

# MINUTES

## Regular Meeting BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Vernon College  
February 11, 2026

The Board of Trustees of Vernon College met on Wednesday, February 11, 2026 at 11:30 a.m. in the *Board Room* of the *Osborne Administration Building*, Vernon, Texas with the following present: Mrs. Ann Wilson – Vice Chairman, and Mrs. Betsy Smith – Secretary. Other board members in attendance were Mr. Daryl Wolf, Mr. James Brock, Mrs. Jamie Chapman, and Mrs. Meg Heatly. Absent was Mr. Bob Ferguson - Chairman.

Others present were Dr. Dusty Johnston, President; Mrs. Mindi Flynn, Vice President of Administration; Dr. Criquett Chapman, Vice President of Student Services; Mrs. Shana Drury, Vice President of Instructional Services; Mrs. Bettye Hutchins, Dean of Instructional Services; Ms. Michelle Alexander, Director of Institutional Advancement/Executive Director, Vernon College Foundation; Mrs. Jackie Polk, Director of Human Resources; Mrs. Jeanne Ballard, Director of Financial Aid; Mrs. Kelly Miller, Director of Student Success; Mrs. Melissa Rodriguez, Student Success Specialist; and Ms. Mary King, Administrative Secretary to the President.

Mrs. Wilson, Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

### Consent Agenda

Mrs. Chapman made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to approve the Consent Agenda containing the *Minutes of the January 14, 2026 Regular Board Meeting* and the *President's Monthly Travel Expense Report*. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment – No one present for public comment.

### Action Item A

Vice President Flynn presented the *Financial and Investment Reports as of January 31, 2026*. Mr. Wolf made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Chapman, to approve the Vernon College year to date and monthly financial and investment reports as presented by the Chief Financial Officer. The motion carried unanimously.

### Action Item B

Mrs. Smith made the motion, seconded by Mr. Brock, to approve *Condley and Company, LLP* to conduct the audit for Vernon College for the year ending August 31, 2026 at the price of \$63,000 plus actual travel expenses as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

### Action Item C

Mrs. Smith made the motion, seconded by Mr. Brock, to approve the following *Room and Board Rates for the 2026-2027* school year. Great Western Dining is proposing a small increase of approximately 5.0% for the 2026-2027 school year for the meals provided to the residence hall students. A room rate increase is not proposed again this year. The motion carried unanimously.

Fall	\$500 room	\$2500 meal plan (79 days)	\$3000 total room and meal plan
Spring	\$500 room	\$2530 meal plan (80 days)	\$3030 total room and meal plan
Summer	\$200 room	no meal plan	

### Action Item D

Mrs. Chapman made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Heatly, to approve no increase for the *Proposed Tuition and Fee Rates for 2026-2027* as presented by Dr. Johnston. The following tuition and institutional service fee rates are currently in place. The motion carried unanimously.

<b>Tuition</b>	<b>Current \$/SCH</b>
In-district	\$ 60
Out of district	\$100
Out of state	\$160
<b>ISF</b>	<b>Current \$/SCH</b>
Vernon	\$ 50
CCC/WF	\$150
STC/WF	\$150
Internet	\$150
<b>Total T&amp;F</b>	<b>Current \$/SCH</b>
Vernon*	\$110 *(Wilbarger Co. resident)
CCC/WF	\$250
STC/WF	\$250
Internet	\$250

Action Item E

Mrs. Chapman made the motion, seconded by Mr. Wolf, to approve the *2026-2027 Academic Calendar* as presented by Vice President Drury and the Calendar Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item F

No *Tax Resale Deeds* were received for this month.

President's Report/Board Discussion Items

VC Foundation meeting update –

Dr. Johnston reported on the Vernon College Foundation Quarterly Meeting held January 15, 2026 in the Board Room on the Vernon Campus.

- The Foundation reviewed and accepted the annual audit. Reviewed and approved the Foundation FY24 IRS Form 990.
- Approved a renewal grant of \$30,000 for 2026-2027 Catching the Future Dual Credit Scholarship Program. Scholarships.
- Approved an increased grant of \$75,000 for the 2026-2027 Vernon College Foundation Annual Scholarship.
- Approved an increased grant of \$10,000 to support the Summer 2026 Chaparral Orientation: In-Person Experience Program
- Approved a renewal grant of \$6,000 to support the Dual Credit 2026 DC Compass Orientation Program.
- Approved a grant of \$5,000 for the Vernon College Food Pantries and Snack Corner.
- Approved a matching grant of \$15,000 to match the Nursing Department's 2026 proposal request to the Texas Workforce Commission if TWC approves their application and awards a program grant.

Mr. Stephen Brantley, Chairman of the Investment Committee, presented a report.

Mrs. Eric Robb and Mrs. Harrison Robb of Stifel Nicolaus presented an annual review of the Foundation's Stifel Nicolaus investment fund.

Dr. Johnston presented his report.

Ms. Michelle Alexander reviewed the Philanthropic Reports.

Vice President Mindi Flynn reviewed the Foundation's Financial and Investment reports.

