Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Montgomery Community College (Capel Hall)

1011 Page St.

Troy, NC 27371

1. Call to Order - Gordon Knowles, Chair

The regular meeting of the Montgomery Community College Board of Trustees took place on Wednesday, November 12, 2025, in the Claudia Blair Bulthuis Boardroom.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Mr. Gordon Knowles, Chair.

Board Members Present:

Gordon Knowles, Chair; Tim McAuley, Secretary; Claudia Bulthuis, Brooke Cranford, Dr. Katie Dunlap, Kerry Hensley, Craig Jones, Dr. Philip Jones, Dr. Robert Nelson, Ricky Merida Nieves, SGA President; and Mike Mills via Teams

Board Members Absent:

Robert Harris, Vice-Chair; and Dr. Tawanda Matthews

Guests Present:

Dr. Chad Bledsoe, President; Jeanette McBride, Sr. Vice-President of Administrative Services/CFO; Dr. Natalie Winfree, Vice-President of Instruction and Student Services; Hunter Smith, Dean of Institutional Effectiveness and Advancement; Korrie Ervie, Special Projects Coordinator/Grants Writer; Josh Thaxton, Systems Technician; Dr. Amy Frieary, Dean of Health and Human Services; Nancy Ruppert, Beekeeper; Lisa Lewis, Administrative Support Specialist; Jamie Garner, Dental Instructor; and Rene Perryman, Executive Assistant to the President/Recording Secretary to the Board of Trustees

2. Welcome and Announcements - Mr. Knowles

2.1 Welcome and Introduction of Guests

Mr. Knowles welcomed all in attendance and called upon Dr. Bledsoe to introduce guests.

Dr. Bledsoe introduced new employees, Lisa Lewis, Administrative Support Specialist; Jamie Garner, Dental Assisting Instructor; Nancy Ruppert, Beekeeper; and Dr. Amy Frieary, Dean of Health and Human Services.

2.2 Nancy Ruppert - Queen Bee Rearing Grant/Apiary Update

Nancy Ruppert, Beekeeping Instructor, gave an update on the queen bee rearing process that has been taking place in the Bledsoe Apiary. Ms. Ruppert shared information about the partnerships and the challenges. Ms. Ruppert thanked Board members for their support of the bees and the apiary.

3. Approval of Agenda- (Action) - Mr. Knowles

Mr. Knowles called for a motion to approve the November 12, 2025 board meeting agenda.

Moved by: Claudia Bulthuis
Seconded by: Dr. Philip Jones

Motion carried.

4. Board of Ethics Reminder- Mr. Knowles

Mr. Knowles read the ethics statement, reminding Board Members of Chapter 138A of the State Government Ethics Act and the Montgomery Community College Board Policy 1.4 Conflict of Interest, and asked if there were any potential or actual conflicts.

No conflicts of interest were declared.

5. Board Presentation - Dr. Amy Frieary, Dean of Health & Human Services (Dental Hygiene Update)

Dr. Amy Frieary provided an update on the status of the Dental Hygiene program. She reviewed the background and steps involved in implementing the program and reported on the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) site visit held on October 15-16, 2025. Dr. Frieary

noted that the College is now awaiting the official letter from CODA. The projected start date for the Dental Hygiene program is Fall 2026.

6. Approval of Board and Committee Minutes (Action) - Mr. Knowles

6.1 Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes - October 8, 2025 (Action) - Mr. Knowles

Board of Trustees Meeting - October 08 2025 - Minutes - Html

6.2 Legislative and Institutional Status Committee Meeting Minutes - October 8, 2025 (Action) - Mr. Knowles

Legislative and Institutional Status Committee Meeting - October 08 2025 - Minutes - Html

Mr. Knowles called for a motion to approve the October 8, 2025 Board and Committee Meeting minutes.

Moved by: Dr. Philip Jones
Seconded by: Kerry Hensley

Motion carried.

7. Finance and Facilities Committee - Robert Harris

7.1 2-1 2025/2026 State & Local Budget (Action) - Jeanette McBride

FY2025-26 DCC2-1_854 Summary.pdf FY2025-26_DCC2-1_SignaturePage1.pdf

Claudia Bulthuis made a motion to approve the 2025-2026 State and Local Budget.

Moved by: Claudia Bulthuis
Seconded by: Motion from committee. No second required.

Motion carried.

7.2 Immersive Interactive Room Renovations (Action) - Jeanette

McBride

Healthcare Immersive Interactive Room Renovations.pdf
Healthcare Immersive Room Project Specifications.pdf

Claudia Bulthuis made a motion to approve the Healthcare Immersive Interactive Room Renovations.

Moved by: Claudia Bulthuis
Seconded by: Motion from committee. No second required.

Motion carried.

7.3 **In-Kind Donation Transfer** (Action) - Hunter Smith

Claudia Bulthuis made a motion to approve the In-Kind Donation Transfer from Wallace-Dunn Heating and Air.

