

Wytheville Community College Board Meeting  
WCC Wytheville Campus, Grayson Hall, Room 112  
1000 East Main Street, Wytheville, Virginia  
November 13, 2025, Minutes

**Members Present:**

Mrs. Leslie Farthing, Chair  
Mr. Joe Reeves, Vice Chair  
Mrs. Amy Billings  
Mr. Anthony Cline  
Mrs. Theresa Dix  
Mr. Franklin Jett  
Mr. Joe Robinson

**Members Absent:**

Mr. Davis Goforth  
Mr. Jeff Holderfield  
Dr. Gary Houseman  
Mrs. Patsy McKnight  
Mrs. Haley Painter  
Mrs. Wendi Pemberton

**Others Present:**

Dr. Dean Sprinkle, WCC President and Board Secretary  
Ms. Deanna Bradberry, Director of Institutional Advancement  
Mr. David Dickens, Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services  
Mr. Perry Hughes, Vic President of Workforce Development and Occupational Programs  
Dr. Sherry Phelan, Vice President of Instruction and Student Development  
Mr. Roland Hall, Dean of Workforce Development and Occupational Programs  
Mr. Tracy McAfee, Faculty Assembly Chair  
Mrs. Denita Burnett, Administrative Assistant to the President  
Mrs. Christy Price-Townsend, Administrative Assistant to the Vice President of Instruction and Student Development

## 2. Opening

### A. Roll Call

Dr. Dean Sprinkle, WCC President and Board Secretary, recorded Board members in attendance and confirmed a quorum was present.

### B. Call to Order

Mrs. Leslie Farthing, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

### C. Welcome

Mrs. Farthing welcomed everyone to the meeting. A special welcome was extended to new Board member Mrs. Amy Billings representing Smyth County. Each person present introduced themselves. Mrs. Farthing thanked Mr. Tracy McAfee for attending on behalf of the WCC Faculty Assembly.

### D. Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Farthing referred to the draft minutes from September 18, 2025, Board meeting. She asked if there were any corrections of changes to the minutes; there was one correction of a title in the members present list.

Mr. Jett moved to approve with the noted correction. Mr. Cline seconded; the motion carried.

### E. Approval of Retirement Resolution

Dr. Sprinkle referred to the attached Retirement Resolution recognizing William Reeves for his years of service at the college. Dr. Sprinkle respectfully requested the Board approve the resolution. Mrs. Farthing asked if there were any questions; there were none.

Mr. Robinson moved to approve. Mrs. Dix seconded; the motion carried. The resolution is attached to these minutes.

### F. Public Comment

Mrs. Farthing asked if there were any public comments; there were none.

### 3. President's Report

#### A. SACSCOC On-Site Visit Update

Dr. Sprinkle referred to the attachment. The WCC's On-Site visit by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) team was conducted September 29 – October 2. Dr. Sprinkle was pleased to report that the SACSCOC On-Site Committee had no findings, which is a rare occurrence.

Subsequent to the visit, the college received a written report for review with an opportunity to offer corrections of a factual nature. WCC has responded. Following incorporation of edits from others on the committee, and any factual corrections submitted by the college, the report is submitted to the SACSCOC staff person, who then sends a copy of the report to the college.

Next, the report is submitted to the SACSCOC Committees on Compliance and Reports (C&R), standing committees of the SACSCOC Board of Trustees, who review the report and subsequently submit the report to the Executive Council for review. The Executive Council recommends action to the full Board of Trustees, which makes the final decision on reaffirmation. The full Board of Trustees convenes twice a year. WCC's reaffirmation of accreditation will be taken up by the Commission in June 2026.

Dr. Sprinkle expressed appreciation to everyone at WCC for welcoming our SACSCOC On-Site Reaffirmation Committee and for a successful reaffirmation visit. He extended a special thank you to WCC Local Board Chair, Leslie Farthing, and State Board Member A. J. Robinson for meeting with the On-Site Visiting Committee.

Mrs. Farthing asked if there were any questions; there were none. She noted this was an informational item; no approval or vote was needed.

#### B. Legislative Update

Dr. Sprinkle referred to the attachment and noted the following:

The General Assembly's regularly scheduled session will be convened on January 14, 2026, and is scheduled to adjourn on March 14. The election for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Attorney General, and all 100 seats of the House of Delegates, is scheduled for Tuesday, November 4. A crosswalk of new General Assembly members and community colleges will be distributed to presidents following the election.

Governor Glenn Youngkin will unveil his recommended 2026-2028 budget on December 17. General Assembly members and the new Governor will propose their own amendments following the convening of the 2026 session.

