

**MEETING MINUTES  
SOUTH FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE  
DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MARCH 25, 2026**

**Members Present:** Mr. Terry Atchley, Chair  
Mr. John Eason, Vice Chair  
Mr. Derren Bryan  
Mr. Devon Donaldson  
Ms. Denise Grimsley  
Mr. Fred Hawkins, President/Secretary  
Mr. Scott Cole, College Attorney

**Excused:** Ms. Alison Hancock

**Staff Present:**

Mrs. Ashley Bennett	Dr. Mark Bukowski	Dr. Kathleen Cappo
Mr. Peter Elliott	Ms. Cindy Garren	Dr. Michele Heston
Mr. Don Kesterson	Dr. Melissa Kuehnle	Dr. Asena Mott
Ms. Christina Blakey Dohmann	Mrs. Emily Dabolt	Dr. James Hawker
Mrs. Anastasia Fuchser	Mrs. Sureka Personette	Ms. Lena Phelps
Mr. Keith Loweke	Mr. Corey Wales	Mr. Corey Wales
Mrs. Kim Cloud	Ms. Carleigh Okwali	Mrs. Michelle Leidel
Mrs. Mary Hutzelman	Dr. Mary von Merveldt	Mr. Harry Havery
Ms. Lindsay Duncan	Mrs. Micaela Ford	Mrs. Lori Wolfe
Ms. Jessica Pantoja	Dr. Isaac Durrance	Mrs. Melissa Prusinski
Mrs. June Weyrauch		

The regular meeting of the District Board of Trustees was called to order at 1:02 p.m. on the Highlands Campus of South Florida State College by Board Chair, Mr. Terry Atchley.

**1.0 PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

**1.1 Adoption of Agenda**

President Hawkins announced that there was an addition to the agenda in Section 2.0, Item 2.1 New Employee Introductions. He highlighted some corrections in the board packet in Section 5.0, Consent Agenda Item 5.2.2 Property Disposal – March 2026 and Section 7.0, Item 7.1 Curriculum Proposals. He stated, Item 5.2.2, that the property item tag #7469, a black 8' x 16' trailer needed to be retracted from the listing as it is still a viable property item. President Hawkins stated, Item 7.1, the last paragraph to request approval to add application requirements needed to be removed from the curriculum proposal. **Mr. Bryan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Eason, to adopt the agenda of the regular meeting as amended.** Those voting in favor of the motion were Mr. Atchley, Mr. Bryan, Mr. Donaldson, Mr. Eason, and Ms. Grimsley. **Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

**1.2 Approval of Minutes**

**1.2.1 Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Mr. Eason made a motion, seconded by Ms. Grimsley, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held January 28, 2026 as presented.** Those voting in favor of the motion were Mr. Atchley, Mr. Bryan, Mr. Donaldson, Mr. Eason, and Ms. Grimsley. **Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

**1.3 Review of Master Calendar**

The Master Calendar was reviewed. No recommendations were made.

**2.0 COMMUNICATIONS, INTRODUCTIONS, AND RECOGNITIONS**

**2.1 New Employee Introduction**

The following new employees were introduced:

Employee	Position	Supervisor	Hired
Mary Hutzelman	Controller	Peter Elliott	12/01/2025
Lindsay Duncan	Staff Assistant I, Hardee	Micaela Ford	11/03/2025
Lori Wolfe	Payroll Specialist	Jessica Pantoja	11/17/2025

**3.0 PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**4.0 PRESENTATION**

**4.1 Higher Learning Commission Ready Presentation**

Dr. Heston distributed preparing for Higher Learning Commission (HLC) site visit handouts. She gave a brief presentation on what to expect during the site visit. Dr. Kuehnle gave a brief overview on the HLC accreditation campaign and preparation for the site visit.

Mr. Atchley thanked Dr. Heston and everyone involved in the accreditation process.

[\(EXHIBIT "A"\)](#)

**5.0 CONSENT AGENDA ACTION ITEMS**

**5.1 Personnel Actions**

Approved a list full-time career staff; full-time faculty; resignations; reappointments, vice presidents, 2026-27; reappointments, full-time administrative staff, 2026-27; reappointment, full-time faculty, 2026-27; annual faculty contract (9,10,11,12 month contract); and adjunct faculty for the 2026-27, academic year as needed as presented.

[\(EXHIBIT "B"\)](#)

**5.2 Operational Actions**

**5.2.1 Monthly Accounts Payable/Payroll Check Register**

Approved the monthly accounts payable/monthly payroll check registers and summary for all funds through January 2026.

