APPROVED MINUTES

COCHISE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD
REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, October 6, 2026
Douglas Campus
4:00 p.m.

1. GENERAL FUNCTIONS

1.01 Call to Order

Mr. Hudgins called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Mr. Mark Farr
Mr. Steve Leeder
Mr. Don Hudgins

Board Members Absent:

Ms. Stephanie Money
Mr. David DiPeso

1.02 Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Hudgins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.03 Adoption of Agenda

The administration requested the agenda be approved, with no modifications, the agenda was approved.

Mr. Farr moved, and Mr. Leeder seconded a motion to approve the agenda as posted. With no further discussion, the board approved with Mark Farr, Steve Leeder, and Don Hudgins all voting aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

1.04 Citizen's In-Person Interim

There were no requests to address the board.

1.05 Standing Reports INFORMATION

1.05.1 Representative to the Arizona Association of Community College Trustees (AACCT)

Mr. Leeder had no new updates to report since the September 8, 2026 regular Governing Board meeting.

1.05.2 Senate

The written Senate report for September 2026 was provided in the Board Packet for review and was accepted as published.

1.05.3 Student Government Association (SGA)

The Student Government Association (SGA) presented an update to the Governing Board; highlights included:

- Douglas Campus SGA Officers:
    - SGA President: Joel Sosa
        - Major: Administration of Justice
        - Wants to become a U.S. Customs Officer
        - Joined SGA because it helped them in all areas of their life and wants students to have fun on campus in an appropriate way
    - SGA Vice President: Karely Ruiz
        - Major: General Studies
        - Plans to transfer to a university to pursue Speech Pathology
        - Joined to help create positive changes in the community and make a meaningful difference in students' lives
    - SGA Secretary: Dani Munoz
        - Major: Social and Behavioral Science
        - Dream career is to become a licensed psychotherapist
        - Joined SGA to advocate for students by representing their voices, concerns, and fostering strong connections with the student body
    - SGA Treasurer: Odalys Islava
        - Major: General Requirements
        - Dream career is to become a neuroscientist
        - Joined SGA to make a positive difference on campus and create more opportunities for student growth
        -
    - SGA VP of Student Programming: Amber Boneo
        - Major: Business Administration
        - Hopes to own their own business
        - Joined SGA to serve the campus community, inspired by their mom’s commitment to community involvement
    - VP of Public Relations: Mari Santiago Flores
        - Major: Business Administration/Economics
        - Dream career is to build a future were finance and sustainability work together
        - Joined SGA to leave students with more opportunities
- Recent Events:
    - Welcome Back Social
        - Helped new students feel welcome, build connections, become familiar with campus resources and the Student Union
    - Mexican Independence Day
        - Celebrated cultural diversity through interactive activities, traditional treats, and student-led live music
    - Hispanic Heritage Month

        - Collaborative watercolor project featured artwork representing 21 Hispanic countries
        - Hosted a Watercolor event that encouraged creativity, cultural appreciation, and student engagement.

- Upcoming events
    - Halloween Mask Making
    - Pit Fire
    - Dia De Muertos
        - A meaningful tradition that honors and remembers our departed~~,~~ loved ones
        - Inviting students, faculty, and staff to submit photos of their past loved ones to be included

- Presentation Concluded
    - Highlighted opportunities for student engagement through campus events, leadership development, new club initiatives, voter registration efforts, cultural programs, and community service activities that support both students and the broader community.

Questions/Comments

Steve Leeder thanked the students for their presentation, noting their accomplishments and planned activities contribute significantly to the richness of the College's experience.

Don Hudgins thanked the SGA for its service to students and noted that their contributions helped make Cochise College the number one college in Arizona to attend.

1.05.4 College President

Dr. Perey started his report by noting how impressed with the SGA in both Sierra Vista and Douglas~~,~~. He highlighted the Welcome Back Social as a strong example of "servant leadership" through serving others, congratulated the group, and said he looks forward to the many things SGA will do for the College and the community throughout the rest of the semester and spring.

