

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**GULF COAST STATE COLLEGE**  
**January 22, 2026**

10:00 a.m. (CST)

Chair Bulger called the regular meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. at the Panama City main campus. Those in attendance and constituting a quorum were:

**Members Present** Boyd Bulger, Tricia Berry, Bill Cramer, Jr., Dr. Abel De La Rosa, Frank Hall, David Powell, Floyd Skinner, Joe Tannehill, Jr. and Caroline Windham

**Other** Glen McDonald, President of Gulf Coast State College, Holly Melzer, Board Attorney

**Absent**

1. **Call to Order** 1.1 Chair Bulger called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
- Invocation** 1.2 Ms. Melzer gave the invocation.
- Pledge of Allegiance** 1.3 Vice Chair Hall led the pledge of allegiance to the American flag.
- Welcome Guests** 1.4 Chair Bulger welcomed guests: Commander Mosi, NSA, Lieutenant McWhirf, Tyndall AFB, Mr. John Meyer, president, Gulf Coast State Foundation; Dr. Cheryl Flax-Hyman, executive vice-president; Dr. Holly Kuehner, vice president of Academic Affairs; Ms. Savannah Blazer, Professional Employee Council; Brian Ballif, chair, Faculty Senate; Alexander Poncel, president of Student Government Association; Mr. John Mercer, vice-president, Administration and Finance.
- Hearing of Citizens** 1.5 No citizens answered the call to appear before the board.
- Special Presentation** 1.6 Mr. McDonald introduced Mr. Jimmy Black, a board member of Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative, who presented a donation check for \$17,515.13.  
 Ashlin Glatthar, Executive Director of GCSC Foundation presented:
  - A check donation from Tyndall Federal Credit Union in the amount of \$7,500.00 towards the GC Guarantee.
  - Ms. Glatthar presented a second check donation from Mr. Kenneth Ayers, Jr. of \$20,000, an endowed fund supporting students pursuing STEM-related fields of study.
  - Ms. Glatthar presented Nursing Simulation Naming opportunities for smaller spaces.
2. **Trustee Comments** 2.1 Trustees expressed gratitude to Commander Mosi and provided general comments.
- Attorney's Report** 2.2 Ms. Melzer provided an update regarding the Hathaway Inn contract, which is no longer active, and discussed a demand letter from Burke Construction; negotiations are underway to resolve the matter.
- GCSC Foundation, Inc. President's Update** 2.3 Mr. Meyer, President of GCSC Foundation provided an update: Foundation President Board of Trustees Report –January 2026 (as of 1/20/2026).  
 Total Assets as of 12/31/2025 \$ 40,258,211.82  
 Total Contributions to the Foundation since 7/1/2025 \$ 930,824.30  
 Total Investment Income to the Foundation since 7/1/2025 \$ 2,498,192.98

Total Gulf Coast Guarantee Funds pledged since 7/1/21 \$ 4,965,923.84  
Total Gulf Coast Guarantee Investment Activity since 7/1/21 \$ 1,236,752.02  
Total Scholarships awarded to Students since 7/1/2025 \$ 1,469,632.45

