

APPROVED MINUTES

COCHISE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD REGULAR MEETING

**Tuesday, April 15, 2025
Sierra Vista Campus
Governing Board Room – 301
6:00 p.m.**

Members of the public who wished to attend the meeting via video conference joined at <https://cochise.zoom.us/j/94783129391>.

1. GENERAL FUNCTIONS

1.01 Call to Order

Mr. Hudgins called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Mr. David DiPeso
Mr. Don Hudgins
Ms. Stephanie Money
Mr. Tim Quinn
Mrs. Jane Strain

1.02 Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Quinn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.03 Adoption of Agenda

The administration requested the agenda be approved, replacing Action Item 2.02 - Placeholder for Aviation Mechanic, with an Action Item to hire Javier Madero as the Aviation Mechanic, along with moving Action Item 2.03 – President Emeritus, to the beginning of the meeting following the Week of the Young Child Proclamation.

Mr. Quinn moved and Mr. DiPeso seconded the approval of the agenda, replacing Item 2.02 – Placeholder for Aviation Mechanic appointment with an Action Item hiring Javier Madero as Aviation Mechanic, and moving Action Item 2.03 – President Emeritus to the beginning of the meeting. With no additional modifications, the Governing Board unanimously adopted the meeting agenda, with members David DiPeso, Don Hudgins, Stephanie Money, Tim Quinn, and Jane Strain all voting aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

1.04 Citizen's In-Person Interim

There were no requests to address the board.

1.05 Week of the Young Child Proclamation

ACTION

The administration requested the Governing Board adopt a motion to approve and proclaim the second week of April 2025 as the Week of the Young Child.

Mrs. Strain moved, and Mr. Quinn seconded a motion to approve and proclaim the second week of April 2025 as the Week of the Young Child. There was no further discussion. The Governing Board unanimously approved, with members David DiPeso, Don Hudgins, Stephanie Money, Tim Quinn, and Jane Strain all voting aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Dr. Perey read and presented the proclamation to Melissa Avant, First Things First Cochise Regional Director. Ms. Avant accepted the proclamation and expressed her gratitude and appreciation for all that Cochise College does within the community and for investing in the lives of young children and the community.

2.03 Award President Emeritus Status Recognition – Dr. J.D. Rottweiler

The item was moved to the beginning of the meeting, allowing recognition earlier in the regular meeting.

Mr. Hudgins, Board Chair, requested a motion to approve granting President Emeritus status to Dr. J.D. Rottweiler.

Mr. Quinn moved, and Mr. DiPeso seconded a motion to confer President Emeritus status upon Dr. James (J.D.) Rottweiler. There was no further discussion. The Governing Board unanimously approved, with members David DiPeso, Don Hudgins, Stephanie Money, Tim Quinn, and Jane Strain all voting aye. **MOTION CARRIED**

Mrs. Strain expressed her appreciation for all Dr. Rottweiler did for the college during his time as the Cochise College president.

Mr. DiPeso expressed that Dr. Rottweiler has greatly benefited the county, the state, and the community college system.

Mr. Quinn thanked Dr. Rottweiler for all he has done for the college. He also thanked Melanie for her support.

Mr. Hudgins expressed his appreciation for Dr. Rottweiler's support and thanked Mrs. Rottweiler for all she did during their conference trips.

Mr. Hudgins then read and presented Dr. Rottweiler with a proclamation and a President Emeritus medallion.

Dr. Rottweiler provided a few words of appreciation, stating Cochise College is a part of him, and getting to lead the institution was the highlight of his career. He thanked the board for their continuous collaboration and leadership during his tenure and expressed the honor of having this emeritus status bestowed upon him.

1.06 Standing Reports

1.06.1 Representative to the Arizona Association of Community College Trustees

Mrs. Jane Strain, Arizona Association of Community College Trustees (AACCT) representative, reported that Stephanie Money will attend the upcoming All-Trustee meeting in Phoenix, Arizona, on April 23-24 on behalf of the board.

1.06.2 Senate

A written March Senate report was submitted and accepted as published.