Dr. Perey stated that he is pleased to share this month's report highlighting the meaningful work taking place across the district. He thanked the Colleges faculty and staff for their commitment to the Colleges mission.

Arizona Legislative Update:

- The Arizona Legislature is currently in the FY 2027 state budget. The Community Colleges have submitted their budget request to the Governor's office for FY 2028. Dr. Perey expects this next budget to reflect a continued constrained fiscal environment.
- State revenues show modestly encouraging results. JLBC's August Monthly Financial Highlights reported July revenues $46.7 million above budget forecast. The September report showed August revenues, $9.8 million below forecast. Dr. Perey noted the hope that available state funding would exceed baseline budget requirements, resulting in additional funding for community colleges. Cochise

College will continue to monitor the situation and work with AC4 and the legislative delegation.

Federal Legislative Update:

- Congress has enacted a Continuing Resolution, funding the federal government through December 11, 2026. Dr. Perey reported, as he has mentioned before, that the House had looked at cutting several programs. However, the Senate appeared to be more bipartisan, and he expects level funding for the remainder of the year.
- Dr. Perey reported on negotiated rulemaking related to accreditation and noted that federal discussions are focused on requirements including reduced procedural requirements and greater emphasis on student outcomes. He stated that HLC is part of the conversation and he did not provide comments because the College is already doing many of the things being considered, but the College will continue to monitor the process.
- Dr. Perey reported that he provided feedback on proposed changes to the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR). These rules govern how federal education grants are awarded and administered. Their proposal seeks to revise grant selection criteria, as well as public notice, procedures, and requirements for continued funding for multi-year grants. This would allow multi-year grants to be canceled or unfunded in the cycle if it were not in the interest of the administration. Cochise College will continue to monitor developments and take appropriate action as needed.

Facilities Update:

Dr. Perey reported that Jim Barrows and Dr. Wendy Davis provided a quick tour of some facilities projects on Douglas campus, including the City of Douglas well site and Huachuca Hall for himself and Mr. Leeder.

Douglas Campus

- City of Douglas Wellsite
  - Development testing is complete
  - ADWR permitting is underway
  - Final design is expected by late October 2026

- Building 300 Classroom Addition
  - Weather has delayed roofing, now expected to resume in mid-October
  - Fire system drawings are due to the State Fire Marshal in mid-October
  - Completion Expected: late December 2026

- Roof Replacement—Building 500 Roof Replacement:
  - Work begins week of October 5, 2026
  - Completion expected: early November 2026

- Roof Replacement—Building 900:
  - Weather has delayed metal panel installation
  - Completion expected: late October 2026

- Gym Renovation—Building 900:
  - Work begins March 29, 2027, including remediation, HVAC improvements, and painting
  - Replacement of flooring, bleachers, scoreboards, backboards, and audiovisual systems
  - Completion expected: late July 2027

- Huachuca Hall—Units 1205–1208:
  - Starting to frame out for larger-style apartments

- Huachuca Hall—Units 1201–1204:
  - Abatement and demolition are complete
  - Sewer replacement begins the week of October 5, 2026
  - Reconstruction is tentatively scheduled for mid-November
  - Completion expected: late June 2027

Downtown Center

- Roof Replacement—Planning:
  - Flat roof sections will be replaced with modified bi-tumen systems.
  - Spray-foam section requires a structural assessment before proposal submission.

Sierra Vista Campus

- Roof Replacements—Planning:
  - Library (900), Science (1100), and LCC Commons (1200) projects will replace single-ply membranes with modified bitumen systems
  - Weather has delayed moisture assessments required for proposals

Dr. Perey reported that the recent "Super El Niño" is bringing attention to issues that need to be addressed in the short-term regarding roofs. He stated that the College wants to get ahead of those issues as much as possible and will keep the Board informed of the direction being taken. Dr. Perey noted that if Board authorization is needed, the matter will be brought for consideration.

