

FLATHEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Board Meeting Monday, July 28, 2025, 3:45 p.m.
Blake Hall 140

A regular meeting of the Flathead Valley Community College Board of Trustees convened at 3:45 p.m., Monday, July 28, 2025.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chairperson Callie Langohr called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m. The following Board members were in attendance:

- Peter Akey
- Jamie Pickering
- Mark Ruby
- Kelly Stimpson
- Patrick Gulick
- Travis Steindorf

Also present - President Jane Karas

A. Appointment of Clerk of the District

Lorelle Davies was presented for the interim Clerk of the District until a permanent replacement is hired.

Kelly Stimpson made a motion for Lorelle Davies to be the interim Clerk. Travis Steindorf seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

III. CONSENT ITEMS – ACTION

A. Approval of the minutes of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting on July 28, 2025

Peter Akey made the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Kelly Stimpson. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. MONTHLY REPORTS

A. Executive Staff Activities Report

The Board acknowledged the Executive Staff for their informative reports.

V. COLLEGE ISSUES

A. Student Success: Mission Fulfillment Indicators

Brenda Hanson, Director of Assessment, Accreditation and Compliance provided an update on the specific mission fulfillment indicators, including data dashboard highlights, recommended goals, and next steps.

B. Program Proposal - Plumbing

FVCC launched a non-credit Montana Registered Plumbing Apprenticeship program in the 2022-23 academic year in response to requests from local plumbing businesses. Approval for FVCC to deliver the Related Technical Instruction (RTI) was secured from the State of Montana Department of Labor and Industry. The approved program is three years long and includes 144 hours of RTI. All students are required to secure a plumbing business sponsorship before they can begin.

The first cohort began in Fall 2023 with 15 students. The second cohort began in Fall 2024 with 13 students. Currently recruiting for Fall 2025 with a capacity of 20 students. The state has requested an online component be developed. An advisory board was formed that currently includes the following members: Central Heating, Cooling and Plumbing, Plumb-Rite Plumbing, Mildren Plumbing, Flathead County Plumbing, and Murdock Plumbing. The advisory board met on March 14, 2025, and advised a move to a credit format to better support students in their ability to participate in the Plumbing Apprentice program.

The plumbing program outline was presented to the Board of Trustees for consideration of approval as a credit program (CTS) offered through the FVCC Trades Institute.

Peter Akey made a motion to approve the plumbing proposal for a credit program. Seconded by Patrick Gulick. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Finance and Audit Committee Report

President Karas reviewed the preliminary Fiscal Year 2026 budget.

1. Fiscal Year 2026 Proposed Budget – Second Public Hearing

The budget plan for fiscal year 2026 was submitted to the Board for second reading review and action.

Trustee Kelly Stimpson moved that the Board of Trustees approve the Preliminary Fiscal Year 2026 Proposed Current Unrestricted (General Fund) budget (second reading) of \$25,797,097. Trustee Jamie Pickering seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Board of Trustees' Events Calendar

President Karas reviewed the Trustees' events calendar.

- No board meeting in August. A retreat will be scheduled in the fall.

- The next Board meeting will be on September 22, 2025.
- ACCT – Sept 22-25

E. President's Report

President Karas updated the Board on several items:

- The Foundation's summer soiree in Whitefish raised over \$130,000 for the Wachholz Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center's operating endowment fund.
- MT States Association of Community Colleges meeting was attended.
- Employees volunteered at Rebecca Farms and Bibler Gardens in July.
- Jim Hollensteiner memorial was held at Wachholz College Center.
- Ivan O'Neill memorial will be held in Arts and Technology building in August.

VI. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

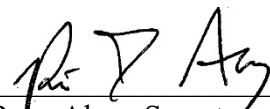
A. Personnel Matter

VII. **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further action, the meeting was adjourned at 5:17 p.m.



Callie Langohr, Chairperson of the Board



Peter Akey, Secretary to the Board