MINUTES

Regular Meeting
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Vernon College
October 14, 2026

The Board of Trustees of Vernon College met on Wednesday, October 14, 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. Betsy Smith – Secretary. Other board members in attendance were Mr. James Brock, Mrs. Jamie Chapman, Mr. Daryl Wolf, and Mrs. Meg Heatly. Absent was Mrs. Ann Wilson – Vice-Chairman

Others present were Dr. Dusty Johnston, President; Mrs. Shana Drury, Vice President of Instructional Services; Mrs. Mindi Flynn, Vice President of Administration; Dr. Criquett Chapman, Vice President of Student Services; Dr. Roxie Hill, Vice President of Information Systems and Technology; Mrs. Kristin Harris, Dean of Student Services; Ms. Michelle Alexander, Director of Institutional Advancement/Executive Director, Vernon College Foundation; Dr. Brad Beauchamp, Director of Institutional Assessment, Planning, and Effectiveness/SACSCOC Liaison; Ms. Colleen Moore, Director of Enrollment Management/Registrar; Mrs. Jeanne Ballard, Director of Financial Aid; Mrs. Kelly Miller, Director of Student Success; Dr. Stephen Underhill, Business Management Instructor/Faculty Senate President; Mr. Alex Knox, Student Success Specialist; Mr. ,(I will get name from Kevin) Campus Police; and Ms. Mary King, Administrative Secretary to the President.

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

Consent Agenda
Mrs. Smith made the motion, seconded by Mr. Brock, to approve the Consent Agenda containing the *Minutes of the September 9, 2026 Regular Board Meeting* and the *President's Monthly Travel Expense Report*. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment - No one was present to make a comment.

Action Item A
Mrs. Mindi Flynn presented the *Financial and Investment Reports as of September 30, 2026.* Mrs. Chapman made the motion, seconded by Mr. Wolf, 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
Mr. Wolf made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to approve to revise the Vernon College TASB Board Policy DCA (LOCAL) by adding language to clarify Division Chairperson contracts and deleting multi-year contracts, review, and extension language as presented in the exhibit. The motion carried six to 1 with Mr. Brock abstaining.

Action Item C
Mrs. Chapman made the motion to approve the resale of the following tax foreclosure properties held in trust by the City of Vernon. The motion carried unanimously.

- Parcel 3680001, bidders Thomas and Monette Bivins, for the amount of $4,000.00
- Parcel 5395001, bidders Frog and Toad Properties, LLC, for the amount of $3,800.00
- Parcel 6390001, bidders Frog and Toad Properties, LLC, for the amount of $3,000.00
- Parcel 9410001, bidders Frog and Toad Properties, LLC, for the amount of $2,500.00

President's Report/Board Discussion Items –

- Board members James Brock, Daryl Wolf and Dr. Johnston gave a brief summary of the CCATT Conference they attended in Baytown, TX on September 17-19, 2026.
- Dr. Johnston reported on the video the College was picked to do for TACC. It was completed on October 8th and should be ready for viewing in a few weeks. It was a very good experience and the President was very impressed in the Student and Staff participation.

Title IX Compliance Report update – Mrs. Kristin Harris gave an update on Title IX stating it is a Federal law that started in the early 70's. It required colleges to provide as much money and funding opportunities for women's sports as it did for men's sports. It is now evolved into many rules on all kinds of discrimination, sexual assault, and sexual violence. Mrs. Harris and Mrs. Jackie Polk, Director of Human Resources, serve as the Title IX Coordinators. Mrs. Harris investigates student complaints and Mrs. Polk investigates complaints from faculty and staff. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board requires all schools to submit an annual report. The College had four incidents within the last twelve months which resulted in no evidence.

Security/Cyber Security update – Dr. Roxie Hill updated the Board on Cyber Security by stating what the Information Systems & Technology (IST) department of the College has been focusing on the last year and to date. They focused on cybersecurity, infrastructure modernization, campus safety, and cost optimization during 2026. She handed out a list of major accomplishments, and spoke of their priorities for 2027. Her Board Takeaway, is that Vernon College's technology environment is more secure, reliable, and cost-effective than a year ago.