The VCCS's legislative priorities are in the process of being finalized. Initial priorities were contained in the six-year plan and were approved by the State Board for Community Colleges at their September meeting. It is likely that a smaller number of these priorities will be approved by the Secretary of Education and submitted to the Department of Planning and Budget for consideration to be included in the Governor's introduced budget.

A resource guidebook, "Capitol Pathways," is being developed for students, college presidents, State Board members, VFCCE Board members, college foundation board members, and other supporting business and industry stakeholders. This booklet will contain uniform and consistent messaging, and core talking points on funding levels, affordability comparisons, and return on investment benefits for legislators, plus mapping of legislators to each college. It will be finalized after the November 4 election and will have timely updates following the release of Governor Youngkin's budget on December 17.

In previous years, all 23 colleges have sent delegations of students, presidents, and stakeholders to the General Assembly on multiple days during the legislative session. The newly formed Strategic Partnerships Committee of the State Board for Community Colleges is supporting a one-day event featuring student delegations from all colleges.

The last week of January has been designated as "Community College Week" by the General Assembly. To that end, Tuesday, January 27 has been identified as the day for every president to bring a small delegation of students with them to Richmond to advocate for the VCCS's priorities with members of the General Assembly and to be recognized on the floor of the House or Senate if they so choose. The East Reading Room of the Patrick Henry Building has been reserved for a welcoming event. A continental breakfast will be available, and it is planned that students will receive greetings from the Chancellor and from senior members of the General Assembly and the new administration. More details will be available prior to the next ACOP meeting.

### VCCS's 2026 Legislative Priorities

These items are all mirrored in the VCCS's Six-Year Academic and Financial Plan

#### Operating Requests

##### *Expand Regional Capacity*

- \$30 million to provide ongoing support for expanding high-cost, high-demand programs regionally.

- Includes small renovation programs across the state.

*Ensure Every High School Student Graduates with a Postsecondary Credential*

- \$25 million to provide recurring, non-reverting seed funding to the CCRV (College and Career Ready Virginia) Fund

*Scale Performance-Based Funding to Drive Job and Transfer Outcomes*

- \$40 million to provide recurring non-reverting pool funding to stabilize the Workforce Credential Grant Program (FastForward)

*Make One-Time Tuition Moderation Funding Ongoing*

- \$ 7.6 million to cover recurring costs for compensation, benefits and central insurance and technology costs impacts

*Aviation Maintenance Program Expansion at DCC and BRCC*

- \$1.6 million for ongoing aviation maintenance program expansion at two colleges

### Capital Requests

- The Six-Year Plan includes 30 priority projects that have not been authorized for any previous level of funding, totaling approximately \$1.3 billion in total costs.
- Highest priority requests include renovation and improvements to existing campus buildings and infrastructure or the replacement of facilities for which renovation is cost prohibitive.

Mrs. Farthing asked if there were any questions; there were none. She noted this was an informational item; no approval or vote was needed.

## C. Cabinet Planning Retreat Report & WCC Strategic Plan Update

Dr. Sprinkle reported that on Tuesday, November 4, WCC's Cabinet held a day-long planning retreat. The agenda included a review of the College's Mission, Vision, and Values, performance on the prior year's goals, identification of successes and challenges, alignment of WCC and the State Board of Community College's priorities and setting goals for the coming year. Personnel, funding, programs, and facilities were among the topics covered. No changes were recommended for the College's Mission. There was minor wording changes proposed for the Vision and Values to align with guidance from State and Federal guidance around the use of certain terminology.

Dr. Sprinkle referred to WCC's 2024-2030 Strategic Plan and 2024-2025 Status Report. He reported that WCC met many of the targets that were set, some targets we are making

progress towards, and some we did not meet. He noted there are some objectives that had no data and that the VCCS is working on a method for collecting data for those items.

Mrs. Farthing asked if there were any questions; there were none. She noted this was an informational item; no approval or vote was needed.

#### **D. Approval of WCC Local Interest Goals for 2025-26 and President's Evaluation Form**

Dr. Sprinkle referred to the attachments and noted that the 2025-2026 WCC Local Interest Goals and Presidential Evaluation Form were included in the materials for the September and November meetings. He explained that progress made toward these Goals is one of the evaluation tools the Board utilizes for the annual evaluation of the President which occurs in March and April of each year. Dr. Sprinkle reported the Goals are the same as last year except for number 16; the wording was updated by replacing "Institutional Priorities" with "Strategic Plan." The Presidential Evaluation Form was revised to align with the update made to the Goals and with reports provided at Board meetings. He noted that no additional suggestions for the Goals or Evaluation Form were received from Board members prior to the Board meeting, but he is open to changes or additions. Dr. Sprinkle also plans to provide a self-evaluation which will be included with the Outcomes to the Goals and Evaluation Form. He reminded the Board that the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) will also send an evaluation survey to be completed by Board members. Dr. Sprinkle noted that it is important for Board members to complete that survey as well as the Presidential Evaluation Form because he and the Chancellor value feedback from Board Members. Mrs. Farthing asked if there were any questions; there were none.

