

**ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 15, 2025, 10:00 A.M.**

The Alabama Community College System Board of Trustees (also referred to herein as the Board) held a meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 15, 2025, in the Board Room of the Alabama Community College System building in Montgomery, Alabama. The meeting was called in accordance with Act No. 2015-125.

**PRESIDING: MR. GOODRICH ROGERS, CHAIRMAN**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rogers.

The invocation was delivered by Cadet Chaplain Braeden Burch of Marion Military Institute, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

On roll call, the following Board members were present:

Mr. Goodrich Rogers  
Mr. John Mitchell  
Mr. Britton Lightsey  
Mr. Tim McCartney  
Mr. Ron Houston  
Mr. Llevelyn Rhone  
Mr. Jeb Shell  
Dr. Yvette Richardson

Also present was Mr. Jimmy H. Baker, Chancellor of the Alabama Community College System. Absent was Valerie Gray and Governor Kay Ivey.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

On motion by Mr. Shell, second by Mr. Houston, the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion by Mr. Lightsey, second by Mr. Rhone, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2024 meeting as presented without discussion.

**SECTION VI  
PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

## **SECTION VII**

### **COLLEGE SPOTLIGHT – MARION MILITARY INSTITUTE**

Colonel David Mollahan, President of Marion Military Institute, introduced a presentation and video highlighting the college.

Colonel Mollahan began by disputing some myths regarding the college. He stated that the college is not a reform school, high school, private school, all-male school, military obligation, or military career only. Marion began as Howard College in 1842 and took the name Marion Military Institute in 1887. The college joined the ACCS in 2006. The college's mission is focused on leadership development. The college hosts Senior Army ROTC Detachment and hosts the Alabama Military Hall of Honor.

Per Colonel Mollahan, Marion Military Institute is a 100% Military Junior College, which makes it unique. Leader development starts in the classroom with co-curricular education and training and experiential hands-on training. The college has five Corps of Cadets, each assigned to a barracks, supervised by the Commandant of Cadets. Marion attracts students from all across the state and entire nation. Per Colonel Mollahan, Marion is not just for military careers, with 47% of enrollment in the Leadership Education Program – a non-military career track. Marion offers a First Responder program for Firefighting/EMT, a Law Enforcement Prep program, and a Civil Aviation program. The college also offers Intercollegiate Athletics, including track and field, tennis, cross country, basketball, softball, and baseball. The Athletic Department's GPA was 3.0 or above for 20 straight semesters.

Marion has seen 141 U.S. Army ECP Commissions and 414 Service Academy Appointments to the Coast Guard Academy, West Point, the Air Force Academy, the Merchant Marine Academy, and the Naval Academy.

Future facilities work will include a new Math and Science building, barracks renovations, roof replacements, and a conversion of the old dining facility to a bookstore / uniform shop. Marion also has plans for new STEM courses in IT, Cyber Security, AI, and Basic Engineering, as well as new Humanities/Social Science courses in Civics, U.S. Constitution History, Ethics and Moral Reasoning, and Leadership. Goals are to accomplish this by 2030.

Colonel Mollahan completed his presentation by introducing the top three leaders in the Corps of Cadets. Cadet Putnam, Corps Commander, is in the leadership education program. Cadet Putnam has applied to West Point and just received her Congressional nomination. Cadet Executive Officer Enock is in the early commissioning program with intentions to go to UAB pre-med. Cadet Sgt. Major LeCarde is a service academy program graduate and has just received his appointment to West Point. Colonel Mollahan also introduced retired First Sgt. Mike Dunfee who serves as a front-line mentor for the cadets and is a Senior TAC (training, advising, counseling) Officer.

**SECTION VIII**  
**(EXECUTIVE, LEGAL, AND PUBLIC INFORMATION)**

**ADOPTED**

**ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM**  
**FACILITY RENEWAL AND TECHNOLOGY FEE RATE INCREASE**

On motion by Mr. Houston, second by Mr. Lightsey, the Board of Trustees approved an increase of six dollars for Facility Renewal Fee and six dollars for Technology Fee, beginning Fall 2025.

**Fiscal Consideration: The proposed fee adjustments would produce approximately \$22,560,000 in additional revenue for the FY26 academic term.**

**LURLEEN B. WALLACE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**INCREASE IN HOUSING FEE RATES**

On motion by Mr. Mitchell, second by Mr. Lightsey, the Board of Trustees authorized Lurleen B. Wallace Community College to increase the College's housing fee rates for Saints Hall housing and to establish housing rates for the newly acquired student housing property currently known as Shadowood Apartment Complex. The rate increase will take effect Fall Semester 2025.

**Fiscal Consideration: None**

**WALLACE STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE - HANCEVILLE**  
**NAMING OF MACHINE TOOL TECHNOLOGY BUILDING**

On motion by Mr. Rhone, second by Mr. McCartney, the Board of Trustees authorized the President of Wallace State Community College - Hanceville to name the Machine Tool Technology Building as the Gene Haas Center for Advanced Manufacturing and to add appropriate signage.

