MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 4
SKAGIT VALLEY COLLEGE
Tuesday, June 3, 2025
4:30 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:
Mr. Ozell Jackson III – Chair
Dr. Carl Bruner – Vice Chair
Ms. Mariko Doerner
Ms. Megan Scott O'Bryan
Dr. Christopher Villa, President & Executive Secretary to the Board

BOARD MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:
Ms. Flora Perez-Lucatero

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

The Chair, Ozell Jackson, recognized that a quorum of Board members was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No requests were submitted.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Dr. Villa introduced two new employees: Megan Goodrich and Tamara Trbojevic.

RECOGNITION OF RETIREES

Carolyn Tucker, VP of Human Resources, introduced the retirees that were present and said a little bit about each one of them: Deborah Cofer, Brian Hatchett and Jennifer Lawson.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Board Meeting Minutes – May 13, 2025
2. Board Special Meeting Minutes – May 15, 2025
3. Skagit/Islands Head Start Report

It was moved by Megan Scott O'Bryan and seconded by Carl Bruner to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

COLLEGE REPORTS

1. ASSVC REPORT – Brendan Perry

2024–2025 ASSVC Applications: Applications for next year's ASSVC are currently open. Ten applications have been received to date, with the deadline extended to Monday, June 9. Final selections are expected by Tuesday, June 17.

Food Survey Results: Over 200 students responded to the food access survey circulated during winter and spring quarters. ASSVC is working to schedule a meeting with Dr. Villa to review the results and bring closure to this initiative for the academic year.

Student Technology Fee Discussion: The ASSVC and the Student Tech Fee Committee have engaged in extensive discussion this year about the possibility of increasing the Student Tech Fee. In alignment with the Student Tech Fee By-Laws, a year-end student tech fee survey will be distributed this week to gather student input on the proposal.

Niko's Closet Grand Opening: A grand opening celebration was held on June 2nd at the Whidbey Island Campus for the new location of Niko's Closet, a free clothing resource for students. Originally founded by Niko through the Whidbey Rainbow Alliance Club, the project began as a small clothing exchange under the Old Main stairwell and has now expanded to a dedicated space across from the student lounge. Niko's vision was to provide a welcoming space for students to exchange clothing that better aligned with their identity. Niko passed away in January 2023, and the Whidbey Rainbow Alliance has continued this meaningful project in his memory, honoring his spirit and compassion.

2. SVCFT – Kip Zwolenski

Approximately 20 associate faculty members are currently in the promotional period, working closely with HR throughout the process. The timeline for ratifying the Collective Bargaining Agreement is different this year. Faculty requested three weeks to review the proposed language, with voting scheduled to open Wednesday, June 11 at 8:00 am and close Friday, June 13 at 5:00 pm. The Executive Council voted unanimously in support of the agreement, with participation from 19 faculty members representing all membership types. Drop-in meetings held on Fridays reflected strong engagement and pride in the work completed.

Appreciation was expressed to Kip for his contributions to the process.

3. WPEA – Lance Levesen

Lance reported that bargaining has resumed, entering what he referred to as "Bargaining 3.0." The most recent session lasted over four hours and included both management and the Office of Financial Management (OFM). The union expressed concern that OFM is now requesting to delay discussions on the contract until after the July revenue forecast. Lance emphasized that they are not asking for anything beyond what was already agreed to.

Lance highlighted other colleges that are supporting their classified staff through vacancy savings. Carolyn Tucker, VP of Human Resources, said that she would reach out to OFM to verify this information.

4. PRESIDENT – Dr. Christopher Villa

Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) - On May 15th, Dr. Villa welcomed approximately 75 students and their families for the PTK Induction Ceremony in which students were recognized for their academic success. It was a wonderful event that enabled faculty and staff to demonstrate their support for PTK students. PTK is the official honor society for two-year colleges recognized by the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) since 1929. Founded in 1918, PTK fosters personal growth, leadership, and service among community and technical college students.

All My Relations Pow Wow - From May 16th-18th, SVC hosted another successful All My Relations Powwow in which community members, dancers and drummers came together to celebrate Indigenous culture. We are particularly thankful for the work that Amy Gustafson, Associate Dean of Student Support Programs, the SVC First Nations Club, and a variety of college and community supporters for making this event a tradition that continues to serve as a bridge between our tribal partners and the community at large.

Northwest Education & Workforce Coalition - On May 20th, Dr. Villa attended a meeting hosted by the NWESD in which representatives from universities, community colleges, K-12, the Gates Foundation, and other public agencies collaborated in discussions that resulted in several topics including increasing exposure of workforce programs, credit for prior learning, and the impact of artificial intelligence on employment sectors. One potential project that was identified was a summer program for high school students that would expose them to workforce programs.

5. CORE THEME REPORT – COMMUNITY – Dr. Claire Peinado, Dr. Darren Greeno, Dr. Gabriel Mast and Michelle Heitmann.

The Core Theme of Community remains a central focus for Skagit Valley College, emphasizing belonging, partnership, and engagement. Recent survey results from students and employees are informing program review and planning, with attention to areas such as student support services, academic offerings, and administrative resources. SVC continues to build robust community partnerships, including the Learning with Leaders initiative that reached over 200 high school students, and expanded transfer pathways through a forthcoming guaranteed admission agreement with WWU. In workforce development, the college delivered Job Skills Program training to over 600 employees and significantly increased customized training offerings, supporting local industries and economic growth across the region.

