

**MINUTES**  
**POLK STATE COLLEGE**  
**District Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**Monday, August 26, 2024 – 4:00 p.m.**  
**Polk State Winter Haven Campus, WST 126**

Dr. Angela M. Garcia Falconetti called the August 26, 2024, District Board of Trustees meeting to order at approximately 4:03 p.m.

**Members Present:** Ms. Ashley Bell Barnett, Ms. Ann Barnhart, Mr. Greg Littleton, Ms. Teresa Martinez, Ms. Cindy Hartley Ross, and Mr. Ashley Troutman

**Members Absent:**

**Special Recognition: Dr. Angela Garcia Falconetti**

**Agenda:**

Ms. Barnhart moved, seconded by Ms. Martinez, to approve the agenda for August 26, 2024. All members voted affirmatively.

**District Board of Trustees Reorganization**

**a. Election of 2024-2025 Chair and Vice Chair**

Mr. Troutman moved, seconded by Ms. Barnhart, to approve the election of Ms. Cindy Hartley Ross as 2024-2025 Chair. All members voted affirmatively.

Mr. Littleton moved, seconded by Ms. Martinez, to approve the election of Ms. Ann Barnhart as 2024-2025 Vice Chair. All members voted affirmatively.

**b. Resolution #790 – Signature Facsimile (FY 2024-2025)**

Ms. Bell Barnett moved, seconded by Ms. Barnhart, to approve Resolution #790 Signature Facsimile (FY 2024-2025). All members voted affirmatively.

**c. Resolution #791 – Signature Facsimile Personnel (FY 2024-2025)**

Mr. Littleton moved, seconded by Ms. Bell Barnett, to approve Resolution #791 Signature Facsimile Personnel (FY 2024-2025). All members voted affirmatively.

**d. Proposed 2024-2025 DBOT Meeting Schedule**

Mr. Troutman moved, seconded by Ms. Barnhart, to approve the Proposed 2024-2025 DBOT Meeting Schedule. All members voted affirmatively.

**Consent Agenda Items: Ms. Cindy Baker and Ms. Stacey Cary**

- a. Tangible Personal Property Deletions for August 2024** – Approved on consent agenda. Board action is required.
- b. Polk State College Personnel Actions Report for June and July 2024** – Approved on consent agenda. Board action is required.
- c. Polk State College Collegiate High Schools Personnel Actions Report for June and July 2024** – Approved on consent agenda. Board action is required.
- d. Polk State College Salary Schedule Changes for August 2024** – Approved on consent agenda. Board action is required.

Ms. Bell Barnett moved, seconded by Ms. Barnhart, to approve the consent agenda items for June, July, and August 2024. All members voted affirmatively.

Those items included under the Consent section are self-explanatory and are not expected to require discussion before action. Items will be enacted by one motion. If discussion is desired by any Board member on any item, the item should be identified and removed from the Consent agenda for separate action.

**Approval of Board Minutes**

- a. June 24, 2024, Regular Board Minutes**

Ms. Bell Barnett moved, seconded by Mr. Troutman, to approve the June 24, 2024, Regular Board minutes. All members voted affirmatively.

- b. June 24, 2024, Board Workshop Minutes**

Ms. Barnhart moved, seconded by Ms. Bell Barnett, to approve the June 24, 2024, Board Workshop minutes. All members voted affirmatively.

- c. July 1, 2024, Special Board Minutes**

Mr. Littleton moved, seconded by Ms. Martinez, to approve the July 1, 2024, Special Board minutes. All members voted affirmatively.