Initiative:

Nursing and Allied Health

The Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) site visit for full accreditation of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program started October 6th, 2026. Dr. Perey noted that himself, Dr. Wendy Davis, Dr. Sheena Brown, and Dr. Jenn Wantz met with ACEN team and answered questions. The College will co-host the “Emergency Medical Services (EMS) the Desert” conference with Canyon Vista Medical Center on October 9 at the Downtown Center, providing training for EMS agencies throughout the county. The Downtown Center will also host the county high school

Future Health Professionals (HOSA) “Health-Off” competition on November 6. HOSA is a student organization for those interested in healthcare careers.

Business, Career and Technical Education

Work is underway to strengthen transfer pathways with Northern Arizona University, the University of Arizona, and New Mexico State University in agriculture, cybersecurity, and engineering. Partnerships with the Southeastern Arizona Contractors Association continue to expand, with Trades Day scheduled for November 14. Benson High School will offer dual enrollment Oxyfuel Cutting & Welding this spring, and Willcox High School will offer an evening Arc Welding Basics course in fall 2027.

Workforce and First Responders Academy

Southeastern Arizona Law Enforcement Training Academy (SEALETA) Class 26-2 is entering its 11th week with 19 active recruits. The inaugural Southeast Arizona Detention Officer Training Academy (SEADA) launched with eight cadets; five remain in training.

During September, the College conducted five Law Enforcement Driving Simulator training events for county high school Law and Public Safety programs. Dean Cullen Scarborough continues to look at curriculum to utilize simulators.

Strategic Planning

Strategic planning is underway for Cochise College’s 2027–2030 plan, “Resilient by Design.” We are gathering input from employees, students, and the community. The College is hoping to gather all of the feedback somewhere in the middle of November and start to collate.

<u>Community Engagements:</u>

- Sep 10: Reception at Consulate of Mexico in Douglas - 216th Anniversary of the Independence of Mexico
- Sep 16: Presentation to Realtor’s Association
- Sep 23-24: AC4 Business Meeting – Tempe
- Sep 25: CLL, Legacy Foundation & Arizona Community Foundation (ACF) 2026 Annual Nonprofits Conference
- Sep 28: Presentation to Sierra Vista Rotary
- Sep 30: Presentation to Benson Rotary
- Oct 6-8: ACEN Site Visit

<u>Upcoming Events</u>

- Sep 7 – 9: AZ Administrator Conference @ Yavapai College
- Oct 12: College Closed – Columbus/Indigenous Peoples Day
- Oct 14: Presentation – Sierra Vista Sunrise Rotary Club
- Oct 21: ACCT Leadership Congress – Chicago
- Oct 30: Cochise College Governing Board Retreat – Sierra Vista Campus
- Nov 2-3: Cochise College hosting AACC – Leadership Academy
- Nov 4: SIPR Bring a Vet to Lunch
- Nov 5: Presentation – Rotary Club of Bisbee
- Nov 6: KBPR FM Radio – Live Broadcast
- Nov 6: Pit Fire – Douglas Campus- Constellations in Fire and Clay
- Nov 10: Next Regular Governing Board Meeting – Sierra Vista Campus

1.06.5 Monthly Financial Report – September 2026

No Financial Report was be provided as the October Governing Board Meeting was too early in the month to process the September 2026 Financial Report.

1.06.6 Monthly Academic Progress Report

The Governing Board reviewed the Academic Progress Report regarding enrollment.

