MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
GULF COAST STATE COLLEGE
October 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., Frank Hall, Ted Howell, David Powell, Mark Sheldon, Floyd Skinner, Joe Tannehill

Other Glen McDonald, President of Gulf Coast State College, Ms. 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	**1.3**	Mr. Hall led the pledge of allegiance to the American flag.
	Welcome Guests	**1.4**	Chair Bulger welcomed guests: Mr. Skaggs, NSA-Panama City, Mr. Mihal, Tyndall Air Force Base, Mr. Joe Holt, President of Gulf Coast Foundation; Dr. Cheryl Flax-Hyman, Executive Vice-president; Dr. Holly Kuehner, Vice President of Academic Affairs; Ms. Savannah Blazer, Chair Professional Employee Council; Ms. Sarah Pilcher, Chair, Faculty Senate; Ms. Annabella Farrand, President of Student Government Association, and 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**	Ms. Ashlin Glatthar, Executive Director of the Gulf Coast Foundation, presented a remarkable gift through the Mary Laverne Pledger Revocable Living Trust of $785,579.40 to establish the Gerald and Laverne Pledger Scholarship in support of the Gulf Coast Guarantee program. President McDonald recognized the entire Facilities team for their outstanding efforts following Hurricane Isaias and expressed his appreciation for their continued hard work and dedication to Gulf Coast State College.
2.	**Trustee Comments**	**2.1**	No Trustee comments
	Attorney's Report	**2.2**	Ms. Melzer reported that she is in the process of reviewing the RFP for a bridge loan regarding the Nursing Simulation Center to bridge the gap of cash flow between Triumph's reimbursements and paying contractors. This will be brought back to the board at November's meeting.
	GCSC Foundation, Inc. President's Update	**2.3**	Mr. Joe Holt, President, GCSC Foundation provided an update on the Foundation activities and financial report. The Foundation's Annual Dinner will be held Friday, October 30, 2026, at Hotel Indigo.

Total Assets as of 9/30/2026 $41,714,287.25
Total Contributions to the Foundation since 7/1/26 $203,320.48
Total Investment Income to the Foundation since 7/1/21 ($317,655.99)
Total Gulf Coast Guarantee Funds pledged from 7/1/21 $5,119,128.28
Total Scholarships awarded to Students since 7/1/26 $927,293.25
Total number of scholarships Awarded since 7/1/26 1,154 students
Total Gulf Coast Guarantee Investment Activity since 7/1/21 $879,803.41
Total Gulf Coast Guarantee Disbursements since 7/1/21 $4,560,500.00
Number of Gulf Coast Guarantee Scholarships since 7/1/21 3,277 students

Honorary Trustee Updates 2.4

Mr. Skaggs, Community Liaison, NSA provided updates on having minimal damage on base from the hurricane.

Mr. Mihal, USAF Representative, shared the Base leadership's appreciation for GCSC's partnership and praised the successful open house hosted by the GCSC office on Base and Jason Hedden. He provided updates on the rebuilding of TAFB and expressed gratitude for the College's support and technology resources. He highlighted the "Start Here, Go Anywhere" slogan, noting that airmen begin their education at GCSC and continue their studies after transferring using the tuition assistance program.

Next DBOT Meeting 2.5

The regular meeting of the District Board of Trustees is scheduled for Thursday, November 19, 2026, at the Gulf Coast State College main campus, 10:00 a.m. (CST).

3. SGA Report 3.1

Ms. Annabella Farrand, President of Student Government provided her report on student government activities.

Focus on Students and Programs 3.2

Ms. Carrie Fioramonti, Director, Honors Program, Professor of Biology shared a presentation providing an overview of the GCSC Honors Program, including program requirements, graduation with honors, and recent Honors Symposiums. She shared that GCSC Honors students presented research projects at the National Journalism Symposium in February. She also highlighted the program's value, including honors credits and designation on the transcript make GCSC competitive, improve retention of high-performing students, and stronger connections to the local community.

4. Consent Agenda

Chair Bulger asked if any items should be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion. No items were removed.