[\(EXHIBIT "C"\)](#)

**5.2.2 Property Disposals – March 2026**

Approved the deletion of college property from inventory records as presented.

[\(EXHIBIT "D"\)](#)

**Mr. Eason made a motion, seconded by Mr. Donaldson, to approve the Consent Agenda, Items 5.1 through 5.2.2 as presented.** Those voting in favor of the motion were Mr. Atchley, Mr. Bryan, Mr. Donaldson, Mr. Eason, and Ms. Grimsley. **Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

**6.0 PLANNING AND POLICY ISSUES**

None

**7.0 ACADEMIC AND STUDENT MATTERS**

**7.1 Curriculum Proposals**

Dr. Heston presented the curriculum proposals and revisions to the Board.

*(EXHIBIT "E")*

**Mr. Donaldson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Grimsley, to approve the curriculum proposals as presented.** Those voting in favor of the motion were Mr. Atchley, Mr. Bryan, Mr. Donaldson, Mr. Eason, and Ms. Grimsley. **Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

**8.0 PURCHASING AND OTHER ACTION ITEMS**

None

**9.0 REPORTS**

**9.1 Financial Report**

Mr. Elliott reported on updated summary views and reports of revenue and expenditure summary compared to budgeted funds within the Operating Budget through January 2026.

*(EXHIBIT "F")*

**9.2 Resource Development Report**

Mrs. Emily Dabolt reported that the South Florida State College Foundation, Inc. received donations and pledges in the amount of **\$34,492.19** from January 1 through February 28 2026.

Mrs. Dabolt reported on the following items:

1. Boots-n-Bling Gala: Reminded everyone about the Foundation gala on April 17. She gave a brief overview of the event and looks forward to seeing everyone.
2. Grant Update: Mrs. Dabolt reported on the following grant awards:
  - Linking Industry to Nursing Education \$ 225,000
  - Duke Energy Foundation \$ 50,000

Mrs. June Weyrauch gave a recap and brief overview of grant activity. She reported on partnerships that open doors and the importance of them. Mrs. Weyrauch highlighted and gave a brief overview of the following grants:

- Perkins Rural Changes
- Workforce Pell Consortium
- Florida Rural Health Transformation

**9.3 President’s Report**

President Hawkins reported on the following items:

1. Recognized and congratulated Dr. Asena Mott on her completion of her doctorate degree.
2. Recognized Dr. Hawker and team for their work with UGR. Dr. Hawker gave a brief update and overview of the UGR conference and events that he along with his team have attended with UGR students.
3. Announced and thanked Dr. Mott and team for the lineworker program expansion to accommodate spring enrollment along with a new instructor.
4. Highlighted a SFSC student, Ms. Olivia Wilson, she participated in the inaugural Sunshine State Debate in Tallahassee. He shared that she made it into the quarterfinals, top 8 out of 65 students. President Hawkins thanked Mr. Jake Fitzgerald for coaching Ms. Wilson and Mrs. Christi Bobo for traveling/attending the event with her.
5. Highlighted PTK recognitions.
6. Tallahassee Update: President Hawkins gave a brief update. He stated we are currently waiting on the finalized budget and he will update the board as he gets information. He reported that Governor DeSantis will sign off on HB 757 Florida’s Campus Safety Guardian bill. He shared that Sheriff Paul Blackman will handle the training for the tri-county area. He gave a brief update on the proposed appropriations request.
7. Announced Spring Commencement will be held on May 12 with two ceremonies at 2:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. President Hawkins shared that each ceremony will have a guest speaker. Dr. Kuehnle highlighted some endearing stories of several family members that will be graduating on May 12 together.
8. Professional Development Day: President Hawkins thanked everyone involved in the planning and preparation for professional development day. He stated he was able to attend several sessions.
9. Fall Trustee Retreat: President Hawkins reminded the Board about the Fall Trustee Retreat scheduled for August 18. He stated that there is a possibility that the Master Planning for the college will be presented at that time.

**9.5 Board Attorney’s Report**

Mr. Cole stated no report.

**9.6 Board Members’ Reports**

Mr. Donaldson stated no report.

Mr. Bryan stated no report.

Ms. Grimsley stated no report.

Mr. Eason thanked everyone for their work and he appreciates Dr. Heston and team for their work in preparation for the HLC site visit.

**9.7 Board Chair Report**

Mr. Atchley concurred with Mr. Eason’s statement. He shared that he along with Mr. Eason and President Hawkins were able to attend the ACCT 2026 Governance Leadership Institute held in Miami, FL over spring break.

**10.0 ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 2:08p.m.