**President's Report – Dr. Angela Garcia Falconetti**

- a. Positively Polk State Report**
- b. Florida College System (FCS) 2024-2025 Fiscal Year Fixed Capital Outlay (FCO) Appropriations**

**c. Association of Community Colleges (ACCT) Survey – Women Community College Presidents**

**Attorney's Report:**

**a. Annual Conflict of Interest Statements**

Mr. Wilson distributed an annual Conflict of Interest Statement for the Board's review. He asked them to please reach out to him with any questions. He requested that each Board member sign the statement and return it to Christine Lee. Mr. Wilson stated that his office looked into the fact that Citizens Bank, of which, Trustee Littleton is president, holds certain depository accounts for the College. However, there's a specific statutory exception for a trustee that is an officer or director of a bank, in that this will not bar such bank from qualifying as a depository of funds coming under the jurisdiction of any such public board. Therefore, it is not a conflict so long as the board recognizes that the trustee or board member involved did not use their position to obtain that relationship. He reiterated that the matter has been reviewed and concluded that is certainly the case.

In addition, Mr. Wilson provided an article from United Educators (UE) titled "Safeguarding Communities From Sexual Predators: What College Presidents And Trustees Should Ask." He asked the Board to review the document which highlights the role of the Board in safeguarding the College from sexual predators, assaults, and abuse and to direct any questions to him.

Trustee Bell Barnett made a statement encouraging faculty and staff to use the proper channels of communication when reporting concerns.

**Business Services Action Items:**

**a. Project Priority List, August 2024 – Mr. Reggie Webb**

Mr. Webb presented and recommended for approval the Project Priority List, August 2024.

Ms. Bell Barnett moved, seconded by Ms. Barnhart, to approve the Project Priority List, August 2024. All members voted affirmatively.

**Business Services Informational Items: Ms. Cindy Baker and Mr. Reggie Webb**

**a. Investment Interest Comparisons through June 2024 –** Ms. Baker presented and reviewed the College's Investment Interest Comparisons through June 2024 for the Board's information. No Board action required.

**b. Investment Interest Comparisons through July 2024 –** Ms. Baker presented and reviewed the College's Investment Interest Comparisons through July 2024 for the Board's information. No Board action required.

**c. Financial Statements for July 2024 –** Ms. Baker presented and reviewed the Financial Statements for July 2024 for the Board's information. No Board action required.

- d. Capital Project Status Report for August 2024** – Mr. Webb presented and reviewed the Capital Project Status Report for August 2024 for the Board's information. No Board action required.

**Items Removed from the Consent Agenda:**

None.

**Academic & Student Services Action Items:**

- a. Empower to Employ Program - Dr. Amy Bratten**

Dr. Bratten presented and recommended for approval the proposed Empower to Employ Program.

Ms. Barnhart moved, seconded by Ms. Martinez, to approve the proposed Empower to Employ Program. All members voted affirmatively.

**Academic and Student Services Informational Items:**

- a. Summer 2025 Education Abroad Experiences - Dr. Amy Bratten**

Dr. Bratten presented and reviewed the Summer 2025 Education Abroad Experiences for the Board's information. No Board action required.

**Collegiate High School Report:**

- a. Polk State Lakeland Collegiate High School Enrollment/Demographic Information for AY 2024-2025 – Mr. Rick Jeffries**

Mr. Jeffries presented and reviewed the Polk State Lakeland Collegiate High School Enrollment/Demographic Information for AY 2024-2025 for the Board's information. No Board action required.

**First Reading Board Rules (No action required):**

None.

**Second Reading Board Rules (Final Approval):**

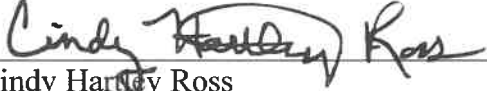
None.

**Board Discussion:**

The Board members congratulated Ms. Ross on her election as Chair and Ms. Barnhart as Vice Chair. The Board members commended Ms. Martinez for her service as Chair. The next regular DBOT meeting will occur on Monday, September 23, 2024, at the Polk State Lakeland Campus in LTB 1100 at 4:00 p.m.

**Adjournment:**

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 5:16 p.m.

  
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Ms. Cindy Hartley Ross      9/23/2024  
DBOT Chair      Date

  
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Dr. Angela M. Garcia Falconetti      9/23/2024  
President      Date