

MINUTES

Regular Meeting
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Vernon College
February 12, 2025

The Board of Trustees of Vernon College met on Wednesday, February 12, 2025 at 11:30 a.m. in the *Board Room* of the *Osborne Administration Building*, Vernon, Texas with the following present: Mrs. Ann Wilson – Vice Chairman, and Mrs. Betsy Smith – Secretary. Other board members in attendance were Mr. Daryl Wolf, Mr. James Brock and Mrs. Meg Heatly. Absent were Mr. Bob Ferguson and Mrs. Jamie Chapman.

Others present were Dr. Dusty Johnston, President; Mrs. Mindi Flynn, Vice President of Administration; Dr. Criquett Chapman, Vice President of Student Services; Mrs. Shana Drury, Vice President of Instructional Services; Dr. Roxie Hill, Vice President of Information Systems and Technology/Chief Information Security Officer; Mrs. Bettye Hutchins, Dean of Instructional Services; Mrs. Kristin Harris, Dean of Student Services; Ms. Michelle Alexander, Director of Institutional Advancement/Executive Director, Vernon College Foundation; Mrs. Jackie Polk, Director of Human Resources; Mrs. Jeanne Ballard, Director of Financial Aid; Mrs. Kelly Miller, Director of Student Success; Mr. Mark Cisneros, Student Success Specialist; Mr. Kevin Holland, Director of Campus Police; and Ms. Mary King, Administrative Secretary to the President. Guest present was Mr. Mike Chacanaca of the *Vernon Daily Record*.

Mrs. Wilson, Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

Consent Agenda

Mrs. Smith made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Heatly, to approve the Consent Agenda containing the *Minutes of the January 8, 2025 Regular Board Meeting* and the *President's Monthly Travel Expense Report*. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment – No one present for public comment.

Action Item A

Vice President Flynn presented the *Financial and Investment Reports as of January 31, 2025*. Mr. Wolf made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Smith, 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

Mrs. Smith made the motion, seconded by Mr. Wolf, to approve *Condley and Company, LLP* to conduct the audit for Vernon College, including the Vernon College Foundation, for the year ending August 31, 2025 at the price of \$60,000 plus actual travel expenses as presented by Mrs. Flynn. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item C

Mr. Wolf made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Heatly, to approve the following *Room and Board Rates for the 2025-2026* school year. Mrs. Flynn stated that Great Western Dining is proposing a small increase of approximately 3.4% due to inflation. A room rate increase is not proposed again this year. The motion carried unanimously.

Fall	\$500 room	\$2165 meal plan (77 days)	\$110 adm.	\$2775 total room and meal plan
Spring	\$500 room	\$2195 meal plan (78 days)	\$110 adm.	\$2805 total room and meal plan
Summer	\$200 room	no meal plan		

Action Item D

Mr. Brock made the motion, seconded by Mr. Wolf, to approve no increase for the *Proposed Tuition and Fee Rates for 2025-2026* as presented by Dr. Johnston. The following tuition and institutional service fee rates are currently in place. The motion carried unanimously.

Tuition	Current \$/SCH
In-district	\$ 60
Out of district	\$100
Out of state	\$160
ISF	Current \$/SCH
Vernon	\$ 50
CCC/WF	\$150
STC/WF	\$150
Internet	\$150
Total T&F	Current \$/SCH
Vernon*	\$110 *(Wilbarger Co. resident)
CCC/WF	\$250
STC/WF	\$250
Internet	\$250

Action Item E

Mrs. Smith made the motion, seconded by Mr. Wolf, to approve the *2025-2026 Academic Calendar* as presented by Vice President Drury and the Calendar Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item F

Mr. Wolf made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Heatly, to approve the *2025 Resolution of Support for HB 8 Community Funding* during the 89th legislative session as presented by Dr. Johnston. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item G

Mr. Brock made the motion, seconded Mrs. Smith, to approve the *Vernon College 2025-2030 Strategic Plan* as presented by Dr. Brad Beauchamp. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item H

Mrs. Smith made the motion, seconded by Mr. Wolf, to approve for the *City of Vernon to Demolish Tax Properties* as listed, and presented by Dr. Johnston. The motion carried unanimously.

1. 2429 Maiden
2. 2325 Olive
3. 2917 Cumberland
4. 2931 Luna

Action Item I

Mr. Wolf made the motion, seconded by Mr. Brock, to approve the *Resolution Authorizing the Submission of a Law Enforcement Training Grant* as presented by Mrs. Drury. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Item J

Mrs. Smith made the motion, seconded by Mr. Wolf, to approve the resale of the following *Tax Resale Deeds* held in trust by the City of Vernon. The motion carried unanimously.

- Parcel 8582001, winning bidder Maria C. Barrera, for the amount of \$3,700.00
- Parcel 1793001, winning bidder Alexis Martinez-Edmonds, for the amount of \$3,000.00
- Parcel 8579001, winning bidder Mario Garcia, for the amount of \$4,000.00
- Parcel 5814001, winning bidder Jose Hernandez, for the amount of \$4,000.00

President's Report/Board Discussion Items

Dr. Johnston updated the Board on the residence hall renovation project. He has had several conversations on updates with Architect Rick Sims since our last meeting. Rick is finalizing the list of repairs down to small items such as hardware from door knobs to levers, vanity size, hanging racks, etc. to meet ADA compliance. Also change orders on upgrading electrical boxes in order to be compliant. Bids received are to be opened on March 6. The renovation committee will meet that day, to view and accept those bids.

