

LABETTE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Board of Trustees Minutes
March 12, 2026

The Board of Trustees met at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 12, 2026, at the Cardinal Event Center.

Members Present

Greg Chalker
Becky Dantic
Rod Landrum
Montie Taylor (arrived at 5:35 p.m.)
David Winchell

Members Absent

John 'JR' Keene

Others Present

Dr. Mark Watkins	Dr. Jason Sharp	Leanna Doherty	Kelly Kirkpatrick
Theresa Hundley	Ross Harper	Dr. Ken Elliott	Haley Walker
Lindi Forbes	Haley Walker	Harrison Hall	Randee Baty
DeAnna Huffman	Cathy Kibler	Carl Hoskins	

Heidi Flora recorded the minutes.

Adoption of Revised Agenda (ACTION ITEM)

Chair Landrum asked for changes or additions to the revised meeting agenda. There were none. Trustee Winchell moved to approve the revised meeting agenda as presented. Trustee Chalker seconded the motion, and the motion carried 4-0.

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Chair Landrum asked for corrections or additions to the February 12, 2026, regular meeting minutes. There were none. Trustee Chalker moved to approve the minutes as presented. Trustee Winchell seconded the motion, and the motion carried 4-0.

Reports and/or Board Discussion

Faculty Senate Report: None

Student Government Report: Harrison Hall, Student Life Associate, gave a report on the recent and upcoming student government activities.

Administrative Report:

Comparison of Expenditures to Budget - The February financial report was placed on the tables. At the end of February, we were 67% through the year. The general fund was 64% expended, and the post-secondary technical education fund was 63% expended. Vice-President Doherty invited questions from the Trustees.

Facilities – None

President's Report:

Dr. Watkins reported that he and Dr. Sharp attended a luncheon on Monday, March 9, hosted by Dr. Newsom, Pittsburg State University President. The luncheon involved all six SEK community colleges in an effort to come together and help students.

Dr. Watkins also reported that he attended the annual KBOR dinner in Topeka on Wednesday of this week. He said he believes the meeting went well.

Dr. Watkins and Dr. Sharp both thank the Board members for participating in the recent HLC visit.

Dr. Watkins reminded the Board about spring break this coming week, March 16-19, 2026.

Old Business (ACTION, INFORMATION, OR DISCUSSION ITEMS)

Policy Approvals

Trustee Dantic moved to approve the revisions to Policy 2.05 Substance Use and Policy 4.17 Tutoring Services. Trustee Winchell seconded the motion, and the motion carried 5-0.

New Business (ACTION, INFORMATION, OR DISCUSSION ITEMS)

Program Reviews

Dr. Sharp, Cathy Kibler, DeAnna Huffman, and Ross Harper presented the Program Reviews for Accounting, Business Administration, Psychology, and Radiography. Trustee Chalker moved to accept all four program reviews. Trustee Taylor seconded the motion, and the motion carried 5-0.

Tuition and Fees

Vice President Doherty presented the 2026-2027 Tuition and Fees. Dr. Watkins requested that the Board of Trustees review the tuition and fees schedule with no action to be taken at this time.

Purchase of Spray Booth

Trustee Chalker moved to approve the bid from Creative Coating Solutions for \$28,200 for the 8'x12'x25' spray booth. Trustee Winchell seconded the motion, and the motion carried 5-0.

Staff Employment Letters

Trustee Dantic moved to approve the new staff employment letters for Lester 'Chuck' Smith, Custodian Supervisor, at a salary of \$35,018/year, starting 2/16/26; Rebecca Leistikow, Food Service Supervisor, at a salary of \$38,653/year, starting 4/16/26; and, Dr. John Gillette, Vice President of Academic Affairs, at a salary of \$87,595/year, starting 7/01/26. Trustee Chalker seconded the motion, and the motion carried 5-0.

Approval of Bills

Trustee Winchell moved to approve the Claims Register. Trustee Dantic seconded the motion, and the motion carried 5-0.

Executive Session

Trustee Chalker moved to recess into executive session at 6:12 p.m. for 5 minutes for matters relating to employer-employee negotiations whether or not in consultation with the representative or representative of the body or agency. To protect the institution's right to the confidentiality of its negotiating position and the public interest. Trustee Dantic seconded the motion, and the motion carried 5-0.

The following were invited to participate in the executive session: Dr. Mark Watkins, Dr. Jason Sharp, Leanna Doherty, and Haley Walker.

The Board returned to open meeting at 6:17 p.m.

Executive Session

Trustee Chalker moved to recess into executive session at 6:18 p.m. for 10 minutes for a discussion relating to the acquisition of property. To protect the institution's financial interest and bargaining position. Trustee Dantic seconded the motion, and the motion carried 5-0.

The following were invited to participate in the executive session: Dr. Mark Watkins, Dr. Jason Sharp, Kelly Kirkpatrick, and Leanna Doherty.

The Board returned to open meeting at 6:28 p.m.

Executive Session

Trustee Chalker moved to recess into executive session at 6:28 p.m. for 10 minutes for a discussion relating to actions adversely or favorably affecting a person as a student, except that any such person shall have the right to a public hearing if requested by that person. Trustee Dantic seconded the motion, and the motion carried 5-0.

The following were invited to participate in the executive session: Dr. Jason Sharp and Haley Walker.

At 6:38 p.m., Trustee Chalker motion to extend the executive session by 10 minutes. Trustee Dantic seconded the motion, and the motion carried 5-0.

At 6:48 p.m., Trustee Chalker motion to extend the executive session by 5 minutes. Trustee Dantic seconded the motion, and the motion carried 5-0.

The Board returned to open meeting at 6:53 p.m.

Executive Session

Trustee Chalker moved to recess into executive session at 6:54 p.m. for 5 minutes for a discussion relating to actions adversely or favorably affecting a person as a student, except that any such person shall have the right to a public hearing if requested by that person. Trustee Dantic seconded the motion, and the motion carried 5-0.

The following were invited to participate in the executive session: Dr. Mark Watkins Walker.

The Board returned to open meeting at 6:59 p.m.

Public Comment

Trustee Taylor commended everyone on their efforts for the recent HLC visit.

Chair Landrum reminded everyone about the upcoming Auction for Scholarships on April 17.

Adjournment

Trustee Dantic moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:01 p.m. Trustee Chalker seconded the motion, and the motion carried 5-0.

Heidi Flora, Clerk of the Board