1.06.3 Student Government Association

The Student Government Association presented an update to the Governing Board; highlights include:

Cayla Lewis, Sierra Vista Campus President, introduced two new officers:

- Isaiah James, Treasurer, Sierra Vista Campus
 - Major: Cybersecurity
 - Hobbies: Reading and listening to music
- McKenzie Royal, Vice President of Student Programming, Sierra Vista Campus
 - Major: Psychology
 - Hobbies: Walking dogs and listening to music

Ximena Lizarraga, Douglas Campus President, presented 2025 district-wide initiative updates:

- Spring Fling – April 3
- College Spirit Week – April 7-11
- Teal Day – April 15
- National Volunteer Week – April 20-26

Camila Rivera, Douglas Campus Secretary, highlighted upcoming events including:

- Red & White Awards Ceremonies
 - April 23 – Douglas Campus
 - April 25 – Sierra Vista Campus
 - 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. – Student Union
- Finals Stress Relief Activities:
 - May 7 & 8 – Both Campuses
 - 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the Student Union

Miguel Fragoso, Vice President of Student Programming on the Douglas Campus provided highlights of achieved goals for FY25:

- Downtown Center
 - 7 events uplifted and engaged the student body
- New Clubs
 - 5 new clubs
 - Douglas Campus
 - Film & Media Club
 - Space Exploration Society
 - Sierra Vista Campus
 - Christian Challenge Club
 - Communication and Public Speaking
 - Banned Books Club
 - Tradition Influencer
 - Successfully engaged the college community in the Tradition Influencer initiative to highlight traditional events at Cochise College while celebrating the 60th anniversary.

Questions/Comments:

Mr. Quinn thanked the students and noted that data shows students participating in college-student events are more successful. He expressed his appreciation for their positive impact and for volunteering and stepping up.

1.06.4 College President

Dr. Perey provided updates to the Governing Board; highlights included:

Legislative Update:

- The Arizona Legislature has officially completed committee action and moved on to budget negotiations. Initially, a budget was expected in April; however, stakeholders are still awaiting budget news. Several bills in the Arizona Legislature are being tracked, and the administration will keep the board up to date. Potential legislation and executive orders at the federal level continue to be monitored. An executive order on accreditation can be expected soon. Two documents were provided to the board: the first outlined executive branch actions of interest to community colleges, and the second detailed the community colleges' federal legislative priorities for the American Association of Community Colleges.

Facilities Update:

- Douglas Campus
 - Central Plant (900): Equipment installed; chilled water cooling restored; final programming and commissioning to be completed by 4/15.
 - Library (307): One large classroom split into two with a new exterior entrance. Temporary siding is in place; completion is expected in mid-June.
 - Adult Ed (400): Interior is being converted to 2 classrooms; completion will be by mid-July.
 - Huachuca Hall (1200s): Partial abatement for unit rebuilds and unused lounge spaces. Abatement starts on the week of 5/19; remodel and completion dates are TBD.
 - Campus Entrance Turnaround: Project to improve exit near Lot A (not Welcome Center turnaround). GeoTech study on 4/21; civil drawings and schedule forthcoming.
- Sierra Vista Campus
 - Library Barista Café (900): The counter was shipped on 4/9; the installation is scheduled for the week of 4/21.
 - Campus Services (2600): Interior build-out is ongoing and behind schedule. Painting, ceilings, and flooring to be subcontracted. The fire alarm installation will be in early May; completion will be by the end of June, with move-in after network setup.
- Downtown Center
 - Simulators: Final flight and police cruiser simulators are waiting for shipping paperwork. Planning to have on-site this weekend: install following arrival. Storefront/window and wall work to follow simulator placement.

Initiative Update:

- College hosted the annual Skilled Trades Day –

- A total of 146 students from nine of the county's high schools attended, along with their chaperones.
- In addition to faculty showcasing Cochise College programs, over 60 representatives from local industries presented on the specifics of what they do and how they benefit the community.
- College Presentations:
 - Nursing
 - Aviation
 - Welding
 - HVAC
 - Residential Construction
 - Culinary
 - Automotive
 - On-Campus Housing
- Industry Presentations:
 - Allo Fiber
 - KE&G
 - Workman Homes
 - Military Recruiters – Army, Air Force, Navy
 - Arizona G&T Cooperative
 - SSVEC
 - HDS Trucking
 - Riteway AC
- Special thanks were given to the catering staff for a great lunch.

