

**MINUTES**  
**POLK STATE COLLEGE**  
**District Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**Monday, September 25, 2023 – 4:00 p.m.**  
**Polk State Lakeland Campus, LTB 1100**

Dr. Angela M. Garcia Falconetti called the September 25, 2023, District Board of Trustees meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

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

**Members Absent:** Ms. Teresa Martinez

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

- **Immediate Past Chair, Greg Littleton**
  - Mr. Littleton was briefly recognized for his service this past year as Chair of the District Board of Trustees. Dr. Falconetti provided him with a token of appreciation.
- **Dr. Deleise Wilson, AdventHealth Dean of Nursing**
  - Dr. Wilson, who began her service at the College on July 10, was introduced to the Board by Dr. Falconetti. Dr. Wilson briefly addressed the Board and shared her enthusiasm for joining Polk State.

**Agenda:**

Ms. Barnhart moved, seconded by Ms. Bell Barnett, to approve the agenda for September 25, 2023. All members voted affirmatively.

**Consent Agenda Items: Ms. Cindy Baker**

- a. **Tangible Personal Property Deletions for September 2023** – Approved on consent agenda. Board action is required.
- b. **Polk State College Personnel Actions Report for August 2023** – Approved on consent agenda. Board action is required.
- c. **Polk State College Collegiate High Schools Personnel Actions Report for August 2023** – Approved on consent agenda. Board action is required.
- d. **Polk State College Salary Schedule Changes for September 2023** – Approved on consent agenda. Board action is required.
- e. **2023-24 Polk State College Carryforward Spending Plan** – Approved on consent agenda. Board action is required.

Ms. Bell Barnett moved, seconded by Ms. Barnhart, to approve the consent agenda items for August and September 2023. 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. August 28, 2023, Board Minutes**

Ms. Barnhart moved, seconded by Ms. Bell Barnett, to approve the August 28, 2023, Board minutes. All members voted affirmatively.

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

#### **a. Legislative Update: Appropriations and Legislative Funding**

- Dr. Falconetti shared a presentation with the Board which provided an outline of the special appropriation of recurring funds received during the 2022 Legislative Session.

#### **b. Fall Semester 2023 Update**

- Dr. Falconetti shared an update on fall enrollment which remains in the positive and ahead of most regional Florida College System institutions.
- COGNIA School of Distinction designation was received by Polk State Chain of Lakes High School. Dr. Falconetti commended Principal Rick Jeffries.
- President's Leadership Institute (PLI)
  - PLI Class III Meet & Greet | September 22 | WST 126

#### **c. Select Events and Initiatives**

- Fiesta Kickoff (Keynote, Honorable Brenda J. Ramirez | September 26 | 12 p.m. | LTB 1100
- Fiesta Finale (Keynote, Chair Teresa Martinez) | October 3 | 12 p.m. | WST 126
- Staff Forum Winter Haven Campus | October 4 | 11 a.m. | WFA Lobby
- Faculty Forum Winter Haven Campus | October 4 | 1:30 p.m. | WFA Lobby
- Staff Forum Lakeland Campus | October 5 | 11 a.m. | LAC 1133 Student Center
- Faculty Forum Lakeland Campus | October 5 | 1:30 p.m. | LAC 1133 Student Center
- Trending @ Polk State: Florida Trend and Key Business Leaders Event | October 17 | 5 p.m. private meeting; 5:30 p.m. program; 6 p.m. reception | CPS

#### **d. Board and Community Involvement**

- University of South Florida – FUSE President's Breakfast & MOU Renewal Signing
  - USF Main Campus | September 14 | 8 a.m. – 10 a.m.
- News Service of Florida – City & State's Inaugural Above & Beyond Gala
  - September 19 | 6 p.m. | Donald L. Tucker Civic Center, Tallahassee
- Winter Haven Chamber of Commerce – 2022-2023 Board Chair

- Annual Meeting/Celebration of Winter Haven | September 21 | Nora Mayo Hall
- Passed the gavel as outgoing Board Chair
- Polk Vision – 2022-2024 Board Chair
  - October 19 Board meeting
- Florida Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)
  - DJJ State Advisory Group (SAG)
    - Quarterly SAG meeting | October 30 | Orlando
  - SAG Executive Committee
    - Virtual meeting | TBD
  - Talent, Leadership, and Culture (TLC) Subcommittee (Chair)
    - Virtual meeting | TBD
- Florida Chamber Foundation Board
  - Board of Trustees meeting | October 24 | Orlando
- Education Commission of the States, Commissioner
  - 1 of 7 U.S. Commissioners; only college president; no superintendents
  - Winter Commissioner's meeting in November 29-December 1 in Denver
- Lakeland Chamber Board of Directors
  - 3-year term as new board member begins with January 24, 2024, meeting

**e. Florida College System Council of Presidents**

- Co-Chair COP Communications
- Hybrid COP Professional Development | September 21 | 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.
- Hybrid COP Policy & Advocacy | September 22 | 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

**f. Trustee Professional Development**

- Association of Florida Colleges (AFC) Trustees Commission Legislative Conference | January 22, 2024 | Tallahassee
- Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) National Legislative Summit | February 4-7, 2024 | Las Vegas

**g. Highlights of Selective Successes and Positive News**

- *Polk State Press Release* dated August 31, 2023 “Polk State District Board of Trustees selects leadership for 2023-2024”

**Attorney's Report:**

None.

**Business Services Action Items:**

None.

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

- a. Investment Interest Comparison for August 2023** – Ms. Baker presented and reviewed the College's Investment Interest Comparison for August 2023 for the Board's

information. No Board action required.

- b. Budget Amendment Summary for August 2023** – Ms. Baker presented and reviewed the Budget Amendment Summary for August 2023 for the Board’s information. No Board action required.
- c. Financial Statements for August 2023** – Ms. Baker presented and reviewed the Financial Statements for August 2023 for the Board’s information. No Board action required.
- d. Capital Project Status Report for September 2023** – Mr. Webb presented and reviewed the Capital Project Status Report for September 2023 for the Board’s information. No Board action required.

**Items Removed from the Consent Agenda:**

None.

**Academic & Student Services Action Items:**

None.

**Academic and Student Services Informational Items:**

None.

**Collegiate High School Report**

- a. Polk State Chain of Lakes Collegiate High School 2023-24 Demographics/Enrollment Plan – Ms. Patrice Bryant-Thigpen**

Ms. Bryant-Thigpen provided an update on Polk State Chain of Lakes Collegiate High School’s 2023-24 Demographics/Enrollment Plan for the Board’s information.

- b. Polk State Lakeland Gateway to College Collegiate High School 2023-24 Demographics/ Enrollment Plan – Dr. Meesha Downing-Townsend**

Dr. Downing-Townsend provided an update on Polk State Lakeland Gateway to College Collegiate High School’s 2023-24 Demographics/Enrollment Plan for the Board’s information.

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

None.


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

None.

**Board Discussion:**

**Adjournment:**

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:37 p.m.

 11/27/23  
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Ms. Cynthia Hartley Ross Date  
DBOT Vice Chair

 11/27/23  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Angela M. Garcia Falconetti Date  
President