



**District Board of Trustees
Board Meeting Minutes
April 21, 2026 – Room 4902, Milton Campus**

Board Workshop

In lieu of a workshop, the Board was taken on a tour of the Milton Campus by Dean of the Milton Campus, Dr. Jennifer Hill Faron.

Board Meeting

Present: Chair Gordon Sprague, Mr. Ed Fleming, Mr. Richard Holzkecht, Mr. Todd Leonard, Mr. Oscar Locklin, Mr. Zack Smith, Dr. Troy Tippett, Mr. Braden Ball (General Counsel), Dr. Ed Meadows, and staff.

Absent: Chief Deputy Andy Hobbs, Ms. Audrey McDonald

I. Call to Order

Chair Sprague called the meeting to order at 3:38 p.m.

II. Public Comments

Ms. Margaret Hotstetter, alumna and volunteer organizer for National Group 50501, addressed the Board. She requested that the College amend its policies and procedures to align with Florida Statute 1004.097, the Campus Free Expression Act, and the First Amendment. She stated that current College procedures limit expressive activity to school days, which she believes is overly restrictive. Ms. Hotstetter referenced several protests held over the past year at the intersection adjacent to the Pensacola Campus, noting that these events occurred on Saturdays and drew significant participation. She further referenced an instance in which campus parking access was restricted during a protest and stated that the College was relying on Procedure 141, Regulation of Outdoor Public Speaking. Ms. Hotstetter noted that permission had been granted for a recent protest and expressed appreciation for that decision. She requested that the College revise its procedures to allow expressive activity and campus parking access during future protests held on Saturdays. Dr. Meadows voiced his appreciation for Ms. Hotstetter being an alumna of PSC and noted that he would speak to legal counsel about any procedure changes that should be made. Ms. Hotstetter noted her appreciation and concluded her remarks.

III. Introductions/Recognitions

Dr. Meadows thanked AFC and Milton Campus staff for the refreshments.

Dr. Meadows announced two distinguished recognitions. He first called on Ms. Anita Kovacs, Vice President of Business Affairs. The Board congratulated her on the Distinguished Service Award given to her by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools at the Business Officers National Meeting.

Dr. Meadows then called on Mr. Rob Gregg, Project Director for Veterans Upward Bound Project. The Board congratulated him on the National Association of Veterans Upward

Bound Eagle Award that he received, the highest honor bestowed by the Association for exceptional service beyond the call of duty.

IV. Approval of Agenda

Chair Sprague called for a motion to approve the agenda. Dr. Tippett moved for approval. Mr. Smith seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

V. Consent Agenda – Approved

Chair Sprague called for approval of the consent agenda. Mr. Smith moved for approval. Dr. Tippett seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

A. Minutes

Consent Items

1. February 17, 2026

B. Finance

Consent Items

1. Acceptance of FYE June 30, 2025 Statewide Financial & Federal Audit
2. Grant Pursuits
 - a. Bright Pathways
 - b. Century Kids' College Summer 2026
 - c. Foo Foo Festival
 - d. Pensacola Maritime Shipbuilding Capacity and Innovation Alliance
 - e. Talent Search Program
3. Acceptance of FCSRMC Property

Information Items

1. Update on Follett Inclusive Access Program
2. Current Contracts as of April 6, 2026
3. Active and Restricted Grant & Contracts as of March 31, 2026
4. Budget to Actual as of March 31, 2026
5. Finance Committee February 2026 Minutes

C. Academic and Student Affairs

Information Items

1. Inactivation – Public Safety Management Concentration of the Dr. Marjan Mazza Bachelor of Applied Science degree in Business and Management
2. New Program – Technical Certificate in Help Desk Technician, fully embedded in the Associate in Science degree in Computer Information Technology
3. Academic and Student Affairs Committee February 2026 Minutes

D. Facilities

Consent Items

1. Approve Change Order #002 – Morette Company – Pensacola State College Airframe & Powerplant Maintenance Training Facility – Deduct (\$2,475,829.28) – Owner Direct Purchases and Sales Tax Savings

E. Human Resources

Consent Items

1. Change one of the existing funded and filled positions of Associate Coordinator, Accounting, on the Career Service Salary Schedule at Level 6, to Accountant, on the Professional/Managerial Salary Schedule at Level 2 [retroactive to February 28, 2026]. Additionally, replace a current funded and filled Accountant, Restricted Accounting, on the Professional/Managerial Salary Schedule at Level 2, to the Accountant position title. (Comptroller's Department)
2. Change the existing funded and filled position of Financial Analyst on the Professional/Managerial Salary Schedule at Level 6, to Director, Business Affairs on the Professional/Managerial Salary Schedule at Level 6 [retroactive to February 28, 2026]. (Business Affairs)
3. Eliminate one funded and unfilled Maintenance Specialist I on the Career Service Salary Schedule at Level 3, and reclassify two existing funded and filled positions to Maintenance Specialist II on the Career Service Salary Schedule at Level 5