General Comments:

- Community Engagements:
 - March 13 - Southern AZ Leadership Presentation (Wendy Koop & Cullen Scarborough)
 - March 20 – Met with Legacy Foundation and toured their new retreat and event centers
 - March 22-23 – College Rodeo on Fort Huachuca
 - March 24 – Benson Area Stakeholders Luncheon
 - March 25 – Installation of the 23rd UofA President
 - March 26 – Meeting with Callie Groth (University Foundation)
 - March 28 – President's Student Leadership Academy (Douglas Campus)
 - April 1 – Spring 2024 Legacy Giving Event (SV Campus)
 - April 2 – Met with Allo Fiber
 - April 4-8 – HLC Conference in Chicago -
 - April 11 – 14 – AACC Conference in Nashville

Upcoming Events:

- April 18 – PTK Induction – Keynote speaker (SV Campus)
- April 23-24 – All-Trustee/AC4 Meeting – Phoenix (Board member Money)
- April 23 – Douglas Campus Red & White Awards @ 3 p.m.
- April 25 – SVC Red & White Awards @ 3 pm
- April 30 - Arizona Department of Education's Regional Ecosystem for Workforce Development Collaborative Event
- May 6 – Meeting with John Arnold, U of A CFO
- May 13 – Good Morning, Sierra Vista

- May 13 – Board Meeting
- May 16 – Commencement Day – Douglas Campus 5 p.m. President's Reception & 7 p.m. Ceremony

Questions or Comments:

Mr. Quinn inquired about the executive order on accreditation; Dr. Perey noted that it is pushing for more measuring metrics and is open to new accreditors to participate.

1.05.5 Monthly Financial Report – March 2025

The Financial Report for March 2025 was presented and accepted as submitted.

1.05.6 Monthly Academic Progress Report

No monthly report was provided for March 2025.

2. NEW BUSINESS *

2.01 Consent Agenda *

The following items were approved:

- 2.01.1 * Non-Exempt Staff; Appointment (*Daniela Cruz, Registration Technician, Douglas Campus*)
- 2.01.2 * Non-Exempt Staff; Appointment (*Wendi Massaglia, Testing Services Specialist, Sierra Vista Campus*)
- 2.01.3 * Non-Exempt Staff; Appointment (*Serina Percy, Registration Technician, Sierra Vista Campus*)
- 2.01.4 * Non-Exempt Staff; Appointment (*Anastasia Rogers, Accounts Payable Lead Technician, Sierra Vista Campus*)
- 2.01.5 * Exempt Staff; Appointment (*Edward Gonzales, Building and Grounds Manager, Douglas Campus*)
- 2.01.6 * Faculty; Appointment (*Catherine Elliott, Instructor of Computer Information Systems, Downtown Center*)
- 2.01.7 * Faculty; Appointment (*Keesha Essary, Instructor of Reading, Sierra Vista Campus*)
- 2.01.8 * Faculty; Appointment (*Beatriz Greeno, Instructor of English as a Second Language, Douglas Campus*)
- 2.01.9 * Non-Exempt Staff; Resignation (*Cody Nix, Academic Career Advisor, Sierra Vista Campus*)
- 2.01.10 * Exempt Staff; Resignation (*Danny Trotter, Skilled Trades Coordinator / Instructor, Sierra Vista Campus*)
- 2.01.11 * Faculty; Resignation (*William Forbes, Instructor of Aviation Pathways, Douglas Campus*)
- 2.01.12 * Faculty; Resignation (*Jeramie O'Dell, Instructor of Welding Technology, Sierra Vista Campus*)
- 2.01.13 * Non-Exempt Staff; Separation (*Tinesha Smith, Financial Aid Technician I, Sierra Vista Campus*)
- 2.01.14 * Exempt Staff; Retirement (*Tina Ratliff, Assistant Director of Financial Aid, Sierra Vista Campus*)
- 2.01.15 * Curriculum
- 2.01.16 * Acceptance of Minutes for March 11, 2025 – Regular Meeting

Mr. Quinn moved, and Mr. DiPeso seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, with no further discussion. The Governing Board unanimously approved, with members David DiPeso, Don Hudgins, Stephanie Money, Tim Quinn, and Jane Strain all voting aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

***** Introduction of New Employees *****

Wick Lewis, Executive Director of Human Resources, introduced Galen Gudenkauf, Data Analyst.

