be purchased from Anatomage, Inc. Quote #2026-22697 utilizing the TIPS Contract #230105 in the amount of $75,900.00.

Mrs. Carlisle moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Woodburn seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Ms. Tiffani Crosley presented the monthly financial report for March 31, 2026. A copy of the financial statements and the monthly financial report were provided to the Regents.

Mr. Betancourt moved to approve the March 31, 2026, financial reports. Mrs. Carlisle seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION SERVICE CONTRACT WITH MOORE COUNTY
Mr. Mark White discussed that Moore County assesses and collects the branch campus maintenance property tax within Moore County for the operation of the Moore County Branch Campus. Amarillo College and Moore County need to renew the contract for assessment and collection of taxes for the period covering July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. A copy of the contract was provided to the regents. Mr. White pointed out a small change to the contract.

Dr. Proffer moved to approve the collection service contract with Moore County. Dr. Woodburn seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF AMARILLO, AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT, AMARILLO COLLEGE, AND AMARILLO COLLEGE POLICE DEPARTMENT.
Chief Elizabeth Brown presented the memorandum of understanding among the City of Amarillo, Amarillo Police Department, Amarillo College, and Amarillo College Police Department for preparedness and to maintain the ability to respond to protect people, property, and the environment, and to minimize the consequences of emergencies. The memorandum of understanding was provided to the regents. Chief Brown clarified that this is only for emergency responses and the planning and training associated with those.

Mrs. Carlisle moved to approve the memorandum of understanding between The City of Amarillo, Amarillo Police Department, Amarillo College, and the Amarillo College Police Department. Mr. Mize seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF UPDATES TO THE BOARD OF REGENTS ONLINE POLICY MANUAL
Mr. Mark White discussed update 51. TASB sent five policies for review. The policy committee met and recommended to:

BBC	Add	Board Members: Vacancies and Removal from Office
CS	Approve	Information Security
FB	Approve	Admissions
FDA	Approve	Tuition and Fees: Residency

BGC was not included in the board material; the committee elected to reject BGC as the college recently created a faculty senate policy that covers this. This policy is an X policy, or custom policy, which is in compliance with the law.

Mrs. Carlisle stated in respect to TASB update 51, the board policy committee recommends and moves that the college adds BBC, rejects the revisions to BGC, revises CS, FB, and FDA as described in the board material. The motion passed unanimously.

MOORE COUNTY CAMPUS WELDING PROGRAM EQUIPMENT
Dr. Sobey requested approval to purchase from B&J Welding Supply. This purchase will help support the Moore County Campus welding program which has the opportunity to be updated due to a tremendous gift from the Bose family. The proposed purchase from B&J Welding supply is for $155,549.21. These improvements will help dual credit efforts to attract area High School graduates to continue their education at the Moore County Campus. The proposed purchase will be paid utilizing the Moore County Welding Support Fund. Ms. Fortunato clarified that the minutes need to reflect this is the Moore County Campus, not the Dumas County Campus.

Mr. Mize moved to approve the purchase from B&J Welding supply for $155,549.21. Ms. Thomas seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

FACULTY PROMOTION IN RANK RECOMMENDATIONS
Dr. Frank Sobey presented the recommendations for promotion in rank. The individuals were recommended by their supervisor, the Rank and Tenure Committee, the appropriate administrative channels, and the President. They meet all criteria for promotion in rank as stated in the Amarillo College Faculty Handbook, the effective date will be September 1, 2026.

Instructor to Assistant Professor	
Treiva Daniels	LVN
Dr. Aaron Gann	LVN
Camille Graves	LVN
Chelsea Herrington	Engineering
Kara Starkweather	Biological Services
Chelsea Thurman	Medical Lab Technology
Assistant Professor to Associate Professor	
Dr. Van Herd	Engineering/Physics
Piper Johansen	Biological Sciences
Jodi Lindseth	Business Management
Jaqueline Llewellyn	Speech
Associate Professor to Professor	
Shannon Cornell	Math
Fiona Denge	Biological Sciences
Macy Kohler	Math

Dr. Woodburn moved to approve the faculty promotion in rank recommendations effective September 1, 2026. Dr. Proffer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

INVITATION TO BID PACKAGE NO. 1430 - BEST VALUE INVITATION FOR BID FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF KACV-TV TELEVISION ANTENNA AND TRANSMISION LINES
Mr. Kevin Ball requested IFB No. 1430, best value invitation for bid for the purchase and installation of KACV-TV television antenna and transmission line and related components for Amarillo College, was advertised in the Amarillo Globe News on March 29, 2026, and April 5, 2026. Bid documents were obtained by (3) three companies, three proposals were submitted. A tabulation of the proposal received was provided to the regents.

The best value was determined to be Electronics Research, Inc. for $420,544.26.

Mr. Mize moved to award IFB No. 1430 to Electronics Research, Inc. Mr. Betancourt seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS NO. 1427 – ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FOR FACILITIES MASTER PLAN FOR AMARILLO JUNIOR COLLEGE DISTRICT AMARILLO CAMPUSES
This item was placed on the agenda so that Mr. White could provide an update on the master plan. The master planning committee has selected Brauddus Planning and is actively in negotiations. This will be a later agenda item at a different meeting.

No action was taken on this item.

COMPENSATION OF COLLEGE PRESIDENT

Ms. Fortunato discussed this item was placed on the agenda so that the Board of Regents could consider the employment and compensation of the College President.

Ms. Fortunato called to go into closed session so that the regents could deliberate the appointment, employment, and duties of the College President pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074. The time was 7:19 pm.

CLOSED MEETING

The closed session began at 7:25 pm and concluded at 8:10 pm. The open session convened at 8:11 pm. A quorum was still present.

No final decision, action, or vote was taken in closed session.

COMPENSATION OF COLLEGE PRESIDENT

Mr. Mize discussed that the finance committee put together a salary study to understand where the market is at as well as the college. Dr. Proffer added they did an analysis of the area and in the end came up with a number that works best for the college.

Mr. Johnny Mize moved to increase the President's base compensation from $280,000 to $297,000 annually, effective January 1, 2026, with a $10,000 performance incentive. Ms. Fortunato clarified that the rest of the contract would stay the same. Dr. Proffer seconded the motion. The motion passed with one dissenting vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Carlisle moved to adjourn. Ms. Thomas seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm.

Irene Hughes, Secretary