2. NEW BUSINESS *

2.01 Consent Agenda *

The following items were approved:

2.01.1 * Non-Exempt Staff; Appointment (Gaudalupe Cordova, Aviation Mechanic, Douglas Campus)
2.01.2 * Non-Exempt Staff; Appointment (Cokelly Herrera, Academic / Career Advisor, Sierra Vista Campus)
2.01.3 * Non-Exempt Staff; Appointment (Ancer Maldonado, Grounds Technician II, Douglas Campus)
2.01.4 * Non-Exempt Staff; Appointment (Nathan Routhieaux, Campus Services Technician, Sierra Vista Campus)
2.01.5 * Exempt Staff; Appointment (Janelle Simpson, Dean of Academic Affairs, Downtown Center)
2.01.6 * Non-Exempt Staff; Resignation (Talia Vallejo, Financial Aid Veteran Services Specialist, Sierra Vista Campus)
2.01.7 * Faculty; Retirement (Stacie Munger, Instructor of Spanish, Sierra Vista Campus)
2.01.8 * 2026 – 2027 Course Fee Change
2.01.9 * Acceptance of Minutes for September 8, 2026 – Regular Meeting

Mr. Farr moved, and Mr. Leeder seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, with no further discussion. The Governing Board approved, with members Don Hudgins, Steve Leeder, and Mark Farr all voting aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

2.02 Proposed College Calendar for 2027 -2028

The administration requested that the Governing Board adopt a motion to approve the 2027-2028 College Calendar.

Mr. Leeder moved, and Mr. Farr seconded a motion to approve the 2027-2028 College Calendar, with no further discussion. The Governing Board approved, with members Don Hudgins, Steve Leeder, and Mark Farr all voting aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

2.03 Appoint a Voting Delegate for the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Leadership Congress

The administration requested that the Governing Board adopt a motion appointing a voting delegate for the ACCT Leadership Congress.

Mr. Farr moved, and Mr. Hudgins seconded a motion to appoint Mr. Leeder as voting delegate for the ACCT Leadership Congress. With no further discussion, the Governing Board approved with members Don Hudgins, Steve Leeder, and Mark Farr all voting aye. **MOTION CARRIED**.

2.04 2027 Governing Board Meeting Schedule

The administration requested that the Governing Board adopt a motion to approve the proposed 2027 Board Meeting Schedule.

Mr. Leeder moved, and Mr. Farr seconded a motion to approve the 2027 Board Meeting Schedule with no further discussion. The Governing Board approved, with members Don Hudgins, Steve Leeder, and Mark Farr all voting aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

3. INFORMATION ITEMS INFORMATION

3.01 Communications

No new communications were received for the October board meeting.

3.02 Athletic Report

Jeff Falkner, Director of Athletics, led a presentation on Athletic program updates.

- Introduced New Employees
  - Iris Madrid – Assistant Athletics Trainer
    - Originally from New Mexico, and most recently worked at Eastern New Mexico University
  - Crystal Munoz – Women's Soccer Assistant Coach
    - Long history with the program as a volunteer and part-time assistant. As a local EMT, she also brings valuable medical skills
  - Rick Smith – Rodeo Assistant Coach
    - Has returned as Assistant Coach
- Women's Soccer
  - 2025 Record: 12-6-4 (5-4-1 Conference)
  - 2026 NJCAA Region 1 & West District Champions
  - 1St National Tournament appearance in program history
  - Diana Taddei (First Team All- Region)
  - Ana Velazquez & Chayton Barron (Second Team All-Region)
  - Santos Rangel (NJCAA West District Coach of the Year)
  - 3.43 Team Grade Point Average (GPA) (9 NJCAA Academic All-Americans)
  - Next Level from 2025 Roster: 3 NCAA DI, 2 NAIA
  - Shared a short video played for Women's Soccer players
- Men's Basketball
  - 2024 Record: 21-12 (9-6 Conference)
  - 2026 NJCAA Region 1 Champions
  - 2026 NJCAA West District Runners-up
  - Emmanuel Joe-Samuel (Region 1 Freshman of the Year)
  - Emmanuel Joe-Samuel (First Team All-Region)
  - Jhace Johnson & Teron Murray (Second Team All-Region)
  - 3.05 Team GPA (1 NJCAA Academic All-American)
  - Next Level from 2025-2026 Roster: 2 NCAA DI, 1 NAIA