2.02 Placeholder – Non-Exempt Staff Appointment – Aviation Mechanic

The administration requested the Governing Board adopt a motion to approve hiring Javier Madero, Aviation Mechanic.

Mr. DiPeso moved, and Mrs. Strain seconded a motion approving hiring Javier Madero, Aviation Mechanic. With no further discussion, the Governing Board unanimously approved, with members David DiPeso, Don Hudgins, Stephanie Money, Tim Quinn, and Jane Strain all voting aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

2.04 Award President Emeritus Status Recognition – Dr. J.D. Rottweiler

The item was moved to the beginning of the meeting, allowing recognition earlier in the regular meeting.

2.04 Faculty Emeritus

The administration requested that the Governing Board adopt a motion to confer Faculty Emeritus status upon Margarita Fate and Chris McVean. Per College Policy 3023, Procedure 3023.1 (Emeriti Faculty), these nominations have been approved by the nominating committee and recommended by Dr. Brown, Interim Vice President for Academics, and Dr. James Perey, College President. Both Ms. Fate and Ms. McVean accepted the status of faculty emeritus.

Mr. Quinn moved, and Mr. DiPeso seconded a motion to confer Faculty Emeritus status upon Margarita Fate and Chris McVean. With no further discussion, the Governing Board unanimously approved, with members David DiPeso, Don Hudgins, Stephanie Money, Tim Quinn, and Jane Strain all voting aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

2.05 Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Personnel Listing

The administration requested the Governing Board adopt a motion to approve the 2025-2026 personnel listing containing the names of employees to be issued employment contracts for the ensuing fiscal year, pending other board actions.

Mrs. Strain moved, and Mr. DiPeso seconded a motion to approve the 2025-2026 personnel listing containing the names of employees to be issued employment contracts for the ensuing fiscal year, pending other board actions. With no further discussion, the Governing Board unanimously approved, with members David DiPeso, Don Hudgins, Stephanie Money, Tim Quinn, and Jane Strain all voting aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

2.06 Board Policies Second Read and Approval

The administration requested the Governing Board adopt a motion to approve the following policies, which were presented during the March 2025 meeting for first reading:

Board Policy 303 – President Succession –recent reorganizations
Policy 627 – Holidays and Summer Hours
Policy 636 – Tuition Exemption
Policy 665 – Tuition Reimbursement

Mr. Quinn moved, and Mrs. Strain seconded a motion approving Board Policy 303 – President Succession –recent reorganizations; Policy 627 – Holidays and Summer Hours; Policy 636 – Tuition Exemption; and Policy 665 – Tuition Reimbursement. With no further discussion, the Governing Board unanimously approved, with members David DiPeso, Don Hudgins, Stephanie Money, Tim Quinn, and Jane Strain all voting aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

2.07 Faculty Grievance Against President

Dr. Perey noted that on January 14, 2025, a current Cochise College faculty member filed a grievance against the then-current College president. The board chair asked the vice president for administration to seek legal guidance on the issues and concerns identified in the grievance. In addition to the board's legal counsel being provided with the grievance, a copy was also provided to the respondent. The respondent provided a response to the grievance for the legal counsel to consider. In addition, the legal counsel interviewed both the grievant and the respondent and reviewed pertinent college policies. The board's legal counsel provided the Governing Board with a written report on findings related to the review and investigation of the grievance. Legal counsel did not find a basis to conclude that the respondent had violated college policy and, therefore, found that there was no merit in the grievance.

The administration requested that the Governing Board adopt a motion to accept the report of findings from legal counsel with regard to the grievance filed against the now former college president and consider this matter closed.

Mr. DiPeso moved, and Mr. Quinn seconded a motion accepting the report of findings of legal counsel with regard to the grievance filed against the now former College president and consider this matter closed. With no further discussion, the Governing Board unanimously approved, with members David DiPeso, Don Hudgins, Stephanie Money, Tim Quinn, and Jane Strain all voting aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

2.08 Accept the Resignation of Mr. Tim Quinn From the Cochise County Community College District Governing Board, Declare an Open Seat, and Follow the Established Process for Appointment with the Cochise County Superintendent of Schools, Jacqui Clay

The administration requested the Governing Board adopt a motion to accept the resignation of Mr. Tim Quinn from the Cochise County Community College District Governing Board, effective April 16, 2025, declare the District 4 seat open, and follow the established process for appointment with the Cochise County Superintendent of Schools, Jacqui Clay.

