



**1000 College Drive
Clifton Forge, VA 24422**

Minutes Number 292

The Mountain Gateway Community College Board held its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, September 16, 2024, at Mountain Gateway Community College.

The following members participated:

Marilyn Alexander	City of Lexington
Jason Coleman	Rockbridge County
Tony McFaddin, Jr.	Rockbridge County
Sue Hirsh	Bath County
Ingrid Barber	Alleghany County
Steve Vaughn	Botetourt County
David Crosier	City of Covington
Joan Vannorsdall	Alleghany County

The following members were absent:

Jerry Morgan	City of Covington
Cheryl Hickman	City of Buena Vista

Members of the College administration/staff in attendance:

Suzanne Ostling	Associate Vice President of Student Affairs
Dr. Benjamin Worth	Vice President of Academic Affairs
Dr. Matt McGraw	AVP/Chief Workforce Officer
Dr. John Rainone	President
Xavier Storey	Recording Clerk, Executive Assistant to the President

1. Welcome and Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm. The board discussed the approval of the May 20th meeting minutes. It was noted that there was one instance in the document where Ms. Alexander's first name was spelled incorrectly.

2. **Approval of May 20, 2024, Meeting Minutes**

The minutes from the 5/20/2024 meeting was approved with the change.

Ms. Barber made the following motion:

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING WITH THE MISSPELLING CORRECTED

Mr. McFaddin seconded. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

3. **Public Comment**

There were no members of the public present.

4. **President's Report**

a. College Updates:

i. Workforce Solutions

Dr. McGraw announced that FastForward enrollment is up 48.94%. The average across the VCCS is 19.7%, and MGCC has the third highest increase. Enrollment in other workforce programs has increased as well, primarily among CNA, CMA, construction trades, and phlebotomy. He also announced the introduction of plumbing and carpentry programs. He explained that MGCC has an average completion rate of 94% among its workforce programs and presented data showing that graduates have an average wage increase of 42%. That number is even higher among certain programs and demographic groups. He then announced that MGCC would now be offering CDL courses as dual enrollment. In order to participate, students have to be 18 with a clean driving record of at least two years, and they are not permitted to drive for work outside of Virginia until the age of 21.

ii. Student Services

Ms. Ostling provided an update on student services. She announced that enrollments from the previous year have increased from 896 students to 960 students. FTEs are approximately the same, and the rate of credits per student is slightly down. She explained that this is due to more part-time student enrollment. She discussed how the enrollment numbers are likely to increase soon due to late-starting classes that begin in October. She also discussed the increase in Governor's School enrollment and the status of the floor repair in

Student Services. She went over how MGCC is still looking for a Rockbridge High School career coach and that Bath County would no longer be participating in the career coach program. She then introduced a temporary addendum that had been added to the Student Code of Conduct by the VCCS that she would like for the Local Board to approve. She explained that it was not clear if the Board needed to approve the addendum since it was a clear directive from the VCCS, but that it should in order to maintain conformity. The addendum makes changes to the Student Code of Conduct and the college's Facilities Agreement, mostly regarding potentially disruptive acts, including students camping out on campus and masking for the purpose of concealing identity. Mr. Coleman addressed some concerns that he had with the addendum but agreed overall. Ms. Ostling then explained that the VCCS is currently working on a uniform, system-wide Student Code of Conduct.

Ms. Ostling then asked for an approval for the addendum.

Mr. Vaughn made the following motion:

**TO APPROVE THE TEMPORARY ADDENDUM TO THE
STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT**

Ms. Vannorsdall seconded. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

iii. Academic Affairs

Dr. Worth discussed the MG-Tec program being headed by Ashley Pratt. He explained that the program would be pushed at the high schools, would target sophomores as a 3-year program, potentially have a summer camp, and would include main campus, RRC, and remote coursework. Students who participate in the program would receive a certification that they can use to find work upon graduation from high school. He then went over the current affairs of the college's MedLab program and announced that Tiffany Rosales would be the lead MGCC instructor in the program. He explained that he was working with David Shofstahl to work out a path for workforce students to potentially move over to the credit side and complete an associate degree. He announced that Walt Johnson is the new welding program head. Dr. Worth then introduced the annual update to the college's Advisory Committees for its programs and asked for approval.