[retroactive to March 14, 2026]. (Facilities, Planning and Construction – Maintenance Services)

4. Change the funded and unfilled Director, Engineering and Broadcast Operations/Assistant General Manager, WSRE, on the Professional/Managerial Salary Schedule at Level 6, to an Operations Engineer, WSRE, on the Professional/Managerial Salary Schedule at Level 4 [retroactive to March 9, 2026]. (WSRE Station Operations)
5. Create a new position of Director, Corporate Training on the Professional/Managerial Salary Schedule at Level 4. (Corporate Training and Continuing Education)
6. Change the level of the current funded and filled Director, Continuing Education on the Professional/Managerial Salary Schedule from Level 3 to Level 4. (Corporate Training and Continuing Education)
7. Change the current funded and unfilled Administrative Assistant on the Career Service Salary Schedule at Level 3, to an Executive Assistant on the Career Service Salary Schedule at Level 6 [retroactive to April 13, 2026]. (Health Sciences)

Information Items

1. Human Resources personnel transactions occurring in February and March 2026.

VI. Action Items

A. Finance

1. Policy Changes – Approved

Ms. Kovacs explained that the intention in changing Policy 6Hx20-5.008 is to take the procedural aspects out of the policy because they already reside in the procedure. Mrs. Kovacs noted that the State highly regulates travel in Statute 112.061, which the College adheres to. Mr. Holzkecht moved for approval, Dr. Tippett seconded, and the motion passed.

- a. 6Hx20-5.008 Travel

2. Training Center Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP)

Ms. Kovacs noted that a Request for Quotation (RFQ) had been awarded to the Morette Company previously to renovate the Training Center in Building 21, and they have worked with the Facilities Department to develop a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) for a final maximum price of \$4.15 million, which is being recommended to the Board for approval. Dr. Tippett moved for approval, Mr. Smith seconded, and the motion passed.

3. RFP 4 – 2025/2026 Fairfield Tower Decommission

Ms. Kovacs explained that two respondents responded to the Fairfield Tower Decommission proposal, one of which, Allstate Tower, was less expensive and therefore is what is being recommended to the Board for approval. Mr. Locklin moved for approval, Mr. Holzkecht seconded, and the motion passed.

B. Academic and Student Affairs

1. New Programs

Dr. Kelly presented the Academic and Student Affairs agenda on behalf of Dr. Spicer, and explained the new programs that the Board is being asked to approve. Mr. Smith noted appreciation of Dr. Kelly and Dr. Spicer for the details they shared regarding these new programs in the Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting, and voiced the belief that they will provide great opportunities for students. Mr. Smith moved for approval, Mr. Holzkecht seconded, and the motion passed.

- a. Hospitality and Tourism Management Concentration for the Dr. Marjan Mazza Bachelor of Applied Science degree in Business Management
- b. Career Certificate in Marine Services Technologies

2. Faculty Continuing Contracts

Dr. Kelly directed the Board to a handout provided to them regarding faculty continuing contracts. Dr. Tippett moved for approval, Mr. Locklin seconded, and the motion passed.

3. Faculty Promotions in Rank

Dr. Kelly directed the Board to a handout provided to them regarding faculty promotions in rank. Mr. Locklin moved for approval, Dr. Tippet seconded, and the motion passed.

C. Facilities

No Action Items

D. Human Resources

No Action Items

VII. General Counsel

Action Items

1. Approval to purchase 4.6 acres of property contiguous with the South Santa Rosa Center

Mr. Ball informed the Board of the negotiation of a contract to purchase a 4.6-acre property on the northwest corner of the South Santa Rosa Campus for \$870,000, conditional upon the Board's approval. Dr. Meadows explained that the contract is also contingent on the results of a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment, which is then followed by a Phase II Subsurface Investigation. Mr. Ball elaborated on the Phase I and Phase II processes. Dr. Tippet commended Dr. Meadows on the procurement of this property. Mr. Fleming noted that South Santa Rosa County is one of the fastest-growing areas in the state, and such a large property will provide opportunities for the College. Dr. Tippet moved for approval, Mr. Smith seconded, and the motion passed.

VIII. President's Time

Action Items

1. Arc Gateway Contract

Dr. Meadows explained that he had met with Arc Gateway administrators and two of their Board members to amend the language in the contract, and explained the amendment to the Board. Dr. Tippet moved for approval, Mr. Fleming seconded, and the motion passed

2. 2026-2031 Strategic Plan

Dr. Meadows noted that there were changes made to the Strategic Plan during the Board Retreat in January and explained that Dr. Spicer did a complete reorganization of the document to include Trustees' input from that meeting. Mr. Smith noted appreciation of the work on the Strategic Plan and his satisfaction with the changes made. Mr. Smith moved for approval, Mr. Leonard seconded, and the motion passed.