Mr. DiPeso moved, and Mrs. Strain seconded a motion accepting the resignation of Mr. Tim Quinn from the Cochise County Community College District Governing Board, effective April 16, 2025, declaring the District 4 seat open and follow the established process for

appointment with the Cochise County Superintendent of Schools, Jacqui Clay. With no further discussion, the Governing Board approved, with members David DiPeso, Don Hudgins, Stephanie Money, and Jane Strain all voting aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

3. INFORMATION ITEMS

INFORMATION

3.01 Communications

- Dr. James Perey received a letter from Rita Vargas Torregrosa, Consul of Mexico, on behalf of the Consulate of Mexico in Douglas, expressing their appreciation for the college's invaluable participation and collaboration in the International Women's Day commemoration event. The Consul also noted that the college's presence and insightful contributions were instrumental in the event's success, significantly enriching the discourse and fostering a meaningful exchange of ideas.

3.02 NISOD Awards - 2024

Dr. Sheena Brown, Interim Vice President for Academics, announced and recognized the National Institute for Staff and Organization Development (NISOD) Award recipients. The organization is committed to promoting and celebrating excellence in teaching, learning, and leadership at community and technical colleges.

In March 2025, Cochise College nominated Melissa Faglie, Curriculum Development Manager, and Abe Villarreal, Douglas Campus Dean, for the NISOD Award.

Recipients were selected based on the following criteria:

- Service to Students
- Service to Department or Area
- Service to the College
- Service to the Community

Dr. Brown read portions of the nomination letters submitted for Melissa and Abe and honored each with a plaque. Ms. Faglie and Mr. Villarreal will have the opportunity to attend the NISOD National Convention in Austin, Texas, in late May for further recognition and awards.

3.03 Human Resources Annual Report

Mr. Wick Lewis, Executive Director of Human Resources, provided a written annual Human Resources Staffing Profile and Report; highlights include:

Faculty and Staff Profile:

- Currently, there are a total of 595 employees, not including student employees
 - Increase in Associate Faculty in FRA, Dental Asst & CLL one-time instructors
 - There was very little change in the balance of
 - FT (61%) vs PT (39%)
 - Male (45%) vs Female (55%)
 - Average FT Employee Age (46 years), same as last year (46)
 - External Hire (79%) vs Internal Hire (21%)

Recruitment:

- Average days to fill and start date increased slightly from 25 to 34. The department will continue to monitor this trend and look for ways to improve.

Employee Service Awards:

- In an effort to retain employees and reduce turnover, Cochise College emphasizes employee recognition
 - Retirement Recognition – Celebrating legacy careers
 - Service Awards – Celebrating milestones annually
 - Cochise Kudos – Celebrating the good works of current employees at Cochise and providing a way for co-workers and the public to say Thank You.
 - STAR Awards – Associate Faculty
 - NISOD Award – Staff Recognition
 - NES Award – Non-Exempt Staff Award

3.04 FY26 Preliminary Budget Update

Dr. James Perey, College President, and Dr. Wendy Davis, Executive Vice President for Administration, updated the Governing Board on the FY26 preliminary budget development and preparing the them for future actions in May and June; highlights include:

Strategic Priorities:

- Provide students and employees with equitable technological access, including connections, devices, and skills.
- Assess, develop, and improve student wellness.
- Establish data management systems where institutional data is trusted, understood, accurate, and provided and used by stakeholders in a meaningful, secure, and consistent manner.
- Assess, add, and/or modify educational programs that increase support for individuals, communities, and the economy.

