

Meeting Minutes of the  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**



**SOUTHERN STATE**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

JANUARY 22, 2026 MEETING

The Southern State Community College Board of Trustees met on Thursday, January 22, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. in the Community Room at the Brown County Campus, located at 351 Brooks-Malott Road in Mt. Orab, Ohio.

At 5:01 p.m., Chair Cummings called the meeting to order. Roll Call was as follows:

**Present:**

Trustee Randy Chandler  
Trustee Rachel Cummings, Chair  
Trustee Karen Daniels  
Trustee Denny Kirk  
Trustee Dennis Milstead, Vice Chair  
Trustee Jeff Newman

**Absent:**

Trustee Doug Boedeker  
Trustee Brian Prickett

26.00

**Consideration of Agenda**

Trustee Kirk moved, and Trustee Daniels seconded that the January 22, 2026, meeting agenda be approved. Roll Call Vote was as follows:

**Yes, approval of January 22 agenda:**

Trustee Randy Chandler  
Trustee Karen Daniels  
Trustee Denny Kirk  
Trustee Dennis Milstead, Vice Chair  
Trustee Jeff Newman  
Trustee Rachel Cummings, Chair

26.01

### Consideration of Nomination of Chair and Vice Chair

At the November 20 meeting, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, Trustee Prickett recommended that Trustee Rachel Cummings be appointed to continue as Chair and Trustee Karen Daniels be appointed as Vice Chair, both for a term of two years. Trustee Milstead made a motion to approve that recommendation, and Trustee Chandler seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote was as follows:

**Yes, approval of Rachel Cummings as Chair and Karen Daniels as Vice Chair:**

Trustee Karen Daniels  
Trustee Denny Kirk  
Trustee Dennis Milstead, Vice Chair  
Trustee Jeff Newman  
Trustee Randy Chandler  
Trustee Rachel Cummings, Chair

26.02

### Consideration of Minutes

Trustee Kirk moved, and Trustee Milstead seconded that the Board accept the November 20 meeting minutes. Roll Call Vote was as follows:

**Yes, approval of November 20 minutes:**

Trustee Denny Kirk  
Trustee Dennis Milstead  
Trustee Jeff Newman  
Trustee Randy Chandler  
Trustee Karen Daniels, Vice Chair  
Trustee Rachel Cummings, Chair

26.03

Trustee Boedeker arrived at 5:05 p.m.

### Monitoring Confirmation

#### President's Report

President Roades welcomed the Board to the Brown County Campus and extended a special message of thanks, as it was discovered that January is Board Appreciation Month. She expressed her gratitude to Dr. Erika Goodwin and her efforts during opening week, particularly as it related to the HLC information provided, and preparation through mock open sessions,

which were well attended with active engagement. The Board was encouraged to mark their calendars for April 13-14, with further participation details to come soon.

President Roades congratulated the Nursing department and students, sharing that the Registered Nursing students completed the HESI pharmacology exam in early January, scoring nearly 100 points above the national average as a cohort. In addition, the Practical Nursing cohort that graduated in December is at a 100% pass rate for their licensure exam for those who have completed the exam.

She concluded her remarks by suggesting the coordination of a “listening tour” in the coming months, inviting Board members to recommend community members for casual conversations to gather ideas, feedback, or listen to concerns about the College.

26.04

### Financial Reports

From the December 31 financial report, Dr. Steven Hinshaw shared about the completed annual audit, receiving the best outcome, with no reportable items and no management letter. He noted that both the SB6 and CFI scores remained strong, well above the minimum thresholds. He also explained details of the SSI true-up and SSI technical-aligned degrees earmark, as well as a 2% increase in overall Spring enrollment at the current time.

26.05

Trustee Daniels moved, and Trustee Boedeker seconded to approve the January President’s Report and the October 31, November 30, and December 31 financial reports. Roll Call Vote was as follows:

**Yes, approval of Reports:**

Trustee Dennis Milstead

Trustee Jeff Newman

Trustee Doug Boedeker

Trustee Randy Chandler

Trustee Karen Daniels, Vice Chair

Trustee Denny Kirk

Trustee Rachel Cummings, Chair

26.06

### Consideration of the President's Annual Evaluation

Chair Cummings shared that she and Vice Chair Milstead met in December with President Roades to review and discuss her annual evaluation packet. They recommended a satisfactory rating, highlighting that the data reflects growth and forward momentum with the new strategic plan. Trustee Kirk moved, and Trustee Chandler seconded to approve the satisfactory approval of President Roades' annual evaluation. Roll Call Vote was as follows:

**Yes, approval of satisfactory annual evaluation:**

Trustee Jeff Newman  
Trustee Doug Boedeker  
Trustee Randy Chandler  
Trustee Karen Daniels, Vice Chair  
Trustee Denny Kirk  
Trustee Dennis Milstead  
Trustee Rachel Cummings, Chair 26.07

Trustee Prickett arrived at 5:27 p.m.

