

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 4
SKAGIT VALLEY COLLEGE
Tuesday, December 10, 2024
4:30 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Ozell Jackson III – Chair
Dr. Carl Bruner – Vice Chair
Ms. Mariko Doerner
Ms. Flora Perez-Lucatero
Ms. Megan Scott O’Bryan
Dr. Christopher Villa, President & Executive Secretary to the Board

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:37 p.m.

II. DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

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

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

No requests were submitted.

V. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

SVC Women’s Volleyball team and Coach Amaral attended and shared about their championship season. New employees were also introduced.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Board Meeting Minutes – November 12, 2024
2. Skagit/Islands Head Start Report

It was moved by Carl Bruner and seconded by Mariko Doerner to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

VI. COLLEGE REPORTS

1. ASSVC – Brendan Perry

The Associated Students of Skagit Valley College (ASSVC) now have full board membership on both campuses. The Mount Vernon (MV) ASSVC approved two new clubs, the Culture Through Film Club and the Engineering Club, and is exploring a potential legacy project, such as an outdoor centerpiece or gathering space, with input from the campus community. They recently met with Tim Wheeler to discuss possible options.

The MV ASSVC is interested in discussing expanded food services on the MV campus, they are also working on improving interaction between clubs by planning regular meetings during Winter and Spring quarters. At the district level, ASSVC is pursuing a student survey to explore interest in increasing the Student Tech Fee, unchanged since 2001.

2. SVCFT – Kip Zwolenski

Kip gave an overview of the designation as a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) at SVC and the historical role of faculty involvement.

Upcoming Negotiations: 2025-2028 Faculty Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) – Kip presented an overview of SVC's Hybrid Interest-Based Bargaining.

2025 Legislative Session Lobby Days -Community for our Colleges – January 20, 2025, SBCTC ACT – January 28-29, 2025 and AFT-WA, February 17, 2025

3. WPEA – Lance Levesen

No report at this time.

4. PRESIDENT – Dr. Christopher Villa

Dr Villa announced that Dr. Ed Jaramillo, Vice President of Administrative Services will be retiring at the end of this year and thanked him for his nearly eight years of dedicated service to the college. Since February 2016, Ed has been instrumental in ensuring the effective operation of the college, providing strategic leadership, vision, and expertise in the planning, administration, and evaluation of key policies and operations within Administrative Services. Ed was also instrumental in working with the SVC Foundation, helping with the installation of the Claude Blackburn Pickleball Pavilion, and the Sue Kreinen Early Learning and Childcare Center.

While this being Ed's last Board meeting, Dr. Villa thanked Ed for his willingness to assist with hand-offs in January, demonstrating his continued dedication to a smooth transition. Dr. Villa expressed deep gratitude for all Ed has contributed and wished him every happiness in his well-deserved retirement.

Dr. Villa announced that Dr. Mike Cogan has accepted the position of Vice President of Administrative Services. Dr. Cogan's official start date will be January 1, 2025. Dr. Cogan

(Mike) is a seasoned higher education leader with nearly three decades of experience in higher education administration, finance, and operations.

More recently, Mike has focused on higher education consulting, enhancing academic, financial, and administrative transparency at nearly 60 institutions. Mike's collaborative approach is marked by a commitment to community engagement, integrated planning, and informed decision-making, aiming to drive financial sustainability and innovative growth within higher education institutions. Mike earned his PhD in Quantitative Research Methodologies from the University of North Dakota and is a proud two-time alum (MA and BAS) of Western New Mexico University.

Dr. Villa said the college is excited to have Mike join the SVC community and look forward to working with him. The President's Office will host a welcome reception in January.

Dr. Villa shared that the inaugural edition of the SVC President's Newsletter was sent out campus-wide on November 18th. The newsletter is a space dedicated to celebrating the many positive things happening across the college. This newsletter will capture and reflect the unique spirit that we embody at SVC that is rooted in respect, integrity, open and honest communication, collaboration, and compassion. He said that at Fall In-Service, compassion was highlighted and stands as a cornerstone of our shared values. In a world filled with challenges — both personal and professional — we are here to support one another in a vibrant and positive culture we strive to uphold at SVC. This resilience, paired with our unwavering commitment to our values, defines who we are and who we aspire to be as a community. He said that in each edition, you will find stories and updates that showcase the heart of SVC — our people, our achievements, and our shared journey. Together, we will celebrate the many ways we embody the values that make SVC a truly special place.

5. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Carolyn Tucker

Carolyn Tucker, Vice President of Human Resources, delivered a presentation highlighting key areas of focus within the department. The presentation covered Core HR Functions, an overview of challenges faced by HR over the past three years, and the department's strategic priorities moving forward. Additionally, the VP introduced the HR team, providing insights into their roles and responsibilities, and shared updates on community engagement efforts, including recent events hosted at SVC.

6. BOARD OF TRUSTEES/ACT

Carl Bruner attended Trustee Tuesday on December 10, 2024. Speakers included David Baime, senior vice president for government relations for AACC and Arlen Harris, legislative director for Washington State Community & Technical College system. David and Arlen discussed the key outcomes of the federal and state elections. The session offered valuable insights into how the election results impact our state and national advocacy efforts.

Mariko emphasized the importance of building relationships with our local legislators, noting that they appreciate being invited to events and activities at the college.

VII. ACTION ITEMS

1. Recommendation to approve revisions to the WAC 132-150, Code of Student Conduct, as presented for submission to the Washington State Code Reviser.

It was moved by Flora Perez-Lucatero and seconded by Mariko Doerner to approve the revisions to the WAC 132-150, Code of Student Conduct, as presented for submission to the Washington State Code Reviser.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Recommendation to approve a new date for the February 2025 Board of Trustees Meeting.

It was moved by Mariko Doerner and seconded by Flora Perez-Lucatero to approve February 4, 2025 as the new date for the February 2025 Board of Trustees Meeting.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Recommendation to approve a date for the June 2025 Board of Trustees Meeting.

It was moved by Mariko Doerner and seconded by Carl Bruner to approve June 3, 2025 as the date for the June 2025 Board of Trustees Meeting.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

VIII. NEXT REGULAR MEETING

February 4, 2025, 4:30 p.m., Mount Vernon Campus, Administrative Annex Boardroom
Study Session at 3:30 pm

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Jackson announced at 6:01 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 20 minutes and that the Board does intend to take action when they returned to open session.

At 6:21 p.m., Chair Jackson extended the Executive Session by 15 minutes.

At 6:36 p.m., Chair Jackson extended the Executive Session by 10 minutes.

At 6:47 p.m., Chair Jackson extended the Executive Session by 20 minutes.

At 7:08 p.m., Chair Jackson extended the Executive Session by 5 minutes.

At 7:12 p.m., Chair Jackson extended the Executive Session by 2 minutes.

OPEN SESSION

The Chair reconvened the meeting into open session at 7:14 p.m. He stated that the board has decided to not take action at this time.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Jackson adjourned the Board of Trustees meeting at 7:18 p.m.

Ozell Jackson, Chair

Dr. Christopher Villa, President
Executive Secretary to the Board