**Fiscal Consideration: \$1,000,000 Gift from the Gene Haas Foundation**

**SECTION IX**  
**(INSTRUCTION, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, ADULT EDUCATION, FACILITIES, FISCAL, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT)**

**ENTERPRISE STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**ADDITION OF INSTRUCTIONAL SITE**

On motion by Mr. Lightsey, second by Mr. Shell, the Board of Trustees approved an additional instructional site for Enterprise State Community College at the Troy Pike Center for Technology.

**Fiscal Consideration: The operation of this site proposed herein is within the budget of the college.**

**COASTAL ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**BAY MINETTE CAMPUS GYMNASIUM RENOVATION**

On motion by Mr. Shell, second by Mr. Lightsey, the Board of Trustees authorized Coastal Alabama Community College to proceed with the project named Bay Minette Gymnasium Renovation (Change Order #2).

**Fiscal Consideration: Change Order #2 - \$10,998 / TOTAL PROJECT COST \$6,556,703**

**REID STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE**  
**PURCHASE OF RED ROOF INN PROPERTY**

On motion by Mr. Mitchell, second by Mr. Houston, the Board of Trustees authorized Reid State Technical College to proceed with the project named Purchase of Red Roof Inn Property. Closing shall be executed no later than April 1, 2025, or this authorization shall expire.

**Fiscal Consideration: TOTAL PROJECT COST \$1,188,500**

**WALLACE STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE - HANCEVILLE**  
**HANCEVILLE CAMPUS NEW STEM GATEWAY BUILDING**

On motion by Mr. Lightsey, second by Mr. McCartney, the Board of Trustees authorized Wallace State Community College to proceed with the construction project named Hanceville Campus New STEM Gateway Building (Site Preparation and Utility Bid Package). Construction contracts for the project shall be executed no later than April 1, 2025, or this authorization shall expire.

**Fiscal Consideration: TOTAL PROJECT COST \$2,737,419**

**CENTRAL ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**PRATTVILLE CAMPUS BUILDING ADDITION AND RENOVATION**

On motion by Mr. McCartney, second by Mr. Lightsey, the Board of Trustees authorized Central Alabama Community College to proceed with the project named Prattville Campus Building Addition and Renovation (Change Orders #3 and #4).

**Fiscal Consideration: Change Order #3 - \$55,354 / Change Order #4 - 32,086  
TOTAL PROJECT COST \$4,996,742**

**JEFFERSON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
JEFFERSON CAMPUS RELOCATION OF WELDING LAB**

On motion by Mr. Houston, second by Mr. Rhone, the Board of Trustees authorized Jefferson State Community College to proceed with the project named Jefferson Campus Relocation of Welding Lab. Construction contracts shall be executed no later than April 1, 2025, or this authorization shall expire.

**Fiscal Consideration: TOTAL PROJECT COST \$1,319,074**

**SECTION X  
PERSONNEL**

None.

**SECTION XI  
CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**

Kenneth Kirkland, Dean of Health Sciences, Calhoun Community College, gave a presentation on the status of Health Science programs, in particular the Nursing field and how to alleviate the shortage of nurses. He discussed non-traditional paths such as Military to LPN and One-Semester Bridge for students who transition out of military careers to civilian careers. This will allow a one-semester option to become an LPN for students with transferable skills. He added that Enterprise State has had success with the one-semester concept. He also mentioned non-credit pathways such as Certified Medication Aide and Nursing Support Technician, which allow stackable credentials toward LPN, and are taught exclusively through the ACCS.

Dr. Bryant Cline, ACCS Director of Health Programs, spoke on dual enrollment. Per Dr. Cline, The Alabama Board of Nursing has approved dual enrollment PN programs for high school students, which can offer either an Associate or Certificate pathway. Per Dr. Cline, the ACCS has begun offering Nursing Apprenticeship programs, with more than 8,450 students enrolled in RN and LPN programs and over 2,950 credentials awarded. Dr. Cline added that ACCS students achieve more than a 95% NCLEX pass rate for LPN candidates and nearly 94% for RN candidates, well above the national average. Kenneth Kirkland further added that the ACCS offers the first Nursing apprenticeship where the student does not need a prior Nursing license.

Dr. Neil Scott briefly spoke on enrollment numbers. As of January 14, 2025, the ACCS has 83,425 students enrolled in for-credit courses, a 6.99% increase over final Spring 2024. Students are enrolled in 714,275 credit hours, a 9.53% increase over final Spring 2024.

Fall 2025 enrollment is showing 29,186 applications so far, a 7.97% increase YTD. Per Dr. Scott, 18 colleges are up in application count.

**SECTION XII**  
**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None.

**SECTION XIII**  
**(DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING)**

The next Board meeting will be held in Montgomery at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 12, 2025. A work session will follow at 10:20 a.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. McCartney made a motion that the Board go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the consideration the Board is willing to offer when considering the purchase, exchange, lease and market value of certain real property and that this meeting be adjourned upon the conclusion of the Executive Session. A second was made by Mr. Shell. The Board went into Executive Session at 11:08 a.m.

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Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chancellor