4.1 Approval of Regular Minutes September 24, 2026
4.1.2 Approval of Special Workshop Minutes September 24, 2026
4.2 Approval of Personnel Recommendations
4.3 Approval of Contract Ratifications
4.4 Approval of Monthly and Biweekly Overloads/Adjunct Pay
4.5 Approval of September 1 – September 30, 2026
4.6 Recommendation of Final Approval of Changes to the Manual of Policy

- MOP 2.146 **Equal Opportunity Statement** – Updating policy to remove "gender", gender identity", and/or "sexual orientation.". These ideas will be communicated with the term "sex" consistent with Title IX.
- MOP 5.202 **Threat Management Team (TMT)** – ~~Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT~~) Update reflects transition from the Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT) to the Threat Management Team (TMT). Revisions ensure

policies and procedures align with current stat requirements and provide a comprehensive framework for identifying, assessing, and responding to potential threats to the campus community.

- MOP 5.260 **Reproduction and Destruction of Records** – Updating policy to reflect current storage processes.

Mr. Powell made a motion to approve consent items 4.1- 4.6, Ms. Berry seconded, and the vote passed unanimously. Motion carried.

5. Action Items

Approval to Change the District Board of Trustees November Meeting Date — **5.1**

President McDonald presented the Recommendation for approval to change the District Board of Trustees November meeting date from November 19th to November 17th.

Mr. Cramer motioned to approve 5.1 as stated. Ms. Berry seconded. The vote passed unanimously. Motion carried. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 17, 2026.

Recommendation of Tentative Approval of Changes to the Manual of Policy — **5.2**

President McDonald presented the Recommendation of Tentative Approval of the Changes to the Manual of Policy.

- MOP 2.145 **Board Powers and Duties** – Documents oversight by the board to protect the college from unforeseen financial risks and liabilities tied to external funding.
- MOP 5.204 **Guardian Program**

Mr. Cramer motioned to approve 5.1 as stated. Mr. Hall seconded. The vote passed unanimously. Motion carried.

Actual YTD Revenues/ Expenses — **6.1**

Mr. Mercer presented Actual Year-to-Date Revenue Expenses compared to prior year.

Construction Updates — **6.2**

Mr. Parker provided Construction Updates.

6.2.1 Nursing Simulation Center Project – The 1st floor interior wall framing is nearing completion. The 1st floor Fire Sprinkler installation has started. The 1st floor MEP installation above the ceiling has started. The 1st floor Plumbing in the walls is ongoing. The 2nd floor ICF walls are completed. The trusses should arrive soon and installation for the trusses will begin upon arrival. The project is currently on time and on budget. Everyone is cooperating with the proper safety equipment, and no accidents have been reported.

6.2.2 Gulf Franklin Multi-Purpose Classroom & Shelter Project – The framing of the Interior walls are completed. The MEP installation above the ceiling and in the interior walls are continuing. The installation of the windows is completed. The building is completely dried in. The layout and installation of the interior walls have started. This projected date is 5.5 weeks ahead of schedule, and the project is currently on budget. The site has focused on all safety protocols. Mr. Parker also shared a presentation of drone footage of the building and grounds.

President's Report **6.3**

President McDonald provided updates on the ongoing Hurricane Isaias recovery efforts, noting water and roof damage to the Wellness Center and the submission of a consolidated insurance claim through the Florida Risk Management Consortium. He reported Fall enrollment is up 1.5% in FTE and 2% in unduplicated headcount. The College is not expected to meet its budgeted 3% FTE growth goal and will continue, as always, to monitor expenditures throughout the academic year. President McDonald shared that he, Chairman Bulger, and Trustee Cramer, will attend the Association of Florida Colleges annual meeting next month. He noted, the college will host the FCSAA Division II Volleyball Championship November 5–7 for the first time. The volleyball team qualified for the tournament and is currently ranked No. 4 nationally in its division. The cross-country team will compete in the FCSAA Division II Regional Championship and the National Championship.

7. Good of the Order **7.0**

Mr. Bulger presented Good of the Order.

- Faculty & Friends Music Recital, October 27, 2026, 7 pm – 8:30 pm, Amelia Center Performance Hall
- The largest projection art festival "Public Eye Soar", November 6-7, 2026, 6 - 10 pm., Panama City Campus, free event open to the public
- College Closed – Veteran's Day November 11, 2026

8. Adjournment **8.0**

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Secretary — Date: 11-23-26

Chair, District Board of Trustees — Date: 11/17/2026