



District No. 15  
Wenatchee,  
Washington

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## WENATCHEE VALLEY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### Board Meeting

February 18, 2026

Wenatchee Campus, Maguire Center – TEAMS Webinar

### MINUTES

#### ATTENDANCE

Trustees Present:

Wilma Cartagena  
Phylcia Hancock Lewis (virtual)  
Paula Arno Martinez  
Steve Zimmerman

Also Present:

Cabinet  
Members  
Faculty and  
Staff

#### TRUSTEE STUDY SESSION – 9:45 am

#### CLASS VISIT

Trustees visited Dr. Snively Martinez's Anthropology course from 9:45 am to 10:20 am.

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEE COMMUNICATION

Trustee Paula Arno Martinez attended the ACCT Legislative Summit. She shared positive updates regarding Workforce Pell, which will be the focus of an upcoming Trustee Tuesday. During the summit, she also met with Senator Murray's office, where they advocated for the important work being done at the college. The meetings were very productive.

#### ENROLLMENT UPDATE

Summer enrollment has increased by 14%. Fall quarter enrollment is currently up by 1%, though seeing the impact of recent significant process changes. Winter quarter 2026 enrollment data shows a decrease of 49 FTE compared to the previous year. Running Start participation is expected to decline as well. Wenatchee High School (WHS) and Eastmont High School (EHS) experienced a reduction of approximately 50 students due to the expansion of their College in the High School programs. Additionally, some school districts are beginning to offer Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses at the middle school level.

#### FINANCIAL UPDATE

Cash flow remains a major focus, with the finance office working diligently to build a budget model by the end of the month that will roll departmental budgets into the institutional budget. The Budget Committee meets twice monthly and will need to increase its work. The performance-based funding model continues to impact the college, including a 2% reduction equal to about \$500,000. Although ABE enrollment and FTEs are increasing, next year's revenue is projected to be down by \$740,000. This year's budget remains conservative, with 40% in reserves, and next year's focus will be on increasing enrollment and reserves.

#### ACCREDITATION

Trustees received the Accreditation Handbook in advance. Jennifer prepared a draft schedule for the accreditation visit, with April 23 designated for trustees to meet with the evaluators. The self-evaluation report is due Friday and is being

finalized by the PIO with photos included. A student survey, which has not been conducted in the last five years, will be administered by HEDS and offered in three formats. Jennifer will also work with Jenna Floyd to ensure accessibility and Spanish translation. Trustees expressed appreciation for Jennifer's work and dedication.

#### **INFORMATION ONLY**

Dr. Treat provided a brief orientation on the role of trustees in the tenure, evaluation, and review process.

#### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Athletic Director Greg Sparling and former athletic directors Greg Franz and Sandy Coopriider presented information on the upcoming fundraising event scheduled for May 9, 2026.

#### **SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

- Dr. Snively Martinez is leading the effort to organize a two-day Society for Anthropology in Community Colleges Northwest conference at WVC.
- The Wenatchee Valley Museum and Cultural Center is seeking venues to host events during its renovation and has asked to partner with the college to host a series of events for up to two years or until renovations are complete.

#### **POLICY FIRST READ**

Policy 400.400 Student Academic Progress was presented for first read.

#### **ACTION ITEMS FOR REVIEW**

The trustees reviewed the regular meeting agenda and the following action items:

- NEW - 300.385 Academic Credit for Prior Learning at WVC
- NEW - Graduation Policy
- NEW - Placement Policy
- UPDATE - 500.090 Workplace Civility and Respect
- RESCIND - 500.115 Ethical Conduct Conflict of Interest Standards
- RESCIND - 500.150 Salary Schedules
- NEW - 500.520 Relocation Compensation

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Trustees entered executive session at 1:45 p.m. for 55 minutes to discuss personnel and legal matters, as permitted under RCW 42.30. The executive session concluded at 2:40 p.m.

#### **REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**CALL TO ORDER: 3:00 P.M.**

#### **LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

#### **MODIFICATION OF AGENDA**

Trustee Arno Martinez motioned to amended the agenda to include sabbatical leave request as an action item. Trustee Zimmerman seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

MOTION NO 2419

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**January 21, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes**

Paula Arno Martinez moved that the January 21, 2026, meeting minutes be approved, The motion was seconded by

Steve Zimmerman and carried unanimously.

MOTION NO 2420

### **INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES**

The following new employees were introduced:

- Mayra Mora Rodriguez, Program Specialist in Financial Aid
- Kelenda Baird, Passport Navigator
- Alina Musevych, Fiscal Analyst 2
- Gustavo Vargas, Nursing Faculty

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no comments.

### **SPECIAL REPORTS**

#### **AHE President Report**

Micky Jennings thanked the Board for recognizing Dr. Ramaswamy's dedication to the college and acknowledging his loss. He also thanked them for their time reviewing the sabbatical appeal.

#### **WPEA**

Not present.

#### **ASWVCO (Omak)**

Amber Watson provided a written report and shared that more than 30 tickets were distributed to students for the Wenatchee Wild game. Students had a great time attending the event.

#### **ASWVC (Wenatchee)**

Wenatchee students also attended the Wild Game. Plans are also underway to bring back the fishing derby, with details currently being finalized.

### **CABINET MEMBER UPDATES**

Cabinet members provided brief updates,

- Dr. Garza shared that the faculty counseling team will host a Destress Fest on March 3 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Dr. Harrison reported on the Wenatchee Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet and is exploring options for auction items. He also thanked the campus community for their support of Knight at the Wild.
- Clint Strand noted that Knight at the Wild was a success and highlighted the student table presentations.

**ACTION:** Action items were reviewed in detail during the board work session

### **POLICY**

**Adoption of new policy, Graduation Policy and Placement Policy and the update to policy 300.385m Academic Credit for Prior Learning at WVC and 500.090 Workplace Civility and Respect**

Moved by Trustee Zimmerman to approve the policies as presented. Second, by Trustee Arno Martinez and carried unanimously.

MOTION NO 2421

Update to policy 500.115 Ethical Conduct Conflict of Interest Standards, rescind policy 500.150 Salary Schedules and new policy 500.520 Relocation Compensation and 600.101 Operating Budget Development and Monitoring.

Moved by Trustee Hancock Lewis to approve the policies as presented. Second by Trustee Zimmerman and carried unanimously.

MOTION NO 2422

**Sabbatical**

Recommendations for sabbatical leave follow the process outlined in AHE Contract. The professional development committee received applications from faculty seeking professional (sabbatical) leave during the 2026-2027 academic year. The applicant is Rebecca Hargrove, English instructor for the 2026-2027 academic year.

The committee carefully reviewed, considered, and evaluated the applications according to the guidelines of the sabbatical leave. The committee came to a decision to recommend a full-year sabbatical leave Rebecca Hargrove beginning fall quarter of 2026, ending spring quarter of 2027. The board or trustees heard Ms. Hargroves sabbatical denial appeal.

Discussion: Trustee Arno Martinez clarified that the trustees were provided with additional information that was not available to them before the January regular meeting.

Moved by Trustee Arno Martinez to approve sabbatical leave for Rebecca Hargrove; seconded by Steve Zimmerman and carried unanimously.

MOTION NO 2423

**ADJOURNMENT - 3:14 PM**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date