- Women's Basketball
  - 2025-26 Record: 11-21 (7-9 Conference)
  - NJCAA Region 1 Semifinalist
  - 3rd Annual Cochise Classic: December 4-5, 2026
  - Malika Goutay (NJCAA Region 1 Freshman of the Year)
  - Malika Goutay (First Team All-Region)
  - Cecy Burruel (Second Team All-Region)
  - Malika Goutay & Cecy Burruel (WBCA All-American Honorable Mention)
  - 3.54 Team GPA (6 NJCAA Academic All-Americans)
  - Next Level from 2025-2026 Roster: 2 NCAA DI
- Baseball
  - 2026 Record: 46-15 (20-10 Conference)
  - NJCAA Region 1 Runners-up
  - Landon Blais (NJCAA Third Team All-American)
  - Shiryu Sato, Gavin Mesa, Landon Blais, Jorge Cardenas, & Andrugh Yee (First Team All-Region)
  - Austin Cushman (Second Team All-Region)
  - Austin Nelson (ACCAC Assistant Coach of the Year)
  - 3.62 Team GPA (13 NJCAA Academic All-Americans)
  - Next Level from 2026 Roster: 7 NCAA DI, 2 NAIA
- Rodeo
  - Braulio Barraza (2026 Grand Canyon Region Champion-Bull Riding)
  - Macie Fowlie, Sealey Bottom, Braulio Barraza, Teran Broderson, and Taten Erickson (2026 NIRA National Rodeo Qualifiers)
  - 2.90 Men's Team GPA (2025-2026)
  - 2.98 Women's Team GPA (2025-2026)
  - Macie Fowlie (Goat Tying) - National Championship Round - Qualifier (Finished 11th overall nationally)
- Former Apaches in the Pros
  - Men's Basketball:
    - Oscar Cluff (2023) – NBA Summer League Contract (Houston Rockets)
    - Korfez Basket (Basketball Super Ligi-Turkey)
  - Baseball:
    - Evan Shaw (2023) – Tulsa Drillers
    - Ryan Magdic (2019) – Las Vegas Aviators
    - Fernando Barreda (2023) – ACL Mariners
    - Connor Caskanette (2022) – Pensacola Blue Wahoos
    - Mathias LaCombe (2023) – Birmingham Barons
    - Mathis Nayral (2025) – FCL Blue Jays
    - Darick Hall (2015) – Hagerstown Flying Boxcars
  - Women's Basketball
    - Maeva Fortuna Ngnawo (2024) – Maristas Coruna (Spain)
    - Alayna Contreras (2023) – Gurranabraher Credit Union Brunell (Ireland)
    - Clara Gonzalez (2024) – CB Al-Qazerez (Spain)
    - Jess Lawson (2023) – Partizan 1953 (Serbia)
  - Summarize
    - 12 different states represented; 17 different countries

- 3.35 Athletics Department GPA
- 3.44 NJCAA GPA
- 8 (4.0 GPA), 39 (over 3.5 GPA)
- 7 ACCAC Player of the Week Nominations
- 1 NJCAA Div. I National Player of the Week selection
- 3 Region 1 Championship appearances
- 2 Region Champions
- 8 First Team All-Region Selections, 4 Second Team All-Region selections
- 1 NJCAA All-American selection
- First Time NJCAA National Tournament appearance (Women's Soccer)
- 5 CNFR National Rodeo qualifiers
- Yavapai College (NJCAA to NAIA)
- The Board had a brief discussion regarding Yavapai College's transition from NJCAA to NAIA, including potential impacts on conference scheduling, athletic funding, and competition.

Questions/Comments

Mr. Leeder thanked Jeff Falkner for what he does for the department and taking care of the students and noted that the GPA reflects that effort.

