

MINUTES

Regular Meeting

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Vernon College

June 10, 2026

The Board of Trustees of Vernon College met on Wednesday, June 10, 2026, at 11:30 a.m. in the *Board Room* of the *Osborne Administration Building*, Vernon, Texas with the following present: Mr. Bob Ferguson – Chairman and Mrs. Ann Wilson – Vice-Chairman. Other board members in attendance were Mr. Daryl Wolf, Mrs. Jamie Chapman, and Mr. James Brock. Absent were Mrs. Meg Heatly and Mrs. Betsy Smith – Secretary.

Others present were Dr. Dusty Johnston, President; Mrs. Shana Drury, Vice President of Instructional Services; Dr. Criqueett Chapman, Vice President of Student Services; Dr. Brad Beauchamp, Director of Institutional Assessment, Planning, and Effectiveness/SACSCOC Liaison; Dr. Mark Holcomb, Division Chair of Industrial & Information Technology; Mrs. Bettye Hutchins, Dean of Instructional Services; Mrs. Kristin Harris, Dean of Student Services; Dr. Stephen Underhill, Business Management Instructor/Faculty Senate President; Ms. Colleen Moore, Director of Enrollment Management/Registrar; Ms. Valerie Whitten, Coordinator of Veteran's Affairs; Mrs. Jeanne Ballard, Director of Financial Aid; Mr. Ken Boatman; Mr. Kevin Holland, Director of Campus Police; and Ms. Mary King, Administrative Secretary to the President. Guest was Mike Chacanaca with Vernon Daily Record.

Chairman Mr. Ferguson called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Wolf made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Chapman to approve the Consent Agenda containing the *Minutes of the May 13, 2026 Regular Board Meeting* and the *President's Monthly Travel Expense Report*. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment – No one was present for public comment.

Action Item A

Dr. Johnston presented the *Financial and Investment Reports as of May 31, 2026*. Mr. Brock made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Wilson, to approve the report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item B

Mrs. Wilson made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Chapman, to approve the *2026–2027 Updated Handbooks and Manual*, as presented by Dr. Johnston, except for the Employee Handbook which will be presented at the July meeting. The revised and approved handbooks were: Distance Education Manual, Student Residence Handbook, Student Handbook, Athletic Policy Handbook, Library Services Handbook, and the Testing Center Handbook. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item C

Mrs. Chapman made the motion, seconded by Mr. Brock, to approve the updated 2026-2027 Vernon College General Catalog as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Action Item D

Mrs. Wilson made the motion, seconded by Mr. Wolf, to approve the *2025-2026 Academic Duties and Services Report in Compliance with Education* as presented by Dr. Johnston. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item E

Mr. Wolf made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Chapman, to approve the *TASB Legal Policy Updates* and *Consideration of TASB Update 51 Local Policies* as presented by Dr. Johnston. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item F

Mr. Brock made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Wilson, to approve the *Vernon College Emergency Operations Plan Mass Care and Reunification Annex* as presented by Dr. Johnston and Mr. Ken Boatman. The motion carried

unanimously.

Action Item G

After discussion, there was no action on the *Proposal to Purchase the Sprague Building which houses the Skills Training Center*.

Action Item H

Mrs. Wilson made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Chapman, to approve the *Certified Nurses Aid (CNA) Bridge Track to Licensed Vocational Nursing Certificate* as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item I

There were no Tax Resale Deeds held in Trust by the City of Vernon to approve.

President's Report/Board Discussion Items – A discussion on the Vernon campus security upgrade requested last month took place.

Dr. Chapman presented a slide presentation to the Board about the new exterior security camera System which is a security upgrade to the building exteriors security cameras. The new security system will be installed on the Vernon College campus and Century City Center and Skills Training Center. This new technology called ZeroEye, is Artificial Intelligence driven, with weapon detection. The software within the camera can monitor any visible firearms and is immediately sent to their Center, (manned by former military or police) if there is a possible threat, then to the Director of Campus Police, full-time officers, and law enforcement.

Dr. Johnston presented the idea of placing a security fence around the dorms with a decorative 6-foot wrought iron fence with double gates on both sides with a key pass for students to enter. He stated the process of getting prices for construction is in progress. The fence would look attractive and not like a prison. The cost of the fence can come out of reserves in lieu of adding to the operating budget.