### Consideration of 2026 – 2030 Strategic Plan

President Roades expressed excitement with the introduction of the strategic plan for 2026 – 2030. In her presentation, she provided a recap of the process and timeline with Bellwether. She shared her gratitude for the response rate among stakeholders and community partners, as well as provided an overview of the mission, vision, economic and educational needs, pillars and priorities of the plan, and the monetary investment over a three-year period.

After questions were addressed about the daily work load, and positive comments about the organization, ownership, and expectations of the goals, Trustee Milstead moved, and Trustee Chandler seconded to approve the 2026 - 2030 strategic plan. Roll Call Vote was as follows:

**Yes, approval of 2026 – 2023 strategic plan:**

Trustee Brian Prickett  
Trustee Doug Boedeker  
Trustee Randy Chandler  
Trustee Karen Daniels, Vice Chair  
Trustee Denny Kirk  
Trustee Dennis Milstead  
Trustee Jeff Newman  
Trustee Rachel Cummings, Chair 26.08

### Consideration of Appendix Addition to the Policy and Information Manual

After a brief explanation, Trustee Boedeker moved, and Trustee Prickett seconded to approve adding five faculty policies as an Appendix to the Policy and Information Manual. These policies were approved at the November 20 meeting. Roll Call Vote was as follows:

**Yes, approval of appendix addition:**

Trustee Doug Boedeker

Trustee Randy Chandler

Trustee Karen Daniels, Vice Chair

Trustee Denny Kirk

Trustee Dennis Milstead

Trustee Jeff Newman

Trustee Brian Prickett

Trustee Rachel Cummings, Chair

26.09

### Consideration of Resolution re: Construction Agreement for the Technology Innovation Center

Brian Rice provided an overview of the construction agreement for the Technology Innovation Center, the bidding process, interior renderings from the architect, and a project timeline. Trustee Newman moved, and Trustee Milstead seconded to approve the following resolution regarding the construction agreement for the Technology Innovation Center:

**SOUTHERN STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
January 22, 2026**

**Resolution to approve the Construction Agreement entered into between Southern State Community College and Construction Firm Perkins Carmack Construction LLC.**

WHEREAS, Southern State Community College wishes to enhance and improve the College's services by renovating the computer science location to create the Technology Innovation Center at the Central Campus in Highland County; and

WHEREAS, in February 2025, Southern State Community College selected Baxter Hodell Donnelly Preston, Inc. (dba BHDP Architecture) as the Architect/Engineer to perform and provide all of the necessary design and construction services; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission is the Contracting Authority for the purposes of the construction project; and

WHEREAS, the renovation of the computer science location to create the Technology Innovation Center will utilize the General Contracting project delivery method; and

WHEREAS, state capital will be used to fund this renovation project and will be released through the state Controlling Board

WHEREAS, the total amount of compensation for the Construction Firm's Services is \$1,300,000.00: now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Southern State Community College Board of Trustees hereby approves the Construction Agreement entered into between Southern State Community College and Perkins Carmack Construction LLC.

Roll Call Vote was as follows:

**Yes, approval of the construction agreement resolution:**

Trustee Randy Chandler

Trustee Karen Daniels, Vice Chair

Trustee Denny Kirk

Trustee Dennis Milstead

Trustee Jeff Newman

Trustee Brian Prickett

Trustee Doug Boedeker

Trustee Rachel Cummings, Chair

26.10

**Consideration of the Board's Audit Committee**

President Roades shared with the Board that the pre-audit and post-audit meetings are no longer required for our annual audit, according to Dr. Hinshaw. She recommended that the Board discontinue its audit committee. Trustee Prickett moved, and Trustee Milstead seconded to approve that the Board's audit committee be discontinued. Roll Call Vote was as follows:

**Yes, approval to discontinue the audit committee:**

Trustee Karen Daniels, Vice Chair

Trustee Denny Kirk

Trustee Dennis Milstead

Trustee Jeff Newman

Trustee Brian Prickett

Trustee Doug Boedeker

Trustee Randy Chandler

Trustee Rachel Cummings, Chair

26.11

### Executive Session

At 5:53 p.m., Trustee Milstead moved that the Board enter into an executive session for the purpose of discussing employment, dismissal, discipline, or demotion of a public employee. Trustee Kirk seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote was as follows:

**Yes, approval of moving into executive session:**

Trustee Denny Kirk

Trustee Dennis Milstead

Trustee Jeff Newman

Trustee Brian Prickett

Trustee Doug Boedeker

Trustee Randy Chandler

Trustee Karen Daniels, Vice Chair

Trustee Rachel Cummings, Chair

26.12

At 5:59 p.m., Trustee Prickett moved, and Trustee Daniels seconded that the Board come out of executive session and enter into regular session.

26.13

### Adjournment

At 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 22, 2026, Trustee Prickett moved, and Trustee Milstead seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

26.14

NOTE: Copies and/or originals of all documents referenced throughout the minutes are on file (BOARD OF TRUSTEES / January 22, 2026) in the President's office unless otherwise noted.



President



Chairman



Secretary