Mr. Reeves moved to approve. Mr. Jett seconded; the motion carried.

#### **E. Review and Approval of WCC Policy for Naming of Facilities**

Dr. Sprinkle referred to the attachment. He reported that the WCC Policy for Naming of Facilities was reviewed and compared to VCCS Policy Manual Section 2A.09.D.3.h.c.-e. and there were no changes at this time. Dr. Sprinkle noted this is an annual review and approval. Mrs. Farthing asked if there were any questions; there were none.

Mr. Reeves moved to approve. Mr. Robinson seconded; the motion carried.

#### **F. Approval of Facility Name**

Dr. Sprinkle referred to the attachment. He reported that the WCC Real Estate Foundation purchased the property in Galax, known as the Crossroads Rural Entrepreneurial Institute in November 2024 and currently leases it to WCC. Per the WCC Policy for Naming of

Facilities, which was just reviewed and approved, the President's Cabinet is recommending the site be named WCC at Crossroads. Dr. Sprinkle requested the Board's approval of the facility's name. Mrs. Farthing asked if there were any questions; there were none.

Mr. Jett moved to approve. Mr. Reeves seconded; the motion carried.

### **G. Appointment of Honorary Degree Committee**

Dr. Sprinkle referred to the attachment. He reported that it is time to appoint three WCC Board members to serve on the Honorary Degree Committee which will meet early next year prior to the deadline to submit a recommendation. Dr. Sprinkle noted that details regarding the procedures, policies, and past recipients were included in the attachment.

Mrs. Farthing appointed the members of the WCC Board Executive Committee, which includes Mr. Joe Reeves, Mr. Joe Robinson, and herself. She noted that if any Board members have a recommendation of a person to nominate, please notify Dr. Sprinkle and Mrs. Burnett by January 5, 2026, so that information can be shared with the Committee.

### **H. Security Awareness Training**

Dr. Sprinkle noted that as reported at the September Board meeting, all people who have WCC email accounts, including WCC Board members, are required to complete security awareness training annually. He explained that the KnowBe4 training is designed to ensure users understand the mechanisms of spam, spear phishing, malware, ransomware, and social engineering to keep accounts secure. Board members should have received an email to their WCC email account regarding accessing and completing the training. The deadline was October 20. Most Board members have completed the training. Dr. Sprinkle asked that Board members who still need to complete the training to do so, and if they need assistance to contact Mrs. Burnett.

Mrs. Farthing asked if there were any questions; there were none. She noted this was an informational item; no approval or vote was needed.

### **I. Annual Financial Disclosure Statement Filing**

Dr. Sprinkle reported that Board members are required to complete the Annual Financial Disclosure form online. He explained that an email with information and a link will be sent in early January to Board member's WCC email account. The deadline to complete the form is February 2, 2026. For reference, a Financial Disclosure Guide and Frequently Asked Questions sheet were attached in Board Docs, along with a sample of the form. Dr. Sprinkle

noted that Mrs. Burnett would send email reminders to Board member's personal email, and if anyone needed assistance, they could contact Mrs. Burnett.

Mrs. Farthing asked if there were any questions; there were none. She noted this was an informational item; no approval or vote was needed.

## J. Enrollment Update

Dr. Sprinkle referred to the attached VCCS Enrollment report from November 10, 2025, compared to November 11, 2024. He noted WCC's total enrollment is currently up 8.77% in Full-Time Equivalencies (FTEs) for Fall semester. Enrollment is currently up at 20 of the 23 colleges and ranges from down 2.08% to up 13.71%. The increase for the VCCS overall is 5.17%. Dr. Sprinkle noted the WCC Enrollment by Locality report for Fall 2025 as of October 28, 2025, was also attached and shows the percentage of enrollment from each locality.

Mrs. Farthing asked if there were any questions; there were none. She noted this was an informational item; no approval or vote was needed.