Fall 2026 Instructional Update – Mrs. Shana Drury presented the Fall 2026 Instructional update stating Fall 1 finals were on October 7 and 8. Fall II began October 12. Spring registration begins November 2 and the schedules are being finalized. The LVN program will have an accreditation site visit from Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) on October 27 – 29, 2026. The Office for Students with Disabilities has qualified and served 49 students with approved classroom or testing accommodations thus far. The PASS department has qualified and served 6 students with pregnancy and parenting adjustments. New Beginnings has served 203 students with childcare, textbooks and supplies, and/or gas reimbursement. The PASS Department/New Beginnings received $230,000 in grant funding! She continued updating the board on numerous programs under Instructional Services. She added Instructional improvements are in progress. Mrs. Drury also shared data charts for 2025-2026 on courses taught by full and part time instructors, student success rates by faculty and course types. The student success rates continue to increase from the previous year.

Student Success Data Fact – Dr. Beauchamp presented the Count Day Snapshot for Fall 2026 as the Student Success data fact for this month. He shared the Student Demographics listed by total student count, dual-credit, and non-dual credit students. Under the Path to Vernon College, he pointed out the top 10 residences by county and city. Total course enrollments by location and students by location and educational goals at VC. A chart showing New to VC. First-Time students, Dual Credit, and Transfer. Also, percentage of Dual Credit by High Schools, and the list of Majors for Female and Male.

Student Highlight – Mr. Alex Knox, Student Success Specialist at Century City Center, presented Business student, Joselyn River as this month's student highlight. In 2018, Joselyn and her family moved from Los Angeles, CA to Wichita Falls shortly after her high school graduation. Her father had passed and with two younger sisters, they decided it would be better to be closer to family. She has been coming to Vernon since 2025. She currently works at the State Hospital in the Children's Unit. On the side, she owns her own business – Happy Hues by Josie. Her position as an Administrative Assistant and Campus Registrar allows her to use her art to decorate the walls in the children's unit. She attends as many local events as she can with Happy Hues. This has given her a lot experience owning her own small business, developing her marketing, scheduling, and entrepreneur skills. What keeps her going - she believes that "Art has the power to heal, comfort, and make people smile". Her Dad was her biggest advocate in her art. Joselyn is enrolled in our Business Program because she hopes eventually to make her art her full-time job.

Dr. Johnston presented the Upcoming College Events:

(1) Vernon College Foundation Annual Board Meeting, 10:00 am – Joe Chat Sumner Conference Room - Century City Center – Thursday, October 15, 2026
(2) Vernon College NIRA Rodeo – November 6-7, 2026 – WCEC
(3) Vernon College Regular Board Meeting, Vernon Campus – November 11, 2026

Dr. Johnston presented the Philanthropic Report/Outside Grants Report.
Dr. Johnston presented the Faculty Senate meeting minutes.

Mrs. Smith made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Chapman, to approve the personnel changes as recommended by Dr. Johnston and detailed on item 6 B Personnel Information Sheet. The motion carried unanimously.

Personnel Changes

A. Employment
    1. Nicole Dixon, Custodial Technician, Century City Center, effective September 14, 2026

B. Reassignment
    a. Layce Cates from Classified III -Admissions to Technology Specialist, Century City Center, effective September 1, 2026
    b. Rae-Yanne Preville from 12-month ADN Instructor to 9-month ADN Instructor, Century City Center, effective October 1, 2026
    c. Jennifer Young from 9-month ADN Instructor to 12-month ADN Instructor, Century City Center, effective October 1, 2026

Closed Session: Mr. Wolf made the motion, seconded by Mr. Brock, to go into closed session at 12:53 p.m. in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Subchapter 551.074, to discuss personnel or other items under this section of the Texas Government Code, Texas Open Meetings Act. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion Only - No Action

Open Session: Mr. Brock made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Smith to reconvene at 1:18 p.m. in open session. The motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business Mrs. Smith made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Chapman, to adjourn the meeting at 1:19 p.m.

Mr. Bob Ferguson, Chairman

Mrs. Betsy Smith, Secretary