Other discussions were - the purchase of a mule for police officers to use to drive in hard-to-get places; and invest in additional full-time police officers, for additional security.

2026-2027 Proposed Budget Update – Draft 3 –

Dr. Johnston presented Draft 3 of the 2026-2027 Proposed Budget. The budget needs \$271,453 to balance. He noted that to add an additional police officer, a Dean of Academic Affairs position, and Technology - for classrooms, operations, cybersecurity and information security, would add additional dollars.

Summer Enrollment Update –

Ms. Colleen Moore, Director of Enrollment Management/Registrar presented the Summer Enrollment Report and Comparison – for Summer 2025 vs. Summer 2026. She noted that enrollment is up by 11.35% over last summer. Every area is up except for Skills and the largest increase is Dual Credit by 109.23%. This jump is attributed to the addition of a second Dual Credit Coordinator, so they are in the schools more and able to get the students more on one-on-one advising. Also, students are more interested in getting their degree while still in school.

Student Highlight –

Ms. Valerie Whitten, Coordinator of Veteran's Affairs presented Michael Kurtz as the Student Highlight for this month. Michael, a veteran, served eight years in the Air Force. He grew up in LA, went to Travis Air Force Base for training, spent time in Okinawa where he met and married his wife in 1996. He was a Munitions Systems Specialist & Recruiter at Flagstaff, AZ and they ended up in Wichita Falls. He currently works at Sheppard Air Force Base as a Mechanic. Three things most important to him are Faith, Family and his Country and Community. He is very involved with the Thomas Fowler American Legion Post 169. His involvement is in fellowship, community support and volunteering to help others. He looked ahead at his future and decided he was getting too old to continue being a mechanic. Through encouragement from a trusted friend and fellow service member, he attended Vernon College for a future in becoming an instructor. He graduated Cum Laude on May 7, 2026 from Vernon College and is enrolled at MSU to complete his BAAS.

Institutional Assessment, Planning, and Effectiveness/Student Success Data Fact –

Dr. Brad Beauchamp presented the following forms: 2026-27 Strategic Annual Action Plan, 2026-27 Assessment and Reporting Calendar, and the SACSCOC 10-year Report Responsibility Matrix. The forms document and guide

the strategic planning and improvement process. Annual strategic planning impacts the budgeting process and aids the vice presidents and their respective components' budget planning. The assessment calendar provides a roadmap of our efforts at continuous improvement.

Athletic Program GPA report –

Dr. Johnston presented the 2025-2026 Athletic Program GPA report showing the average Team GPA for each sport.

Board Retreat Update - Dr. Johnston reminded the Board of the July Board Retreat meeting agenda set for July 8, 2026, from 9:00 am to 12 noon. Breakfast is available at 8:30 am. Lunch is followed by a regular meeting at 1:00 pm for any action items.

Dr. Johnston presented the Upcoming College Events:

- (1) Law Enforcement Academy Badging Ceremony – Thursday, June 18, 2026 – 6:00 p.m. – MPEC – Wichita Falls
- (2) Vernon College Board of Trustees Retreat/Meeting – Wednesday, July 8, 2026

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

Personnel – Mrs. Chapman made the motion, seconded by Mr. Brock, to approve the following personnel changes as detailed in Item 6 Personnel information sheet and recommended by the President. The motion carried unanimously.

A. Reassignment

1. Kenneth Burge, to Maintenance Supervisor, from Maintenance Specialist, Century City Center, effective May 18, 2026

B. Resignation

1. Ann Marie McMillan, Student Success Specialist, Century City Center, effective June 30, 2026

C. Consider Reappointment and/or Extension of Administrative Staff and Classified Staff for 2026-2027

1. Administrative Reappointments
2. Classified Staff Reappointments
3. Administrative (pending completion of probation)
4. Classified (pending completion of probation)

There being no further business Mr. Wolf made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Wilson to adjourn the meeting at 1:20 p.m.


Mr. Bob Ferguson, Chairman


Mrs. Ann Wilson, Vice Chairperson