3.03 Douglas Camps Report

Abe Villarreal, Douglas Campus Dean, provided a presentation regarding Douglas Campus Community Engagement Updates for Fall 2026:

- Cochise in the Community
  - Worked on expanding “Cochise in the Community” presence with signage and additional community office hours. Including a weekly presence at Blueberry Café and, the Mexican Consulate, and a monthly presence at the Arizona at Work office
  - Established a permanent monthly or annual presence with the following:
    - Douglas Unified School District Board Meetings
    - Douglas City Council Meetings
    - CAS Board Meetings
    - Southeastern Arizona Federal Credit Union Board Meetings
    - Step Up with Douglas
    - Douglas Historical Society
    - Planning & Zoning Commission
    - Boys & Girls Club
    - Step Up with Douglas Committee
    - Arizona Border Alliance Committee
    - HUD Housing Apartment Complexes Programming
    - Welcome Back Fairs
    - Haven Health arts and crafts sessions
    - All local high school graduation ceremonies: Douglas High, CAS, PPEP Tech, Omega Alpha, CBTis (Agua Prieta)
  - Growing our "in town" presence

        - Exhibiting student work, campus-based classes, short-term training, and youth programs have all taken place over the last year in the community
        - Early College Summer art classes
        - Student Art Exhibit at Visitor Center
        - OSHA training at Visitor Center
        - Student artwork displayed at Mexican Consulate and in Café Justo in Agua Prieta
        - Charter Education Sessions for City of Douglas
        - Fire Science classes at Fire Department
    - Marketing Outreach
        - For Fall 2026, the campus relooked previous marketing efforts and initiated new outreach initiatives including postcards, social media, and community signage. Each year, the campus mails calendars, The Mirage, and event flyers to a list of local businesses and community leaders. This year, the campus also created a list of 27 drop-off locations for fall guides.
    - Partners on Campus
        - For Fall Clubs & Resource Fair, the campus hosted 13 community agencies on campus. Throughout the year the campus partners with local businesses and non-profits to host workshops, tabling, company retreats, and luncheons on campus. This includes annual retreats by the City of Douglas and the Southeast Federal Credit Union, and an ongoing campus presence by health and wellness agencies.
    - Growing our Alumni connections
        - Ramping up efforts to connect with our alumni. The campus recently hosted an Alumni Social in Douglas and tour for Alumni from the class of 1979. At the social, Alumni gave valuable feedback, contributing to Cochise Colleges' strategic planning process. The Facebook Alumni page is also being updated regularly, and the Alumni database is being upkept with new contacts.
    - Campus Beautification
        - Generosity of a long-time donor that supports scholarships and other initiatives, the campus has been able to update the Douglas campus with new seating, bleachers, trees, and a plant walk. Upcoming projects include new sails for shading near campus housing.
    - Upcoming initiatives
        - Family Talks / Platicas con Familia programming
        - Mexican college visits to Douglas Campus
        - Tech de Cananea bilingual conversation sessions for their English language learners
        - Runway Run/Walk 5k: November 21
        - Family Night: December 2

Questions/Comments

Mr. Leeder commented on being in awe of the amount of community outreach and his appreciation for the outreach.

Mr. Hudgins commented that he appreciates the time and the energy that the Douglas campus spends in the community.

4. COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERING BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Farr commented on being in awe of the community involvement from that was presented by the SGA. He also highlighted the Athletics Department taking care of students and their great GPA.

Mr. Leeder commented great job on launching the strategic planning and different engagements.

- Noted Dr. Perey's presentations to Sky Islands Strategic Partnership Group that happened that morning and how that should get some great input. Noted to keep up the hard work on strategic planning.
- Mr. Leeder also taken Jim Barrows for the fantastic tour and noted the level of complexity he juggles in terms of the facilities and different projects.
- Mr. leader also highlighted the tremendous amount of college accomplishments across the institution including athletics and the Dougals campus. Mentioned that he upholds Jane Strain's saying that Cochise College is the best college in the universe.

Don Hudgins thanked everyone for everything that they do.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hudgins adjourned the meeting at 5:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Kia Mullins, Executive Assistant, Office of the President

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Ms. Stephanie Money, Secretary of the Governing Board