Ms. Barber made the following motion:

TO APPROVE THE PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Mr. Crosier seconded. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

iv. Finance & Administration

Dr. Rainone provided an update on behalf of Angela Graham. He explained that the Board would need to approve the FY24 Local Financial Statements. This is the part of the college's budget that the Local Board directly oversees. He went over the intricacies of the funding process across several departments and student organizations. He discussed the fact that the college now has an all-virtual bookstore that will still be hosted by Follett following some vendor selection issues. This has caused delays in some students receiving their ordered items. He also announced the need for a new cafeteria vendor and a new vending machine vendor following some long-standing issues. He explained that funding for career coaches comes out of local funds and that certain scholarships are handled through local funds, though most are administered by the college's Education Foundation.

Dr. Rainone asked for a motion to approve the FY24 Local Financial Statements.

Ms. Barber made the following motion:

TO APPROVE THE FY24 LOCAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Ms. Vannorsdall seconded. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Dr. Rainone then discussed an update to the college's Emergency Operations Plan. He explained that safety and security is a top VCCS priority, and while the college does not have a police officer, which requires all employees to be involved in safety and security, the college does work with the Allegheny County Sheriff's Department, and that there are currently talks going on to have an officer stationed on campus. He also went over the various drills and tabletop exercises in which MGCC participates. Dr. Rainone then asked for approval for an addendum to the college's facilities use agreement. This is the addendum mentioned earlier in the Student Services section.

Mr. Crosier made the following motion:

TO APPROVE THE ADDENDUM TO THE COLLEGE'S FACILITIES USE AGREEMENT

Ms. Barber seconded. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

v. Institutional Advancement/Foundation

Dr. Rainone gave an Education Foundation update in place of Amy Phillips. He announced that all board members are invited to the annual Donor-Scholars Reception. He discussed that the Foundation is beginning a pilot program to use leftover Roadrunner Promise funds and provide workforce students with funding for up to four credits to see if they would be interested in potentially completing

an associate degree. He also explained that the college's Foundation Board has two seats that are reserved for Local Board members and for members of the Local Board to inform him if they have interest in that opportunity.

vi. Human Resources

Dr. Rainone provided an update on behalf of April Tolley. He discussed the college's open and recently filled positions.

vii. Institutional Goals/VCCS Strategic Plan

Dr. Rainone went over some institutional goals that he is developing in conjunction with the VCCS Strategic Plan, Accelerate Opportunity. The primary basis of the goals is to target working-age adults aged 25-65 for enrollment in the college. He explained that he will present the goals again in May before his evaluation. Dr. Rainone then asked for a motion to approve the institutional goals.

Mr. McFaddin made the following motion:

TO APPROVE THE PRESIDENT'S INSTITUTIONAL GOALS

Mr. Crosier seconded. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

viii. Cessation of the Lease for RRC

Dr. Rainone announced that the college proposed not to renew the lease with the City of Buena Vista at 35 Vista Links Rd. He proposed that all operations beginning in July 2025 be moved to the McCormick Building and the Workforce Center at 2019/2045 Forest Ave in Buena Vista. The additional square footage (15,000 square ft to 24,000 square ft) will increase the ability to offer additional programs and services. He requested formal approval from the Board to draft a letter to the City of Buena Vista Manager to announce the cessation of the lease.

Mr. Crosier made the following motion:

TO APPROVE THE SENDING OF A LETTER TO THE CITY OF BUENA VISTA ANNOUNCING THE CESSATION OF THE LEASE FOR THE ROCKBRIDGE REGIONAL CENTER

Mr. Vannorsdall seconded. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

5. Other Business

Dr. Rainone reminded the Board of the Brick Fundraiser for the Workforce Center and asked them to spread the word.

6. Informational Items

A copy of MGCC in the News was provided to the board members before the meeting.

7. Adjourn

There being no further business, Ms. Alexander declared the meeting adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

Ms. Marilyn Alexander
Board Chair

Dr. John J Rainone
Secretary to the Board

Attachments: Approved Minutes #291; September 16, 2024, Board Meeting Agenda; MGCC in the News; MGCC Personnel Report; FY25 Advisory Boards; FY25 President's Goals; VCCS Accelerate Opportunity; Revised Emergency Operations Plan; FY24 Local Financial Statements; FY25 Board Membership; Responsibilities of the President; Personnel Report; RRC Recommendation; Student Code of Conduct Addendum