GCCC Board of Trustees
Date: May 19, 2026
Location: Omar D. Angeles Endowment Room
Chair: Shanda Smith
Recorder: Jodie Tewell

Attendance:

Trustees Present:
Shanda Smith, Chair
David Rupp, Vice Chair
Dr. Merilyn Douglass, Trustee, via Teams
Bob Larson, Trustee
Jean Clifford, Trustee
Reynaldo Mesa, Trustee

Others Present:

Dr. Ryan Ruda, President
Karla Armstrong, Vice President for Administrative Services/CFO
Colin Lamb, Vice President for Student Services and Athletics
Jodie Tewell, Executive Assistant to the President
Oscar Rivera, Computer Support Specialist
Chuck Pfiefer, Dean of Technical Education and Workforce Development
Layla Martinez, Education Associate Professor
Carole Corley, Community Member
Meghan Flynn, Garden City Telegram

Key Actions and Motions

- Executive Session 1: Personnel
  Motion: David Rupp | Second: Bob Larson | Vote: 6-0

- Executive Session 2: Personnel
  Motion: David Rupp | Second: Reynaldo Mesa | Vote: 6-0

- Consent Agenda: Approve Items A, B, and C.
  Motion: David Rupp | Second: Bob Larson | Vote: 6-0

- Approval of Item D. Approval of President's Contract
  Motion: Reynaldo Mesa | Second: Merilyn Douglass | Vote: 6-0

- Monitoring Reports: Executive Limitations, Treatment of People
  Consensus to accept the report.

- Review of Monitoring Reports: General Executive Constraints #10
  Approved policy as is.

Highlights & Reports

Vice Chair Comments: Congratulated the GCCC Endowment Association Molz Cooperative Scholarship recipients.

SGA Report: No Report

New Employees: No introductions

Faculty Senate: No Report

Five-Year Program Review: Education, Layla Martinez
Education: 1 full-time, 2 adjuncts; EC courses scheduled; enrollment growing.
Programs: Apprenticeship active; Elementary transfer degree; ECHD A.A.S. (Fall 2026).
Outreach/Next Steps: Evening fairs, new promos, SLO review pending.
Initiatives: Proposed substitute workshop; scholarships funded with plans to expand via a donation shop.

Open Comments: Carole Corley, Community Member

Consent agenda:

Item D: Approval of President's Contract

Salary Adjustment: Board approved a salary increase for Dr. Ruda after no adjustment last year.

Rationale: Based on performance, state and national recognition, leadership in achieving top employer status, and alignment with Kansas community college market rates.

Amount: New salary set at $253,000.

Monitoring Reports:

A.1 Executive Limitations: Treatment of People

- Report Review: Two incidents were identified and resolved, confirming effective processes.

- Feedback: Continue current practices; administration commended for online community feedback tools.

Review of Monitoring Reports

B-1. General Executive Constraints #10

No changes recommended; report is comprehensive—policy to remain as is.

President's Report

Report: Dr. Ruda shared 2026 Commencement statistics and updates on Dual Credit students. Acknowledgment: Expressed appreciation for the Board's leadership and the contributions of all employees.

FCEDC: No Report

KACC: Quarterly meeting in June. Heather and the presidents are working on language for next year's legislative session.

Ownership Linkage

No reports.

Adjournment

Time: 7:22 pm

Approval Signatures:

Jodie Tewell, Deputy Clerk: Jodie Tewell ____________________

Dr. Ryan Ruda, President: Dr. Ryan J. Ruda ____________________

Mrs. Shanda Smith, Chairman of the Board: Shanda Smith ______