



WVMCCD FOUNDATION BOARD MEETING

Monday, April 28, 2025

12:00 – 1:30 PM

APPROVED MINUTES

Board Present: Seher Awan, Jackie Costanzo, Bill Cooper, Bradley Davis, David Fishbaugh, Mike Foulkes, Dan Furtado, Frank Jewett, Bill McFarland, Dave Sandretto, Dan Schettler, Jennifer Taylor-Mendoza, Mark Waxman, Alison Carpenter Davis

Board Absent: Keith Balch, Len Duncan

Staff: Melissa Johns, Nicole Aguinaldo, Joanne Cao, Justin Tran

Guest: Katie Rohrer, Anne Allan Group

I. Call to Order: Bill Cooper, President

- *Bill Cooper called the meeting to order at 12:11 PM.*

II. Roll Call: Justin Tran, Management Assistant

III. Introductions: President Bill Cooper

IV. Review of WVMCCD Foundation Board Minutes: January 27, 2025

Action Item: Approval of Minutes, Bill Cooper

- *Dave Fishbaugh moved to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2025 Foundation Board meeting. Jackie Costanzo seconded the motion. **Motion passed by unanimous decision.***

V. Finance Committee Report: Bill McFarland, Treasurer

1. Review of Foundation Financials, Q3 (Unaudited), January – March 2025

- Bill McFarland reviewed the Q3 Foundation Financials. See attached report for details.

Action Item: Approval of Q3 Financials, Bill McFarland

- *Dan Furtado moved to approve the unaudited financials from January – March 2025 as presented. Mike Foulkes seconded the motion. **Motion passed by unanimous decision.***

2. Review of Lindbrook Investment Report

- Treasurer Bill McFarland presented the quarterly investment report from Q3 (January – March 2025).

VI. Nomination and Governance Committee Report: Acting Chair Bill Cooper

- Bill Cooper shared highlights from the April 21, 2025 Nomination and Governance Committee meeting.

VII. President's Report: Bill Cooper, President

- Bill Cooper's report focused on the transition of board members and the implementation of term limits. Bill Cooper and Dave Sandretto expressed concern about the number of sitting members whose terms would end before the new slate of prospective board members could be fully vetted and approved by the current board.
 - **Action Item:** Bill McFarland moved to extend the term end date for current board members to September 30, 2025. Mark Waxman seconded the motion. **Motion passed with two members (Seher Awan and Jennifer Taylor-Mendoza) voting in opposition to the motion.**
 - Approved Extension Details:
 - Board Members with more than 9 years of service will maintain their director status through September 30, 2025. This applies to the following directors: Len Duncan, Mike

- Foulkes, Dan Furtado, Frank Jewett, Dave Sandretto, Dan Schettler, Mark Waxman
Board Officers (Bill Cooper, Keith Balch, Bill McFarland) will maintain their director status through June 30, 2026.

VIII. Reports

1. Office of Advancement: Melissa Johns, Associate Vice Chancellor
 - Melissa Johns reported on recent support for athletics teams and scholarships, with notable contributions from Star One Credit Union as a sponsor of the Cohn Family Food Pantry at West Valley College, and a gift from a West Valley alumnus who attributes much of his success to his time at community college. Melissa celebrated the milestone of awarding more than \$1 million in scholarships. Melissa announced upcoming events, including the 50th anniversary celebration of Mission College and the scholarship celebrations at both West Valley College and Mission College.
2. District: Brad Davis, Chancellor
 - Brad Davis shared significant achievements of the year, which will be highlighted in a district-wide annual report. He expressed deep appreciation for the financial stewardship of Foundation assets and the outstanding leadership of the college presidents, crediting their efforts for recent successes such as the tuition waiver bill and the launch of free student meals in Fall 2025. He emphasized the importance of teamwork, leadership, and thoughtful transition as the board evolves, encouraging continued commitment to student success and community impact. He concluded by thanking the board for the dedication and thoughtful engagement displayed during their tenure.
3. West Valley College: Jennifer Taylor-Mendoza, President
 - Jennifer Taylor-Mendoza shared appreciation for Melissa Johns's leadership, particularly her community engagement efforts, highlighting a recent successful engagement with the Saratoga Retirement Community. The board was informed that 2,859 graduate petitions were received for the commencement ceremony on May 21 at the Mountain Winery, celebrating the district's 60th commencement. Board members are invited to attend. Additionally, the board was invited to the upcoming STEAMD (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math, and Design) event in May.
4. Mission College: Seher Awan, President
 - Seher Awan informed the board that Mission College received a \$200,000 grant from the California Education Learning Lab as part of the AI Fast Challenge, which will support adaptive tutoring using open-source tools. Mission College has officially kicked off its 50th anniversary celebrations, with several events planned through the end of the year. A new annual internship program has been launched in partnership with the City of Santa Clara, offering 12 exclusive internship opportunities for Mission College students. ASG President Priscilla Moreira was recently honored with the prestigious Student Leadership Award by the California State Assembly. Mission College commencement will take place on Thursday, May 22 at 4:00 PM.

IX. Old Business – none reported.

X. New Business

1. **Foundation Board Review:** Katie Rohrer, Principal of Anne Allan Group
 - Katie Rohrer presented the Report to the Foundation Board from the Nomination and Governance Committee summarizing changes voted on at the Foundation board meeting in January 2025. See attached report for details.

Key points included in the report:

- **Reduction in Board Size:** The maximum number of elected directors was reduced from 39 to 19. Permanent directors—the Chancellor and the two College Presidents—remain unchanged. The bylaws will be amended to clarify that interim leaders may serve as permanent directors during their interim appointment.

- **Nomination Process Refinement:** The Nomination and Governance Committee created a clear and repeatable annual nomination process. A timeline was presented for future years.
- **Suggested Language for Board Member Recruitment:** The group emphasized informal, values-based language when engaging prospective board members. A sample script was provided to help board members initiate conversations.
- **Emeritus Council Task Force:** Mark Waxman will facilitate the Emeritus Council Task Force meeting, with support from Katie Rohrer
- **Orientation Process:** An updated onboarding and orientation process will be developed for newly elected directors, to take place between the July and October 2025 board meetings.

2. Emeritus Council: Mark Waxman, Director

- Mark Waxman shared his intent to host a meeting on May 19 to gather input on the charter for the new Emeritus Council. The goal of the meeting is to shape the purpose, structure, and activities of the Emeritus Council with contributions from current board members and interested former directors.

3. Board Service Celebration: Melissa Johns, Associate Vice Chancellor

- Melissa Johns announced a Foundation Board Service Celebration to honor the service and contributions of current Foundation Board members.

XI. Meeting Adjournment

Action Item: Bill Cooper

- *Bill Cooper adjourned the meeting at 1:31 PM.*

Minutes respectfully submitted by Justin Tran, Management Assistant.