

FLATHEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

AGENDA ITEM III\*

III. CONSENT ITEMS

- Approval of Minutes - Regular Board Meeting Minutes 12/15/2025

BACKGROUND:

A copy of the minutes from the Regular Board meeting on 12/15/2025 is attached for review by Board members prior to the meeting. All consent items, with no corrections, will be approved with one motion.



777 Grandview Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
Monday, December 15, 2025, 3:45 p.m.  
Board Room, Blake Hall 140

A regular meeting of the Flathead Valley Community College Board of Trustees convened at 3:45 p.m., Monday December 15, 2025

## I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

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

- Jamie Pickering
- Mark Ruby
- Mary Sterhan
- Kelly Stimpson
- Peter Akey
- Travis Steindorf

Also present were President Jane Karas and Clerk of the District Holly Metzger.

## II. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

## III. CONSENT ITEMS\*

- **Approval of Minutes:** Regular Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes, November 24, 2025
- **Adjunct Faculty Bargaining Agreement**

Trustee Kelly Stimpson moved that the Board of Trustees approve both consent items.  
Trustee Travis Steindorf seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

## IV. MONTHLY REPORTS

- **Student Activities**

The Student Activities Report was submitted to the Board and presented by Colton Little, Student Government Vice President. Colton highlighted several recent events.

Student Government and Student Engagement co-sponsored a Holiday Jingle Mingle Party that had 35 attendees, it was a great success bringing together the student body and allowing for students to see friends and make new friends.

Student Engagement has coordinated several impactful service and community initiatives. One example shared was the placement of three CASA for Kids Giving Trees around campus that provided gifts for 11 local children in foster care, generously purchased by employees and students of FVCC. The Board thanked Colton for his report.

- **Faculty Activities**

The Faculty Activities Report was submitted to the Board and presented by Faculty Senate Vice President, Carlin C. Phillips, Assistant Professor, Substance Abuse. The report contained several recent faculty achievements. Carlin highlighted a few examples.

The A&P (Anatomy and Physiology) and Health Sciences Programs hosted “Student-for-a-Day” field trips that were attended by 85 students from Columbia Falls High School, Glacier High School, Flathead High School and Lincoln County High School.

The Music Program hosted several afternoon recitals and an Opera Theatre Workshop Concert. Jordan Neiman toured with the Regal Ensemble and made his Montana Public Radio debut.

Dr. Jacoba Rock, Adjunct Faculty, Social Sciences had a chapter titled “Innovative Grading and Critical Feedback Processes” published in a new educator book.

The Board thanked Carlin for the report.

- **Executive Staff**

The Board thanked the Executive Staff for the informative reports.

## V. COLLEGE ISSUES

- **Student Success: FVCC and Artificial Intelligence**

Dr. Bryan Brophy-Baerman, Vice President, Academic Affairs gave a presentation on the challenges higher education faces in light of the rapidly changing AI environment. He explained that as AI changes society will change. This will lead to job and education changes and the role that higher education plays. FVCC is approaching this by putting guardrails in place, such as the current Campus Guidelines included on every syllabus and will continue to stay engaged.

- **Academic Program Proposal\***

The Curriculum Committee voted to approve the Building Trades, CTS as a new program on December 5<sup>th</sup> and provided the program description in the Board Packet.

Trustee Peter Akey asked if the CTS program works with local contractors. President Karas responded that the program does work with local contractors, and they are on the Advisory Committee.

Trustee Peter Akey moved that the Board of Trustees approve the Academic Program proposal recommendation as submitted. Trustee Kelly Stimpson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Board of Trustees' Events Calendar**

President Karas reviewed the Trustees' Event Calendar.

- Grades for Fall Semester are due today.
- Final exams ended last Friday.
- The College will be open through next Tuesday December 23<sup>rd</sup> , then closed for the holiday break until January 5<sup>th</sup> .
- An All Employee Inservice will be held on January 15<sup>th</sup> , the college will be closed from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- Campus will be open on January 19<sup>th</sup> for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
- Spring Semester classes begin on January 20<sup>th</sup> .
- The Foundation Donor Scholarship Reception will be held on March 5<sup>th</sup> . This is a great event to attend.

- **President's Report**

President Karas updated the Board on several items:

- Charter school applications are being accepted . Columbia Falls has put one together. FVCC is talking with them to collaborate along with other school districts.
- New photos will be taken of the Board at the next Board Meeting on January 26<sup>th</sup> .
- Candidate filing for Board of Trustee vacant positions opens on January 20<sup>th</sup> and closes on February 4<sup>th</sup> .

Chair Langohr acknowledged FVCC for a great semester and thanked all faculty and staff for their hard work.

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further action, the meeting was adjourned at 4:16 p.m.

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Callie Langohr, Board Chair

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Peter Akey, Secretary to the Board