6. BOARD OF TRUSTEES/ACT

Trustees Doerner and Perez-Lucatero attended the HSI Symposium and shared that it was a highly informative and well-attended event. Trustee Doerner highlighted the luncheon and keynote speaker.

Trustee Bruner reported attending the STEM Showcase, describing it as a great opportunity to engage with students and view their presentations. He was impressed by the depth of student learning and achievement.

Trustee Jackson spoke about the Scholarship Breakfast, noting the strong sense of optimism and referenced the McIntyre Scholarship. Instructor Dr. Garrett Kelley, a former recipient, spoke about how the scholarship changed the course of his life. Trustee Jackson appreciated learning more about how the awards are organized and the impact they have on students. Trustee Bruner also attended the Scholarship Breakfast, commenting on the large turnout, which included many students, faculty, staff, donors, and community supporters.

Trustee Jackson shared highlights from the ACT Spring Conference, which he attended with Dr. Villa. He participated in a session on artificial intelligence featuring a CEO from an AI company. There were discussions on the challenges surrounding DEI and our colleges and presidents. Dr. Villa noted the value of the networking opportunities.

Trustee Jackson also informed the board that the Anacortes School District has posted an interim superintendent position, and Trustee Bruner intends to apply. If selected, Trustee Bruner will be unable to serve as Board Chair next year. In that case, the board will ask Trustee Perez-Lucatero if she would be interested in serving as Chair. If not, the Board will need to meet to determine the next Chair.

STUDY ITEM

1. Academic Calendars for revised 2025-2026, 2026-2027 and 2027-2028.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Election of Board of Trustees' Vice Chair for 2025-2026.
   It was moved by Megan Scott O'Bryan to nominate Flora Perez-Lucatero as Vice Chair for 2025-2026. The nomination was seconded by Mariko Doerner.

   MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Recommendation of Board of Trustees' Regular Meeting Schedule for 2025-2026.
   It was moved by Carl Bruner and seconded by Megan Scott O'Bryan to approve the Board of Trustees' Regular Meeting Schedule for 2025-2026 as presented with the November date change to November 4, 2025.

   MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Recommendation of McIntyre Hall Preforming Arts & Conference Center Budget for 2025-2026.
   It was moved by Megan Scott O'Bryan and seconded by Mariko Doerner to approve the McIntyre Hall Preforming Arts & Conference Center Budget for 2025-2026 as presented.
   The Chair requested a roll call vote: Carl Bruner – aye, Mariko Doerner – aye, Megan Scott O'Bryan – aye, and Ozell Jackson – aye.

   MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Recommendation of Operating Budget – 2025-2026 and Capital Budget – 2025-2027.
   It was moved by Carl Bruner and seconded by Megan Scott O'Bryan to approve the Operating Budget – 2025-2026 and Capital Budget – 2025-2027 as presented.
   The Chair requested a roll call vote: Carl Bruner – aye, Mariko Doerner – aye, Megan Scott O'Bryan – aye, and Ozell Jackson – aye.

   MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Recommendation of Intercollegiate Athletics Competition Budget – 2025-2026. It was moved by Megan Scott O'Bryan and seconded by Mariko Doerner to approve the Intercollegiate Athletics Competition Budget – 2025-2026 as presented.
   The Chair requested a roll call vote: Carl Bruner – aye, Mariko Doerner – aye, Megan Scott O'Bryan – aye, and Ozell Jackson – aye.

   MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Recommendation of Service & Activities Fees Budget – 2025-2026.
   It was moved by Megan Scott O'Bryan and seconded by Carl Bruner to approve the Service & Activities Fees Budget – 2025-2026 as presented.
   The Chair requested a roll call vote: Carl Bruner – aye, Mariko Doerner – aye, Megan Scott O'Bryan – aye, and Ozell Jackson – aye.

   MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

7. Recommendation of RN to BSN degree.
   It was moved by Megan Scott O'Bryan and seconded by Mariko Doerner to approve the RN to BSN degree as presented.

   MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

8. Recommendation of Academic Calendars for revised 2025-2026, 2026-2027 and 2027-2028.
   It was moved by Megan Scott O'Bryan and seconded by Mariko Doerner to approve the Academic Calendars for revised 2025-2026, 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 as presented.
   MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Jackson announced at 5:55 p.m. that the Board would convene into Executive Session to review the proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement. He stated that he anticipated the Executive Session would take 15 minutes and that the Board will take action when they returned to open session.

OPEN SESSION

The Chair reconvened the meeting into open session at 6:10 p.m.

ACTION ITEM

9. Recommendation of the Collective Bargaining Agreement with SVCFT for the 2025-2026, 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 academic years.

   It was moved by Megan Scott O'Bryan and seconded by Carl Bruner to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement with SVCFT for the 2025-2026, 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 academic years as presented.
   MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

October 14, 2025, 4:30 p.m., Mount Vernon Campus, Administrative Annex.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Jackson announced at 6:36 p.m. that the Board would convene into Executive Session to discuss matters as authorized by RCW 42.30.110 (g), to review the performance of a public employee. He stated that he anticipated the Executive Session would take 30 minutes and that the Board does not intend to take action when they returned to open session.

At 7:06 p.m., Chair Jackson extended the Executive Session by 30 minutes.
At 7:36 p.m., Chair Jackson extended the Executive Session by 30 minutes.

OPEN SESSION

The Chair reconvened the meeting into open session at 8:06 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Jackson adjourned the Board of Trustees meeting at 8:07 p.m.

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Ozell Jackson, Chair	Dr. Christopher Villa, President Executive Secretary to the Board