## K. Institutional Effectiveness, Research and Planning Update

Dr. Sprinkle referred to the attachment. He noted that as mentioned earlier, the SACSCOC On-Site Committee visit took place September 29 to October 2, 2025, and the Committee had no findings. Dr. Sprinkle reported that Ms. Vicki Delp had served as an observer on a SACSCOC On-Site Committee at AB Tech Community College in North Carolina from September 15 - 18, 2025, and that experience aided us with our On-Site visit the next week. Dr. Sprinkle reported that he had served as a reviewer on a SACSCOC On-Site Committee at Louisiana Delta Community College from October 26-30, 2025. He noted that WCC has registered five people to attend the SACSCOC Annual Meeting in Nashville, Tennessee from December 6-9, 2025: including himself, VP of Instruction and Student Development Dr. Sherry Phelan, VP of Finance and Administrative Services Mr. David Dickens, Director of Institutional Effectiveness, Research, and Planning Ms. Vicki Delp, and Disabilities Coordinator, Counselor, and Chair of Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) Implementation Committee Mr. Tim West.

Dr. Sprinkle noted WCC continues to conduct various surveys to gather data to assist in making informed decisions for improving programs and services.

Mrs. Farthing asked if there were any questions; there were none. She noted this was an informational item; no approval or vote was needed.

## L. Personnel Update

Dr. Sprinkle referred to the attached Personnel Update as of October 22, 2025, which included the following information:

### New Hires

#### *Full-time:*

- Matthew Maynard was hired as Systems Engineer in the Information Technology Department effective October 25, 2025.

#### *Part-time:*

- Candeda Crockett was hired as Wellspring Foundation Grant Middle School Coach in the One Stop effective September 26, 2025.

#### *Promotions:*

- No full-time or part-time promotions.

### Separations:

#### *Full-time:*

- Kirsten Waller separated effective September 30, 2025, as Housekeeper at the Crossroads Institute.
- Carissa Sexton separated effective August 14, 2025, as an Academic Advisor in the One Stop.

#### *Part-time:*

- No part-time promotions.

### Recruitment Update:

#### *Status of open positions at WCC:*

- Dean of Transfer Programs - Position was readvertised and an interview committee has been appointed.
- Pell Boost Financial Aid Liaison - Position will be readvertised.
- Coordinator of Student Support Services - A screening committee has been appointed. Initial interviews have been scheduled.
- Academic Advisor - A screening committee has been appointed.

Mrs. Farthing asked if there were any questions; there were none. She noted this was an informational item; no approval or vote was needed.

## M. College Announcements & Events Report

Dr. Sprinkle referred to the attachment which listed recent and upcoming events. He reported that we recently received information about an item after the report was prepared that he wanted to share. Mr. Kevin Matheson has scheduled a Wytheville Concert Series Sibelius Violin Concert on Saturday, February 7, 2026, at WCC in Snyder Auditorium. Dr. Sprinkle noted that the Matheson brothers present concerts with phenomenal music that are also educational by including historical information regarding the music and composers.

Dr. Sprinkle mentioned the following recent events:

- WCC Recruitment Day was held on September 19, at the Wytheville Meeting Center and on WCC's Wytheville campus. There were 459 high school seniors from the WCC service region in attendance.
- The WCC Bluegrass and Old-Time Jamboree was held on October 18, 2025, in Snyder Auditorium, Grayson Hall, Wytheville campus. Bands featured the Bluegrass Kinsmen and Common Threads. The WCC Bluegrass and Old-Time Jamboree is held the third Saturday of each month from August through May. Additional dates are listed in the "Upcoming events" section.
- WCC Community Halloween Celebration was held on October 23, 2025, from 5-7 p.m. at WCC's Wytheville campus. There were 657 children in attendance.
- WCC Retiree Luncheon was held on October 24, 2025, in Galax Hall on WCC's Wytheville campus. Over 50 WCC retirees attended.
- WCC Theatre Fall Performances of *Almost, Maine* by John Cariani were held on October 31, November 1, 7, and 8, 2025, at 7 p.m., in Snyder Auditorium, Grayson Hall, Wytheville campus. *Almost, Maine* was presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc. New York.

Dr. Sprinkle encouraged Board members to attend any of the upcoming events listed that appeal to them.

Mrs. Farthing asked if there were any questions; there were none. She noted this was an informational item; no approval or vote was needed.

## 4. Instruction & Student Development Report

### A. Curriculum Update & Approval of Discontinued Curricula

Dr. Phelan referred to the attached memo and noted it provided a summary of several informational items and approval items. She reported that all changes and

discontinuances had been approved by the WCC Curriculum Committee and would be effective for the 2026-2027 college catalog.

