COCONINO COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD

WORK SESSION

NOVEMBER 18, 2026

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MINUTES OF A WORK SESSION
OF THE
DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD
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A Work Session of the Coconino Community College District Governing Board was held in person and via Zoom at Coconino Community College, 2800 S. Lone Tree Rd., Flagstaff, AZ 86005. Board Chair, Mr. Joey Smith, called the meeting to order at 4:04 pm.

PRESENT: Mr. Joey Smith, Chair
Mr. Eric Eikenberry, Trustee
Ms. Patricia Garcia, Trustee
Dr. Nat White, Trustee

ABSENT: Mr. Patrick Hurley, Vice Chair

Also Present: President Eric Heiser (Zoom), Ms. Kirsten Mead, Dr. Adriana Flores-Church, Mr. Shane Pablo, Ms. Dianna Sanchez, Ms. Janel States, Dr. Sandra Tarbell, Dr. Jami Van Ess, Mr. Tony Williams, Ms. Cathleen Banier-Goff, Dr. Nolan Begaye, Mr. Keith Becker, Mr. Ryan Bowhuis, Dr. Mark Hartley, Ms. Jennifer Jameson, Ms. Kay Leum (Zoom), Dr. Mark Maciha, Ms. Sonni Marbury, Mr. Kurt Stull, Mr. Van Walker, and Dr. Amelinda Webb.

The November 18, 2026 documents file contains reports, summaries, background materials, and other documents referenced in these minutes.

1. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Accreditation Update – Dr. Tarbell

Dr. Tarbell reviewed the findings of the 2026 HLC Assurance Review, noting that 17 of 18 Core Components were rated "Met," with one rated "Met with Concerns" related to the assessment of student learning. The peer review team recognized the College's progress in governance, institutional planning, student support, and assessment improvements but identified the need for greater consistency in assessment practices, documentation, and evidence of improved student learning. The team recommended continued accreditation with monitoring and submission of an interim assessment report by July 30, 2029.

Dr. Tarbell outlined ongoing efforts to standardize assessment reporting across academic disciplines, clarify responsibilities, and strengthen collaboration between faculty and Institutional Research. An HLC SharePoint site provides access to reports, timelines, and supporting documentation. The discussion emphasized institution-wide

accountability and continuous assessment rather than preparing solely for accreditation reviews.

B. Budget Assumptions – Dr. Van Ess

Dr. Van Ess presented preliminary fiscal year 2028 general fund budget assumptions, reviewing economic indicators, property taxes, state funding, enrollment trends, tuition and fees, investment earnings, and projected expenditures. Initial assumptions included a 3.4% Higher Education Price Index (HEPI) increase, approximately 3% growth in primary property tax revenue, a $4 per-credit tuition increase, a 3.4% salary adjustment, and a 5% increase in benefit costs. Dr. Van Ess emphasized that these assumptions are preliminary and will be refined as additional financial and enrollment data become available.

The Board discussed the College's funding limitations, enrollment trends, tuition rates, and the impact of declining state support. Dr. Van Ess also outlined plans to transfer course fee revenues and related expenditures from the general fund to the auxiliary fund to improve departmental oversight and tracking of instructional expenses.

Dr. Van Ess reviewed the College's informed budget process, emphasizing alignment with Board goals, divisional prioritization, and a focus on one-time funding requests due to budget constraints. The budget development timeline includes Board consideration of tuition, fees, and compensation in February, presentation of a preliminary budget in April, and the budget hearing and adoption in May 2027.

C. Construction Updates – President Heiser

Chair Smith announced that the construction updates originally scheduled for the Work Session would instead be provided by President Heiser during his report at the regular meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: The Work Session adjourned at 5:16 pm.

DRAFT

MINUTES PREPARED BY:

Ms. Cathleen Banier-Goff
Board Recorder

ATTEST and APPROVED:

Mr. Patrick Hurley
Vice Chair/Secretary of the Board

Mr. Joey Smith
Board Chair

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