Student Success Data Fact Update – Enrollment Update – Mrs. Colleen Moore presented the Enrollment and Comparison report as the Student Success Data Fact for February. The preliminary report compares Spring 2025 versus Spring 2026. Current enrollment is 2,085 compared to 2,009 last Spring, up 3.78% for all locations. Dual Credit for Spring 2026 is 683 compared to 590 last spring, or an increase of 15.76%.

Athletic Student GPA report – Dr. Johnston presented the Fall 2025 Athletic Student GPA Report. He noted the coaches stay on top of it and have always stayed under their budget.

### Student Highlight –

Melissa Rodriguez, Student Success Specialist, presented Arianna Williams as the Vernon College Student Highlight. Arianna is a perfect example of what Vernon College provides to so many students. HOPE! She is 25 and works at the WF Regional Airport. She came to VC after two attempts at other schools. Eight years and three schools later, she will be completing her associates and moving on to a 4-year institution. Challenges happened - financially, motivationally, and confidence wise. She did what most students are scared to do, find resources to help her along her way. She was able to utilize Catholic Charities to help through her time at VC. She also used our college services often in advising and tutoring. Instead of quitting, she enrolled and has done extremely well here, Her GPA is 3.867. She will graduate in May with an Associate of Science degree! Her determination, motivation, and driven self, made that happen.

### Faculty Senate Update –

Dr. Johnston reported that after following the laws as mandated by Senate Bill 37, the faculty decided and voted to retain a Faculty Senate. They voted on a 12-person faculty senate. The faculty senate will elect two senators and make a recommendation for a third senator to the president, who will pick officers from the list of names recommended.

### Century City Center roof update –

Dr. Johnston reported he has received a good estimate from a reliable company on the roof project. They deal with colleges and school districts and are on the State Purchasing board. One third of the roof needs reroofing, the other two thirds we could live with a little longer, but he recommends to go ahead and replace all of it. He looked into ways to finance it. The roof is at least 22 years old. The next step is to have the final financing paperwork to bring to the board for consideration along with a contract from the roofing contractor.

### Sprague building (Skills Training Center) purchase discussion –

Dr. Johnston reported that since the county put the Sprague building up for sale several months ago, he has had many conversations with them. They would love for us to make some kind of a proposal. No one else has made a proposal. He will follow up with the Board on any updates.

### Multi-year contract revision discussion –

Dr. Johnston reminded the board in regards to revisions of the faculty multi-year contracts. He noted that everyone has seen the policies and that he has explained to the faculty what he was trying to accomplish at staff development. He has received some input both ways. Based on the implied future financial obligation, this is poor policy. It is not the norm in Texas community colleges. The question is should the President continue to work on this revision or leave it alone and move on.

Dr. Johnston presented the reminder of upcoming events:

- (1) TCCTA Conference – Frisco, TX – February 18-20, 2026
- (2) Vernon College Foundation Online Auction – March 3-5, 2026
- (3) March Board of Trustees meeting – Wednesday, March 11, 2026
- (4) Spring Break – March 9-13, 2026

Dr. Johnston presented the Philanthropic Report/Outside Grants Report.

#### A. Personnel –

**Motion # 1** – Mr. Brock made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Chapman, to approve the following personnel changes as detailed on Item 6 Personnel Sheet and recommended by the president. The motion carried unanimously.

##### Employment

- a. Michael Hayhurst, Coordinator of Protective Services – Vernon, effective February 1, 2026
- b. Lesley Willie, Custodial Technician, Vernon campus, effective February 16, 2026
- c. Jack Monroe, Campus Police Officer, Skills Training Center, effective February 16, 2026

**Motion # 2** – Mrs. Chapman made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to approve the extension of the following Vice Presidents and Deans Contracts for one year for a two-year contract dated September 1, 2026 - August 31, 2028. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Shana Drury – Vice President of Instructional Services  
Mrs. Mindi Flynn – Vice President of Administrative Services  
Dr. Criquett Scott Chapman – Vice President of Student Services  
Dr. Roxanne Hill – Vice President of Information System and Technology  
Mrs. Kristin Harris – Dean of Student Services  
Mrs. Bettye Hutchins – Dean of Instructional Services  
Mrs. Maria Servin – Dean of Information System and Technology


**Motion # 3** – *Postponed until the March Board of Trustees meeting* - Board of Trustees to approve the extension of the president’s contract for Dr. Dusty R. Johnston for one year for a three-year contract for a three-year contract dated September 1, 2026-August 31, 2029.

**Closed Session:** Mrs. Chapman made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Smith to go into closed session at 12:50 p.m. in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Subchapter 551.074, to discuss property or other items under this section of the Texas Government Code, Texas Open Meetings Act. The motion carried unanimously.

**Open Session:** Mr. Wolf made the motion, seconded by Mr. Brock, to reconvene at 1:43 p.m. in open session. The motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business Mr. Brock made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to adjourn the meeting at 1:50 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

  
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Mrs. Ann Wilson, Vice-Chairman

  
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Mrs. Betsy Smith, Secretary