- Honorary Trustee Updates 33.** 2.4 Lieutenant McWhirf, Tyndall AFB, provided an update.
- Commander Mosi, NSA, announced that this would be his last meeting at the college and provided an update on accomplishments over the past three years. He expressed gratitude to the board and community.
- Next DBOT Meeting** 2.5 The regular meeting of the District Board of Trustees is scheduled for Thursday, February 26, 2026, at the Panama City main campus, 10:00 a.m. (CST).
- 3. SGA Report** 3.1 Mr. Poncel, President of the Student Government Association (SGA) provided the SGA update.
- 4. Consent Agenda**
- Chair Bulger asked if there were any items trustees would like pulled from the Consent Agenda for further discussion. No items were pulled. Chair Bulger asked the board to entertain a motion.
- 4.1 Approval of Regular Minutes 12.4.25;
  - 4.1.2 Approval of Workshop Minutes 1.8.2026
  - 4.2 Personnel Recommendations
  - 4.3 Contract Ratifications
  - 4.4 Monthly and Biweekly Overloads
  - 4.5 Expenditure Report
  - 4.6 Approval of Restricted Current Fund (Fund 2) Budget
- Mr. Hall made a motion to approve consent items 4.1- 4.6, Powell seconded and the vote passed unanimously. Motion carried.
- 5. Action Items** 5.0
- Tentative Approval of Manual of Policy** 5.1 Mr. McDonald presented Tentative Approval of Manual of Policy 6.072 Reimbursement of Approved Educational Expenses for Credit Courses. The vote passed unanimously. Motion carried.
- Approval Gulf/Franklin Campus Classroom and Emergency Shelter Construction** 5.2 The revised AIA contract for the Gulf/Franklin Campus Classroom and Emergency Shelter Project was presented for Board approval and will serve as a template for future Construction Manager at Risk projects. College staff requested approval of the contract between Gulf Coast State College and White Construction with a construction cost not to exceed \$6,642,384.
- Dr. De La Rosa made a motion to approve 5.2 as stated, Berry seconded and the vote passed unanimously. Motion carried.
- Sale of certain oil, gas, and mineral rights in Washington County** 5.3 Ms. Melzer presented Sale of certain oil, gas, and mineral rights in Washington County. Discussion ensued regarding direction the board would like to take.
- Mr. Hall moved to delegate authority to the President, Mr. Cramer, and Attorney

Melzer to negotiate on behalf of the College, in the best interest of the College, and to represent the Board, with any proposed agreement to be brought back to the Board for approval. Cramer seconded and the vote passed **unanimously**. Motion carried.

**Approval Naming Enrollment Services Building**

**5.4** President McDonald and Trustee Cramer acknowledged Mr. Ivie Burch's remarkable career and significant contributions to the College. Having been a central figure for 25 years, Mr. Burch played a crucial role in the College's integration and made substantial contributions to the growth of its endowment. His efforts have left a lasting legacy on both the institution and its students. In recognition of his exceptional service, they recommended that the Board approve the naming of the Enrollment Services Building in his honor.

Mr. Cramer moved to name the Enrollment Services Building in honor of Mr. Ivie Burch as presented, Skinner seconded, and the vote was passed unanimously. Motion carried.

**6. Informational Items**

**6.0**

**Actual YTD Revenues Expenses Compared to Budget/Prior year**

**6.1** Mr. Mercer presented the actual YTD revenues and expenses, comparing them to the budget and the prior year. He also updated the board on the college's credit card security process and noted that several controls are in place.

**IT Security and Infrastructure Mid-year update 2025-26**

**6.2** Mr. Eller, Chief Information Officer, provided the IT Security and Infrastructure Mid-year update. Discussion ensued. Mr. Hall praised Mr. Eller, and entire IT team for their hard work and accomplishments.

**Construction Updates**

**6.3** Mr. Parker provided an update on:  
6.3.1 Nursing Simulation Center  
6.3.2 Gulf Franklin Multi-Purpose Classroom Shelter

**Faculty Senate Resolution**

**6.4** Mr. Brian Ballif, The Faculty Senate Chair, presented a resolution recommending that the College Administration and District Board of Trustees formally honor the late Mr. Ivie Burch by naming the enrollment center in his memory.

**President's Report**

**6.5** President McDonald shared updates for January, noting a 5.7% increase in FTE enrollment compared to Spring 2025. He also acknowledged the passing of Mr. Grover Hicks on January 17, 2026, a respected coach at the College. Additionally, he provided an update on the HVAC system.

**7. Good of the Order**

**7.0** Mr. Bulger presented Good of the Order.

**8. Adjournment**

**8.0** Meeting adjourned at 12:11 PM.

  
Secretary \_\_\_\_\_  
Date 2-26-26

  
Chair, District Board of Trustees \_\_\_\_\_  
Date 2/26/2026