



Greenville Technical College Board

MINUTES

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Dreisbach/Anderson Student Success Center, Building 102,
Community Room 170, Barton Campus

Members Present

Meghan Barp
Paul Batson
Jo Hackl
Hunter Howard
Dean Jones
Ray Lattimore, Chair
Ray Martin
Dr. Burke Royster
Coleman Shouse
David Stafford

Members Absent

Tom Britt
Keith Smith

Staff Present

Eric Bedingfield
Jacqui DiMaggio
Julie Eddy
Dr. Kerwin Graham
Susan Jones
Becky Mann
Dr. Larry Miller, President
Lauren Simer
Diane Thomas
Wendy Walden
Ann Wright

Guests

Rebecca Allen, Mauldin & Jenkins
Brian Nicholson, Mauldin & Jenkins

Chair Lattimore called the meeting to order at 12:16 p.m. and welcomed board members, staff, and guests. He confirmed that the press had been notified in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act and noted that the meeting agenda was publicly posted on the Greenville Technical College website. A quorum of board members was present.

Chair Lattimore acknowledged Ms. Diane Thomas, who was attending for Dr. Candice Lewis, and guests from Mauldin & Jenkins, the college's external auditors.

Approval of the Minutes

Chair Lattimore presented the August 20, 2025, minutes for approval. Ms. Hackl noted minor revisions, which Ms. Green had incorporated into BoardEffect. Mr. Batson moved to approve the minutes as presented, Mr. Stafford seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

President's Report

Listed below are key takeaways from President Miller's report:

- ✓ **Enrollment & Student Success**
 - Total enrollment: 12,012 students (up 1%); credit hours: up 3%.
 - Withdrawal rates down 25% - improved persistence/retention.
 - 1,500 additional students enrolled by July 1.
- ✓ **National Recognition**
 - Community College Research Center & Complete College America highlighting GTC's success.
 - The Gates Foundation supports both organizations.
- ✓ **Community & Workforce Engagement**
 - Boise, ID visit: Lessons on cutting red tape; potential McAlister project collaborations.
 - Leadership Awards: President's Cabinet member Ann Wright & Commissioner Meghan Barp recognized as SC Top 25 leaders.
 - Michelin Workforce Champion Award – 1 in 4 Greenville County apprentices with Michelin.
 - Isuzu Groundbreaking – October 1, continuing workforce partnerships.
- ✓ **Economic Outlook**
 - The national unemployment rate for 16–24-year-olds is currently 10.6%, which places graduates at an advantage (93% placed in employment).
 - College is monitoring potential recession impacts.
- ✓ **McAlister Development**
 - Urban Land Institute visit: Oct. 5 (mix & mingle), Oct. 10 (report presentation).
- ✓ **Accreditation**
 - Opportunities for Accreditation with Distinction.
 - The new accrediting body currently affects only R1 institutions; it does not directly impact the college.
- ✓ **Campus Projects and Security & Risk Management**
 - The Clery Report was submitted early, and campus incidents were minimal.
 - Board-level oversight of campus risk (including cybersecurity) is recommended.
 - Capital projects previously approved by the board are on track.
 - The Nursing building renovation is complete, and first- and second-year students are reunited.
 - Surgical Technology expansion on track for workforce needs.
 - HVAC & Industrial Electricity facility renovation (\$2.5M) – enrollment up 50%.
- ✓ **Financial Highlights**
 - Strong financial position; supports capital projects & P3 initiatives.
 - Pell scholarships up \$8M; benefits economically disadvantaged students.
 - Student bad debt down 80%.
 - Faculty pay is still \$10K below Greenville County Schools.
 - Pension costs up 70% over the past decade; college contribution capped.
 - Foundation funding per student: \$3,000 (goal: catch Tri-County at \$8,000).
- ✓ **Upcoming Events**
 - Oct. 5–10 – Urban Land Institute Visit
 - Oct. 17 – Presidential Investiture
 - Oct. 22–25 – AACC Leadership Congress, New Orleans
 - Dec. 18 – Fall Commencement, Bon Secours Wellness Arena

Finance Report

Mr. Howard asked Ms. DiMaggio to present the finance report, which was available in BoardEffect.

Ms. DiMaggio stated revenues are 6% above budget and 16% higher than last year, driven by enrollment growth, early student registration, and increased state allocations. Expenses are 44% below budget and 16% above the prior year, with variances primarily in administrative and general costs due to the timing of insurance payments, academic support from additional advisors, and operations and maintenance for facility improvements. These variances are expected two months into the fiscal year.

Audit Committee – Approval of FY 2025 Financial Statements

The Audit Committee reported that the college received an unmodified audit opinion, with the external auditors noting strong financial practices and stewardship. The college's net financial position improved by \$13.4 million over the prior year, nearly doubling its cumulative position, while net tuition costs to students declined due to increased financial aid. The college was commended for timely reporting, being the first of eight state technical colleges audited to issue its report, and earning the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 15th consecutive year. The Greenville Tech Foundation also received a clean audit opinion.

The Audit Committee recommended approval of the FY 2025 Financial Statements as presented, and the recommendation was approved unanimously.

South Carolina Association for Technical College Commissioners (SCATCC) Update

Mr. Shouse reported that the State Board, the Presidents' Council, and SCATCC will hold a joint meeting next week to improve communication and review the tuition-setting process. While some view large fund balances as a reason tuition revenues are unnecessary, most funds are already committed. He emphasized that beginning this dialogue is a positive step.

Following the session, a luncheon will recognize service milestones, including 10 years of service for commissioners Jo Hackl and Howard Hunter.

Commission for Higher Education (CHE) Update

Mr. Batson reported that the CHE Board met in early September, approving the annual budget with commissioner input, reviewing the Battelle Alliance report showing growth in advanced-degree graduates aligned with state workforce goals, and addressing ACT/SAT score adjustments to ensure fair scholarship eligibility. No CHE meeting is scheduled for October.

Old and New Business

President Miller noted that a draft press release had been provided to board members, highlighting updates on the college's program offerings. Of particular note, the college's associate degree in Engineering Fundamentals, which the board, State Tech Board, and CHE approved, offers seven tracks that transfer to four-year institutions, including Clemson University. Board members were encouraged to review the full press release for additional details.

There being no other business, Chair Lattimore motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Jones seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 1:11 p.m.