Budget Principles:

- Base Forward focuses on:
 - Being student-centered
 - Data-driven
 - Employee Friendly
 - Technologically Enhanced
 - Future Focuses

FY26 Compensation Considerations:

- Continued impact from inflation (2.44% in Aug. 2024 – Estimated 2.7% in Aug. 2025)
- Increased health care costs (6% - 11% increase)
- Comparator Analysis
 - State – Arizona Community Colleges
 - Regional – Mountain States Community Colleges
 - National – CUPA-HR Community Colleges

FY26 Compensation Plan:

- Increase Full-Time employees' Base Pay by 4%
- Increase Associate Faculty by 4.77% (\$900/eq unit)
- Part-time employees are expected to increase by 2.5%
- Student employees increase to the Arizona minimum wage effective January 1, 2026, to approximately. \$15.10/hour

Benefits:

- Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS)
 - The Retirement Rate decreased from 12.12% to 11.86%
 - L.T.D. rates decrease from 0.15% to 0.14%
- Health/Dental/Vision Insurance
 - Increase from \$660/month to \$700/month for medical/dental coverage
 - Increase H.S.A. Incentive from \$800 to \$850 towards the health savings account for eligible employees

Proposed Ongoing Expenses:

- FY26 Compensation and Benefits Plan
- Increases in property and liability insurance
- Increases in utility cost
- Compliance
- Third-Party Contracts
 - Security and Food Services
 - Technology Services
- Renovation and Deferred Maintenance Projects (Fund Balance)
 - DC – Entrance (Lot A turnaround to exit)
 - DC – Classroom Renovations (307 & 400)
 - DC – Housing Refurbishment
 - DC – Infrastructure (water, electrical)
 - SVC – Water loop for redundancy
 - Benson Center – Flooring

Proposed Initiatives and Expenses:

- Travel Policy Changes – Change to per diem from receipt management & increase mileage reimbursement rate
- Interpreting Services increased costs
- Athletics increased costs (travel, supplies, meals)
- Facility Condition Assessment
- TouchNet OneCard and Software Increases
- Electronic Door access – continued implementation
- Continued support of ERP implementation (Fund Balance)
- Continued support of Strategic Priorities

Strategic Priorities Funding:

- HLC Quality Improvement Plan
 - Equitable Technological Access (\$75,000)
 - Wellness Initiative – Mental Health and Basic Needs (\$125,000)
 - Data Management and Reporting (\$80,000)
 - Academic Programming/Curriculum – K-12 through baccalaureate (\$135,000)

Proposed New Staffing:

- Instructor ESL
- Instructor Viticulture
- Educational Technologist – supporting faculty
- HVAC Specialist
- Total Cost – General Fund, new ongoing and one-time - \$2,571,014

Revenues: (Based on JLBC FY26 Budget Proposal)

- State Aid
 - Maintenance & Operation (M&O)
 - Equalization (offsets low-accessed valuation)
 - Capital Outlay/STEM
 - Rural Aid
- Property Taxes
 - Primary tax levy to support Cochise College
 - Constitutionally Controlled
 - Limited to 2% annual growth + new construction
 - CC did not increase levy in FYs 2020-21 or 2022-23 and has only done 2% per year in all other years since 2010 – Max is 6.12% available.
- Tuition and Fees
 - Set by the Governing Board

State Aid Changes:

- M&O decreased by \$182,200
- Equalization increased from \$1,054,600 to \$1,236,800
- Rural Aid decreased by \$295,500
- Restricted State Aid
 - STEM/Workforce increased by a \$187,700 index rate for under 5,000 FTSE rates
 - Prop 301 decreased by \$219,512
 - Prop 207 decreased by \$123,383
- Annual Tuition (in-state; 30 credits) - \$2,880 or \$104,670

Truth in Taxation Language:

- In compliance with section 15-1461.01, Arizona Revised Statutes, Cochise County Community College District is notifying its property taxpayers of Cochise County Community College District's intention to raise its primary property taxes over last year's level. The Cochise County Community College District is proposing an increase in primary property taxes of \$544,661, or 2.00%.
- For example, the proposed tax increase will cause Cochise County Community College District's primary property taxes on a \$100,000 home to increase from \$239.41 (total taxes that would be owed without the proposed tax increase) to \$244.20 (total proposed taxes including the tax increase).