Dr. Phelan reviewed the following discontinuances:

- AS, Social Science, Major in Communications – Justification: Low enrollment and low graduation rates. In 2025, there was one graduate. Students can still complete all the requirements in General Studies and transfer into a communication program at university.
- Diploma, Carpentry – Justification: Low enrollment and low graduation rates. Students are choosing to pursue the AAS Technical Studies degree.
- Diploma, Electrical – Justification: Low enrollment and low graduation rates. Students are choosing to pursue the AAS Technical Studies degree.
- Diploma, HVAC – Justification: Low enrollment and low graduation rates. Students are choosing to pursue the AAS Technical Studies degree.
- Diploma, Plumbing – Justification: Low enrollment and low graduation rates. Students are choosing to pursue the AAS Technical Studies degree.
- Career Studies Certificate, Cosmetology – Justification: Program has been inactive since 2013, per VCCS. Approval of discontinuance will provide necessary documentation to formally close the program at VCCS and SCHEV
- Certificate, Industrial Maintenance – Justification: Program does not meet SCHEV program viability standards, with no FTEs or graduates for the past three years. Noted as “inactive” at VCCS.
- Certificate, Total Production Manufacturing – Justification: Program does not meet SCHEV program viability standards, with no FTEs or graduates for the past three years. Noted as “inactive” at VCCS.

Mr. Reeves questioned if WCC would lose students due to the discontinuances. Dr. Phelan explained that WCC will teach out any remaining students in those programs.

Mr. Jett wanted to confirm that the Carpentry, Electrical, HVAC, and Plumbing only applied to the diplomas and that WCC would continue to offer degrees in those programs. Dr. Phelan confirmed that is correct. Mr. Hughes explained that those diploma programs are longer than most diploma programs and that students are choosing to take the associate degree in those programs. Mr. Hughes noted that the Certificates in Industrial Maintenance and Total Production Manufacturing were specific to training that was offered for Gatorade many years ago when the facility was built. He explained that those are no longer used.

Mr. Reeves moved to approve. Mrs. Dix seconded; the motion carried.

## B. Instruction Update

Dr. Phelan reported the following items:

- WCC's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), WCC C.A.R.E.S, focuses on improvements in student advising. This Fall we are piloting an enhanced advising model in the English 111 College Composition classes, which will continue during the Spring semester. The intent is to create awareness of student and academic support resources, targeted communication with students at various points in the semester, and additional assistance for struggling students.
- Regarding accessibility compliance, faculty and staff were provided professional development by VCCS staff today on strategies for accessibility compliance in response to a federal government mandate that all digital content be made accessible by April 2026.
- On November 21, our 2025 cohort of Wytheville-Wythe-Bland Healthcare Excellence students will graduate. There are 28 students. The Twin County Healthcare Excellence cohort will commence in January 2026, with 28 seats available for students from Carroll, Grayson, and Galax City.
- Virtual reality technology for Health Professions has been fully integrated into both Nursing programs. Ways to utilize this technology are being evaluated for all programs.
- There is a state mandate that all Virginia community colleges utilize a common curriculum for the Practical Nursing program. VCCS has organized a workgroup for the PN changes and Jackie Evans is our representative for this workgroup.

Mrs. Farthing asked if there were any questions; there were none. She noted this was an informational item; no approval or vote was needed.

## C. Student Development Update

Dr. Phelan reported the following items:

- WCC has had an increase of 9.46% in dual enrollment (DE) FTE and on average, each DE student is taking 7.96 credits (8th in VCCS)
- Three professional development days for DE instructors will take place this month, November 7 at WCC's Wytheville campus, November 14 at Crossroads, and November 21 at WCC's Wytheville campus. Annual professional development is a requirement for accreditation.
- Counselors and administrators are invited to campus for a full day of professional development on Tuesday, November 18. Programs and divisions will present

updates, while attendees will receive tours. There will be 18 in attendance representing all eight school divisions in WCC's service region.

Mrs. Farthing asked if there were any questions; there were none. She noted this was an informational item; no approval or vote was needed.

## 5. Workforce Development & Occupational Programs Update

### A. Workforce Development Update

Mr. Hughes reported that Workforce had a great Fall semester in Fast Forward trainings. However, as of Monday, November 10, we had encumbered 89.9% of our allocation. We are still working to find funds to run several trainings this Spring, and we are also hoping that new funds will become available to help us be funded at the level needed for 2026-27.

Mr. Hughes was pleased to report that our programs are being successful. Using VEC data from the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2020 to the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2025, our logistics and transportations completers are seeing a 111% wage increase pre-entry to post-training. We also are seeing a 143% wage increase in our welding, skill trades, and manufacturing training programs over the same period of time.