Moved by: Claudia Bulthuis
Seconded by: Motion from committee. No second required.

Motion carried.

8. Personnel Committee - Kerry Hensley

No report

9. Curriculum and Student Services Committee - Dr. Katie Dunlap

No report

10. Legislative and Institutional Status Committee - Dr. Tawanda Matthews

10.1 Policy 2.3.11 College Committees - Second Reading (Action) - Dr. Bledsoe

Policy 02.03.11-College Committees

Tim McAuley called for a motion to approve changes made to Policy 2.3.11 College Committees.

Moved by: Tim McAuley Sr.
Seconded by: Motion from committee. No second required.

Motion carried.

11. Executive Leadership Reports - Dr. Chad Bledsoe

11.1 Monthly Financial Report September 2025 - Jeanette McBride

Jeanette McBride presented the college financial reports for the month ending September 30, 2025.

State expenditures totaled $2,417,284, or 20.5% of budget. County operating expenditures spending as of September 30, 2025 totaled $246,422 or 22.8% of budget. The amount available in the Local Funds for Capital Expenditures from the County Quarter-cent Sales Tax and Property Tax allocations was $431,713.

The institutional funds negative balances are due to the timing of reimbursements.

The balance in the STIF (State Treasurers Investment Fund) was $225,200.

11.2 Grants Update - Korrie Ervin

Korrie Ervin informed Board members of the grants that were recently awarded, as well as the applications that are still in process.

11.3 Foundation Director's Report - Hunter Smith

Hunter Smith presented the Foundation Directors Report for the month ending September 30, 2025.

Mr. Smith shared the balance of all three accounts.

Mr. Smith shared information about the Clay Shooting Fundraising event last Friday at Hyatt Farms Shooting Complex. The total amount raised will be shared as soon as the numbers are completely calculated.

11.4 Marketing and Public Relations Report - Hunter Smith

Mr. Smith presented the Marketing and Public Relations Report.

Mr. Smith discussed the Spring 2026 Trail Guide that will be arriving in homes soon.

Mr. Smith shared social media statistics and explained the

new format of the report.

11.5 **Facilities and Construction Update - Dr. Bledsoe**

Dr. Bledsoe provided an update on the Dental Hygiene construction project and the renovation of Room 103A. He noted that safety netting has been added to the windows in the Dental Hygiene classrooms as part of the ongoing work.

11.6 **Personnel Updates - Dr. Bledsoe**

Dr. Bledsoe shared the recent personnel updates.

11.7 **CE Summer 2025 Class Visitation Log - Dr. Natalie Winfree**

Dr. Natalie Winfree shared the Continuing Education Summer 2025 Class Visitation Log.

11.8 **Instruction and Student Services Report - Dr. Natalie Winfree**

Dr. Winfree presented the Instruction and Student Services Report, highlighting recent and upcoming campus events. Key updates included:

- A reminder that a blood drive will be held next Thursday on campus.
- Recognition to MCC's Forestry students, who demonstrated exceptional skill at the John G. Palmer Cradle of Forestry Woodman's Meet in October.
- Gunsmithing students will have the opportunity to participate in an apprenticeship program with OA Defense, a firearms manufacturer in Robbins, NC, beginning January 2026.
- MCC received a Certificate of Appreciation from the North Carolina Department of Adult Corrections (NCDAC) at the October 2025 NCDAC Symposium for achieving 112% in the 2025 NCDAC Vocational Challenge.

12. SGA Report - Ricky Merida Nieves, SGA President

12.1 **Student Government Association Report - Ricky Merida Nieves**

Ricky Merida Nieves shared the SGA (Student Government Association) report. Mr. Merida Nieves informed Board members of different events, hosted by the SGA, that have taken place on campus. Mr. Nieves spoke about the Veterans Day Ceremony and the guest speaker's moving speech.

SGA will hold a special lunch tomorrow, titled "Thankful Thursday", where all of the employees and students will enjoy lunch together.

13. **President's Report - Dr. Bledsoe**

Dr. Bledsoe shared the events that he has participated in since the last board meeting and the events he plans to attend in the near future.

14. **Chairman's Report - Mr. Knowles**

14.1 **Board of Trustees Calendar 2025-26**

Mr. Knowles reminded Board members to refer to the 2025-26 Board of Trustees Calendar for upcoming events.

14.2 Christmas Party - December 10, 2025

Mr. Knowles reminded Board members that the Trustee Christmas Party will be on December 10, 2025 in the MCC Library in Capel Hall. He noted that the event will be a potluck style dinner, and Rene will email Trustees soon with a sign up sheet for food and RSVP instructions.

15. **Adjourn - (Action) - Mr. Knowles**

Mr. Knowles called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM.

Moved by: Dr. Philip Jones
Seconded by: Tim McAuley Sr.

Motion carried.

Chairman