3. Easement Request – Milton Campus

Dr. Meadows presented an easement request involving approximately 12.5 acres of College-owned property near the Milton Campus. He explained that a neighboring property owner had requested a limited easement to allow access from its property to Highway 90. Dr. Meadows stated that the proposed agreement would provide the College with a one-time payment of \$30,000 for a 25-year easement term, with all maintenance responsibilities to be assumed by the adjoining property owner. He further stated that the easement would not restrict the College's future use or development of the property and would be advantageous to the College. Mr. Fleming moved for approval, Mr. Locklin seconded, and the motion passed.

DSO Reports

1. Alumni Association and Athletics – Ms. Lotz provided the following updates regarding the Alumni Association and Athletics:

- The upcoming Alumni Fishing Excursion, the proceeds of which go to the Delta Kappa Alpha Endowed Scholarship, is sold out.
- The 2026 All Sports Banquet is scheduled for April 28 and will honor athletes across all sports.

- The Distinguished Alumni Awards will be held on June 13 where Carol Carlan, George Gaines, Lane Harper, and Rebecca Marlin will be honored.
 - Informed the Board that she had the opportunity to attend the National Junior College Athletics Association convention last week where she received information that she will report to the Board at the May meeting.
2. Foundation – Ms. Krieger provided the following updates regarding Foundation activities:
- Expressed appreciation for Trustees who attended the Foundation’s First Annual Community Breakfast, which was a success.
 - The Morette family was recently announced as Foundation Fellows.
 - The Big Break Golf Tournament is scheduled for May 7 and is sold out with a total of 144 golfers, and the funds raised at this event benefit the Fund for Excellence.
 - Chair Sprague is leading the 250 for 250 Campaign, which has raised \$35,000 to date.
3. WSRE – Ms. Hubbs provided an update on the following WSRE activities:
- WSRE is focusing on local history for America’s 250th Anniversary and has partnered with the University of West Florida Historic Trust and the Pensacola Historic Village. Ms. Hubbs then shared a clip of one of the segments they have been working on and updated the Board on other segments WSRE will be recording.

Reports and Announcements

- Dr. Meadows called on Ms. Nichols to provide an update on ADA compliance on the College’s website. Ms. Nichols informed the Board that the Marketing department’s web team was given a deadline of April 24 for the College’s website to be ADA compliant, which the web team successfully completed before the deadline. Dr. Meadows expressed appreciation for the team’s work.
- Dr. Meadows called on Dr. Douma who provided an update to the Board on recent grants and opportunities.
- Dr. Meadows announced that the Pensacola State College Career Certificate in Medical Assisting was awarded continuing accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs, and will not have to be reviewed again until Spring of 2035.

Calendar of Events

- Dr. Meadows directed Trustees to the calendar of events and highlighted the Charter Academy Senior Symposium on April 23, the Nursing Pinning on April 30, the Diesel Mechanics Groundbreaking on May 21, the Charter Academy Graduation Ceremony on May 11, and the Commencement Ceremony on May 13.

IX. Chair’s Time

Action Items

1. President’s Compensation

Chair Sprague presented the President’s Compensation package for Board approval. Mr. Smith explained that he is supportive in passing the president’s compensation as presented after discussion and review with Dr. Meadows. Mr. Smith moved for approval, Dr. Tippettt seconded, and the motion passed.

X. Other Business

Special Announcement

Dr. Meadows shared several of the major accomplishments achieved during his nearly 18-year tenure as Pensacola State College’s President. Dr. Meadows then announced his intent to retire on December 31, 2026, and shared his commitment to facilitate a smooth transition for the next leader of the College.

Chair Sprague expressed appreciation for Dr. Meadows’ service to the College. Dr. Tippettt shared his appreciation of Dr. Meadows’ tenure as well, and made a motion to

name Building 10 on the Pensacola Campus after Dr. Meadows, and to grant him the title of President Emeritus upon his retirement. Mr. Fleming seconded, and the motion passed.

XI. Good of the Order

- Chair Sprague announced that the term of the Board's current Vice Chair, Chief Deputy Andy Hobbs, will end April 27, and that a motion to select a new Vice Chair will be made at the May meeting.
- Chair Sprague asked that Dr. Meadows draft procedures for the Board to refer to in the process of selecting the next College president by the May Board meeting.

XII. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Board went into Executive Session at 6:56 p.m. and concluded at 7:16 p.m.

Recorded by: 

Date Approved: May 19, 2026


Chair, Board of Trustees


President