Mr. Hughes reported Workforce has a lot of customized week-long Commercial Driver's License (CDL) training courses coming up over the next month or so for localities and businesses.

### B. Occupational Programs Update

Mr. Hughes reported that the Carpentry and HVAC programs took on two community projects to repair an HVAC system and egress steps for a resident in our service area closely related to the College. He reported that the Plumbing program is continuing to build and install trainers in the plumbing laboratory.

### C. Economic Development Update

Mr. Hughes reported WCC has been part of two economic visits to the region since our last meeting. We feel we have presented a strong overview of our ability to train the workforce needed, and we are hopeful we will continue to see increased interest in our area.

## D. External Off-Site Facilities Update

Mr. Hughes reported the concrete pad at Crossroads is complete and we anticipate the arrival of the 50' by 120' metal building in late November/early December. We hope the building will be dried in by early January.

Mrs. Farthing asked what the building is for. Mr. Hughes explained that a portion of the building will be used to house the fire truck that was donated for the new fire fighter program, another portion will be for the Off-Road Diesel program to service vehicles, and the space they vacate in the Crossroads building will be for the Carpentry program. He noted that WCC's HVAC and Electrical program students will do the electrical and HVAC for the building. Mr. Hughes reported that WCC will lease the building from the WCC Real Estate Foundation. He also noted that the donation of the fire truck was contingent on having a building to store it because fire trucks do not have locks and the equipment stored in the fire truck would be at risk of being stolen.

Mr. Hughes noted the Christmas at Crossroads event is scheduled for December 11, from 5:00-7:30 p.m. It will include food trucks, entertainment, games for children, and a Christmas tree decorating contest among tenants and programs at Crossroads. The facility is already being decorated, and we are looking forward to a wonderful evening to usher in the Christmas season. He encouraged Board members to attend if they are able, and if not, to stop by and see the decorations.

Mrs. Farthing asked if there were any questions; there were none. She noted the Workforce Development and Occupational Programs Updates were informational items; no approval or vote was needed.

## 6. Institutional Advancement Update

### A. Institutional Advancement Update

Ms. Bradberry reported the following:

#### Fundraising

The Wytheville Community College Educational Foundation has received a total of \$263,914.90 in gifts since June 30, 2025. Year-to-date donations since December 31, 2024, totaling \$1,592,037.76.

WCC received the requested support from the Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission in the amount of \$240,000 to continue WCC Forging Futures Scholarship Program. The grant was approved by vote at the Tobacco Commission's May meeting.

## Scholarships

The WCC Educational Foundation awarded over 550 scholarships for Fall Semester 2025. These include:

- Private: 359 scholarships, totaling \$196,746.49
- Forging Futures (funded by the Virginia Tobacco Commission): 59 scholarships totaling \$82,981.80
- Wythe-Bland Foundation: 64 scholarships totaling \$120,093.09
- Twin County Community Foundation: 52 scholarships totaling \$103,184.49
- Smyth County Promise: 19/\$33,670.00

Total Awards: \$536,675.87

## Other Assistance

The WCC Educational Foundation continues to provide emergency assistance to students who qualify. We received funds in the amount of \$5,000 from the Virginia Foundation for Community College Education Student Success and Emergency Funds for FY2026. These funds may support students with cost-of-attendance expenses not covered by traditional financial aid, such as transportation, childcare, medical expenses, basic needs, and unforeseen barriers to college completion.

Funds have previously been used to support students with the following:

- Grocery gift cards/food assistance
- Transportation/car repair
- Gas cards
- Rental and Utility assistance

## Events

The Dr. Thomas Barnes Student Veteran and First Responders Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament was held on October 10, 2025. We had the most teams and sponsorships to date. Thank you to those who sponsored teams or made donations for this event. The scholarship is given yearly to students who are Veterans or First Responders or to those studying to be a First Responder.

## Public Relations

If you have not seen the Alumni Videos from the Public Information Office, I hope that you will look at those as they appear on social media. The promotional videos are designed to recruit students, including returning students, by showcasing our local community and business leaders who attended WCC. If you are not a social media person, feel free to

reach out to me, and I will send you some of the files, or come by my office, and I will show them to you. They are one-minute videos showcasing healthcare programs, criminal justice, education, technical trades, and other programs are in the works. The most recent video highlights Dr. Paige Akers who attended WCC and who is now a practicing dentist in Bland County.

Mrs. Farthing asked if there were any questions; there were none. She noted this was an informational item; no approval or vote was needed.