Reallocations/Savings (\$528,736)

- FY25 One-time & staffing savings
 - Tech services one-time projects
 - Presidential search
 - Vacant position savings

Revenue Changes Summary:

- State Aid (M&O and Equalization) - \$1,054,600*
- Rural Aid – (\$295,500)*
- Tuition - \$104,670
- Property Tax Levy (new construction) - \$633,847
- Property Tax Levy (2% Levy increase) - \$544,661 with approved 2% tax levy
- Total Revenue changes - \$2,042,278
- Reallocations/Savings - \$528,736
- Total Funds Available - \$2,571,014

Revenue Changes vs Expense Changes:

- State Aid (M&O and Equalization) - \$1,054,600*
- Rural Aid – (\$295,500)*
- Tuition - \$104,670
- Property Tax Levy (new construction) - \$633,847
- Property Tax Levy (2% Levy increase) - \$544,661
- Total Revenue changes - \$2,042,278
- Reallocations/Savings - \$528,736
- Total Funds Available - \$2,571,014
 - Ongoing expenses - \$2,131,944
 - New initiatives - \$439,070
 - Total Expense Increases - \$2,571,014
- Budget is Balanced

FY26 Budget Summary

- Based on the College's Mission and Strategic Priorities
- Follows Budget Principles
- Conservative Projections in terms of revenue and expenses
 - Revenue
 - Enrollment
 - State Budget – Governor's Budget
 - Property Taxes – 2% Truth and Taxation (T.N.T.) and New Construction
 - Expenses
- Addresses
 - Employee Compensation and Benefits
 - Increasing costs
 - Facilities improvements/deferred maintenance
- Provides for
 - Contingencies
 - Growth/Shrinkage
 - Opportunities
- Balanced Budget

Truth in Taxation hearing on May 13, 2025, and the Budget Adoption on June 10, 2025.

Questions/Comments:

Mr. Quinn inquired about the new keyless door entry; Dr. Davis noted that it is for access to buildings and offices.

Mrs. Strain asked if the budget was based on a 2% truth and taxation rate. Dr. Perey replied yes, it is, and the board has the capacity to go up to 6%.

Mrs. Strain also questioned why Prop 301 and Prop 207 were decreased. Dr. Davis noted that Prop 301 is based on sales tax, which has decreased in the State of Arizona, which is a direct result of that. Prop 207 sales are also lower due to reduced sales, unincorporated sales, and quality control.

3.05 Revised Board Policy 630 – Sabbatical Leave for First Read

Board Policy 630 – Sabbatical Leave was presented to the Governing Board for a first reading review. With no further requested changes, the policy will be brought before the board during the May board meeting for a second read and approval. It is updating an old policy

encouraging faculty to take sabbaticals. For example, if a faculty member were to take a half-year sabbatical, they would get 100% of their compensation. The faculty would receive 75% of their pay for a year's sabbatical. The change aligns the college with other community colleges and helps encourage faculty to take sabbaticals.

4. COMMENTS FROM GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Hudgins turned the time to Governing Board members to provide comments/share information.

- Mrs. Strain
 - Expressed to Mr. Quinn that he will be missed.
- Mr. DiPeso
 - Offered good wishes to Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Hudgins
 - Provided remarks regarding Mr. Quinn, wishing him luck in the future.
 - Attended the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Conference and noted that 3200 individuals were in attendance. He was blessed to be traveling with a fantastic team from Cochise: Dr. Perey, Dr. Davis, Dr. Brown, Angela Garcia, Robyn Martin, Jeremy Wagner, Steve Merkley, Janelle Simpson, Jenny Patton, and Abe Villarreal. Many institutions in the nation struggle to do what Cochise College does each day for the right reasons. He expressed his honor to be a part of the institution.
- Mr. Quinn
 - Expressed his thanks for the professional and personal relationships he has gained as a board member and recognized Crystal Wheeler as the Command Sergeant Major of the college.
 - Gave thanks to everyone at Cochise for playing a role in improving the lives of sons, daughters, moms, dads, etc. in Cochise County.
 - Shared a memory of the motivational GED graduation speaker Katrina Smith in May 2019. At the beginning of her college journey, she stated, "How could I, a high school dropout and a recovering drug addict, be anybody or make anything of myself. What good was it to have dreams? It was just impossible for me." Ultimately, she stated "Cochise College engaged me with my goals, dreams, and aspirations. You showed me not only what path I should take, but you paved it as well."

5. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hudgins adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Crystal Wheeler, Executive Assistant, Office of the President

Mr. David DiPeso, Secretary of the Governing Board