VC Foundation meeting update –

Dr. Johnston reported on the Vernon College Foundation Quarterly Meeting held January 16, 2025 in the Joe Chat Sumner Conference Room at the Century City Center in Wichita Falls.

- The Foundation accepted the annual audit. Reviewed and approved the IRS Form 990 for FY2023.
- Approved a renewal grant of \$30,000 for the Catching the Future Dual Credit Scholarship Program for 2025-2026 Scholarships.
- Approved a renewal grant of \$50,000 for the Vernon College Foundation Annual Scholarship for 2025-2026 Scholarships.
- Approved a new grant of \$5,000 for the Vernon College Food Pantry.
- Approved a new grant of \$2,340 to support the Spring 2025 ChapsLead Student Leadership Program.

Dr. Johnston discussed the following:

- SACSCOC 5th year report submitted
- 2023-2024 Audit
- Madison Crossing Apartment Property Tax Issue
- Colleague update
- Coffee Input Sessions
- \$1.5 million dorm renovations
- Volleyball placed 2nd in conference play and 4th place in the region
- Adding a sports team failed by a vote 4 to 2;
- Governor's directive that he will not support any tuition or fees increases for two years
- New digital billboard at Century City Center
- Challenges for the future cost of information security
- Spring enrollment update.

Ms. Michelle Alexander reviewed the Philanthropic Reports.

Vice President Mindi Flynn reviewed the Foundation's Financial and Investment reports.

Student Success Data Fact Update – Enrollment Update – Mrs. Colleen Moore presented the Enrollment and Comparison report as the Student Success Data Fact for February.

The preliminary report compares Spring 2024 versus Spring 2025. Current enrollment is 2,009 compared to 1,990 last Spring, up .95% for all locations. Dual Credit for Spring 2025 is 590 compared to 578 last spring, or an increase of 2.08%.

Athletic Student GPA report – Dr. Johnston presented the Fall 2024 Athletic Student GPA Report. He noted that three of the four teams are over the 3. mark and the other is at the high 2. for the fall semester. The overall is good at 3.16 GPA for all.

Student Highlight –

Mark Cisneros, Student Success Specialist, presented Elisabeth Story as the Vernon College Student Highlight. Ms. Story's path has not always been an easy one. She was a teenage mom at 16, her first attempt at Vernon College was unsuccessful in developmental courses, and to top it off, she lost her home in a fire. She worked as a CAN since she was 18. She set her priorities and began working towards her goal, to become a Registered Nurse and be financially stable to provide for her four children. She re-entered and utilized what VC supports – STEPS, New Beginnings, Tutoring Center, ESSI, Food Pantry, and Library-Study Group. She was accepted into both the LVN and ADN programs for the Fall. She has a 3.66 GPA, a new job that fully supports her nursing pathway, and is expected to graduate in May of 2026 with an associate degree in nursing. The presentation included her challenges and future plans. Elisabeth stated "with the right people in your corner, you can accomplish everything you set your mind to".

Dr. Johnston presented the Reminder of upcoming events:

- (1) TCCTA Conference – Houston, TX – February 20- 22, 2025
- (2) Vernon College Foundation Online Auction – March 4-6, 2025
- (3) March Board of Trustees meeting – Wednesday, March 12, 2025
- (4) Spring Break – March 10-14, 2025

Dr. Johnston presented the Philanthropic Report/Outside Grants Report.

A. Personnel –

Motion # 1 – Mrs. Smith made the motion, seconded by Mr. Brock, to approve the following personnel changes as detailed on the Item 6 Personnel Sheet and recommended by the president. The motion carried unanimously.

A. Employment

1. Andrea Gorbett, CDL/Truck Driving Instructor – Vernon, effective February 1, 2025

B. Reassignment

1. Lucianna “Luci” Cavazos, to Full-Time Nursing Instructor, from Part-Time Nursing Instructor, effective January 14, 2025

C. Resignation

1. Joe Carrigo, Truck Driving Program Instructor, effective December 31, 2024
2. Lois Martinez, LVN Instructor, effective December 31, 2024

Motion # 2 – Mrs. Heatly made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to approve the extension of the following Vice Presidents and Deans Contracts for one year for a two-year contract dated September 1, 2025 - August 31, 2027. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Shana Drury – Vice-President of Instructional Services

Mrs. Mindi Flynn – Vice-President of Administrative Services

Dr. Criquett Scott Chapman – Vice-President of Student Services

Dr. Roxanne Hill – Vice-President of Information System and Technology

Mrs. Kristin Harris – Dean of Student Services

Mrs. Bettye Hutchins – Dean of Instructional Services

Closed Session: Mr. Brock made the motion, seconded by Mr. Wolf, to go into closed session at 12:30 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.

To - Conduct Evaluation of College President and Consider Extending Contract for one additional year (September 1, 2025-August 31, 2028)

Open Session: Mr. Brock made the motion, seconded by Mr. Wolf, to reconvene at 12:50 p.m. in open session. The motion carried unanimously.

C. **Motion # 3** – Mrs. Smith made the motion, seconded by Mr. Wolf, to approve the president’s contract for Dr. Dusty R. Johnston for one year for a three-year contract dated September 1, 2025 – August 31, 2028. The motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business Mr. Wolf made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to adjourn the meeting at 1:00 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.


Mrs. Ann Wilson, Vice-Chairman


Mrs. Betsy Smith, Secretary