## 7. Finance & Budget Update

### A. Approval of Local Funds Financial Statements

Mr. Dickens referred to the attachment and reported it includes summary and detailed information for non-Commonwealth funds for fiscal year (FY) 2026. He noted the following information:

- In the Local Accounts Summary and Budget Expenditure Statements FY 2026 document on attachment 1 you can see that WCC's local fund depositories had a balance of \$4,289,759.17 as of October 27, 2025. This includes the local Truist account totaling \$1,434,788.03, one certificate of deposit (CD) with First Sentinel Bank in the amount of \$228,039.80, and \$2,626,931.34 invested in the Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP).
- Attachment 2 shows the FY 2026 Locality Contributions. All localities have been billed for their FY 2026 balances. Some localities have paid the amount in full. One locality submits monthly payments, and one pays quarterly.
- Attachment 3 details available funds for our student activity and student club accounts.
- Attachment 4 provides a summary of the Local Board Budget as of October 27, 2025. The expenditures total \$27,207.56. That leaves a balance of \$126,462.44. Detailed statements can be found on Attachment 5 which gives specific information on each expenditure in each category.

Mr. Cline moved to approve. Mr. Reeves seconded; the motion carried.

### B. Approval of the FY2027 Local Funds Budget

Mr. Dickens referred to the attached memo and the proposed FY2027 Local Funds Budget Request. He reported that expenditure categories have been organized to align with historical expenditures. The total budget request of \$153,670 is unchanged from last year.

Mr. Jett moved to approve. Mr. Reeves seconded; the motion carried.

### C. Approval of Locality Allocation for the Local Budget Requests for FY2027

Mr. Dickens referred to the attached Proposed Locality Allocation for the FY2027 Local Funds Budget. He explained that there is a formula that calculates the amount of the total budget that is allocated to each of WCC's localities. Mr. Dickens noted the cumulative total budget is unchanged from last year.

Mr. Cline moved to approve. Mr. Robinson seconded; the motion carried.

### D. Approval of Debt Write-Off

Mr. Dickens referred to the attachment and reported that to remain in compliance with policies and procedures set forth by Virginia Department of Accounts (DOA) and the VCCS, all accounts receivable that remain uncollected after a 12-month period must be written off the College's Quarterly Receivable Report. WCC has a semester of outstanding financial aid return of funds charges which must be written off. The write-off requests include:

- Fall 2024, \$10,173.73 Return of Funds
- Fall 2024, \$1,319.14 Bookstore Charges
- Total Request \$11,492.87

Mrs Farthing asked what return of funds was. Mr. Dickens explained that financial aid funds are returned to the Department of Education when a student withdraws or fails, and WCC bills students for those funds when that occur. He noted that WCC will continue collection efforts after the write-off.

Mr. Robinson moved to approve. Mr. Jett seconded; the motion carried.

### E. Audit and Compliance Update

Mr. Dickens referred to the attachment and reported there is a link included in the memo to the full Report on Statewide Compliance issued by the Virginia Department of Accounts (DOA) for the 4th quarter of 2025. The only reference of WCC in the document is to share that the college's review report was completed for the year ended June 30, 2024, and that report did not contain management recommendations. He noted that this review report was conducted for the SACSCOC Reaffirmation.

Mrs. Farthing asked if there were any questions; there were none. She noted this was an informational item; no approval or vote was needed.

## F. State Operating Budget Update

Mr. Dickens referred to the attachment and reported WCC's FY2026 Operating Budget is \$19,800,221. As of the end of October WCC had expended \$6,212,123 and we are on track with our budget plans.

The next big item we are looking at is the release of the Governor's 26-28 biennium budget proposal which should happen in mid-December. The VCCS's legislative priority is seeking additional FastForward dollars to address the growth of those programs.

Mrs. Farthing asked if there were any questions; there were none. She noted this was an informational item; no approval or vote was needed.

## G. Capital Projects and Facilities Update

Mr. Dickens referred to the attachment and highlighted the following items:

- Smyth Hall Parking Lot: We had our parking lot pre-construction meeting yesterday. That project is expected to kick off December 15th. He explained that the funding source for this project is the Parking Auxiliary fund which includes revenue from student parking fees and local funds allocated from the local budget. Mr. Dickens noted that electrical charging stations and electrical connections for food trucks are included in the project. He noted that as requested by students, WCC has been bringing food trucks on campus and having electrical connections will be beneficial. Mr. Dickens reported that the project timeline is six months and that the electrical poles will be WCC's instead of AEP's.
- Student Services 1Stop Center: This project is moving along as expected and is anticipated to be wrapped up in February. We have put in an order for furniture.
- Learning Resource Center: We are awaiting to put this out to align with the completion of the 1Stop, moving everyone out of the current 1Stop, and getting everything out of Bland.
- President's Conference Room: We are just awaiting the top to go on some cabinetry and blinds in the PCR. It should be wrapped up soon.
- Campus Wide Handrail Project: Completed
- Facility Master Plan Update: Should be kicking this off soon and we will be seeking input from all stakeholders including Board members, so be on the lookout for a request for input.

Mrs. Farthing asked if there were any questions; there were none. She noted this was an informational item; no approval or vote was needed.

## 8. Closing

### A. Report from Board Members

Mr. Jett reported that a couple of people that had planned to attend Radford University found themselves in a situation where they would not be able to attend. Mr. Jett contacted Dr. Sprinkle, and those people ended up enrolling at WCC. Mr. Jett expressed appreciation to Dr. Sprinkle and the staff at WCC for assisting them.

Mr. Cline commented that it is impressive that a fire truck has been donated to WCC. He noted that fire trucks are extremely expensive, and it is good to see that WCC has that level of community support. Mr. Hughes noted that WCC participates in Christmas parades in each locality by driving WCC equipment like truck driver training trucks and other equipment to show community involvement.

Nothing to report from Board members Mr. Reeves, Mrs. Billings, Mrs. Dix, and Mr. Robinson.

Dr. Sprinkle reported that WCC recently received notification from the Aspen Institute that we were included in the top 200 community colleges in the United States and are eligible to apply for the 2027 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, which is a \$1 million prize. He explained that Aspen offers this award every 2 years and that WCC was included in the list in 2023 but did not apply due to the preparations for the SACSCOC reaccreditation; WCC will apply this time. Dr. Sprinkle noted that 11 of Virginia's 23 Community Colleges were included in that list, which is the highest percentage of any state and reflects the commitment of VCCS colleges to offer high quality educational opportunities.

Dr. Sprinkle reiterated that we do want input from all stakeholders including Board members during the Facility Master Plan process. He noted that many of the projects in the last plan are now coming to fruition.

### B. Next Meeting

Mrs. Farthing noted the next regular meeting of the WCC Board will be Thursday, March 12, 2026, at 6 p.m. This meeting will be held at WCC's Wytheville campus in the newly renovated and expanded President's Conference Room in Bland Hall.

### C. Adjournment

Mr. Robinson moved to adjourn. Mr. Cline seconded; the motion carried. Mrs. Farthing thanked everyone for attending. The meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Dr. Dean E. Sprinkle, WCC Board Secretary

**Wytheville Community College  
Resolution**

**Whereas** William H. Reeves has served faithfully and with constant dedication as a member of the Wytheville Community College faculty from the sixteenth day of August, two thousand eight through the thirtieth day of September two thousand twenty-five; and

**Whereas** he was an integral part of beginning the WCC Truck Driver's Program in two thousand eight and since that time held the position of Coordinator of Commercial Driver's License for six years, prior to that as Nine-Month Teaching Faculty Assistant Professor of Truck Driver's Program for eight years, and Instructor for three years; and

**Whereas** his knowledge of regulations and requirements enabled numerous students to successfully complete the WCC Truck Driver Training Program and attain their Commercial Driver's License; and

**Whereas** he has given generously of himself to truck driver students through his roles as teacher, advisor, and friend, and he was recognized in two thousand eleven with the Twin County Chamber of Commerce Educator Recognition Award; and

**Whereas** he promoted WCC and the Truck Driver Program by participating in Christmas parades in communities throughout WCC's service region, as well as participating in the American Cancer Society's Truckers Parade Against Cancer, and was the recipient of the American Cancer Society Walking Stick Award; and

**Whereas** he actively participated in many aspects of the life of the college through service on key standing and advisory committees, including the Campus Beautification and Environmental Sustainability Committee; Enrollment, Marketing, and Retention Committee; Safety and Security Committee; and Truck Driver Training Advisory Committee; and

**Whereas** he has been a member of the college family for seventeen years and his dedicated presence and supportive manner will be greatly missed by his students, colleagues, and administrators alike.

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** by the Board of Wytheville Community College in regular session on this thirteenth day of November, two thousand twenty-five, that a sincere expression of appreciation be extended to William H. Reeves for his lasting influence on the college.

**Be it further resolved** that this resolution be incorporated into the official minutes of the Board, and that a copy be given to William H. Reeves as a token of the esteem of the members of the Board.