

**EASTERN FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING**

April 13, 2026  
10:30 a.m.

Public Safety Institute – Building 8  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor – Board Room 301  
Melbourne Campus

**Present:** Ronald Howse, Chair; Dr. Edgar Figueroa, Vice Chair; Bruce Deardoff – via phone; Winston Scott; Dr. Kristine Zonka; and Dr. James H. Richey, Secretary

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Howse called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m. and acknowledged the trustees present verifying the quorum. Mr. Howse then stated Mr. Deardoff was attending via phone call and the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Mr. Howse asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Dr. Figueroa so moved. Mr. Scott seconded the motion. **Action:** motion carried unanimously. Those voting in favor: Figueroa, Scott, Deardoff, Zonka, and Howse.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

A. Minutes, Board of Trustees Meeting – February 2, 2026

Mr. Howse inquired if anyone had any comments or changes to the minutes and asked for a formal motion to approve the Board of Trustees meeting minutes dated February 2, 2026. Mr. Scott motioned for approval. Dr. Figueroa seconded the motion. **Action:** motion carried unanimously. Those voting in favor: Scott, Figueroa, Deardoff, Zonka, and Howse.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Howse asked if there were any public comments. Dr. Richey reported there were no public comments.

**IV. CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of Summary of Income and Expenditures through March 2026
- B. Approval of Academic Calendar 2026-2027
- C. Approval of DSO Financial Reports for Year Ended June 30, 2025
- D. Approval of College Annual Financial Report
- E. Approval of Gramm-Leach-Bailey Act (GLBA) Report
- F. Approval of Changes to the Maxwell C. King Center DSO Bylaws
- G. Approval of Annual Comprehensive Safety Inspection Report, FY 2025-2026

Mr. Howse inquired whether anyone wished to discuss or remove any of the consent agenda items. Hearing no requests, Mr. Howse asked for a motion to approve items A – G listed. A motion was made by Dr. Figueroa and seconded by Mr. Scott. **Action:** motion carried unanimously. Those voting in favor: Figueroa, Scott, Deardoff, Zonka and Howse.

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Howse stated there was no new business.

## **VI. PRESENTATIONS**

### **A. Program Updates: HVAC, Composites, and Business**

Dr. James Richey invited Mr. Frank Margiotta, Dean of Career and Technical Education, to report on the Program Updates for HVAC, Composites, and Business. Mr. Margiotta presented an overview of the main programs being adjusted to meet the current workforce demands. Mr. Margiotta explained that employers want work-ready graduates and the creation of articulation agreements have made industry certificates recognizable towards the degree programs. Additionally, EFSC was recently awarded a \$1.5 million Florida Job Growth Grant by the Department of Commerce, which will be used to expand HVAC and Welding programs at the Palm Bay and Cocoa campuses.

Next, Mr. Margiotta described the creation of different pathways in composites and advanced material training. An AS degree is offered in composite fabrication and testing CCC, as well as aerospace tech courses that deal in composites with labs offered in Palm Bay, Cocoa, and Titusville.

Concluding the presentation, Mr. Margiotta discussed the Bachelor of Applied Science, Organizational Management program, which is the largest enrolled bachelor's program, with almost 1,200 students over the past year. The most popular specializations are General Business, HR Management, and Sales & Marketing. In business-related fields alone, within the service region, there are over 2,000 job openings. Mr. Margiotta then took questions from the board.

Dr. Zonka inquired about the enrollment numbers of the HVAC program. Mr. Margiotta stated there are currently 49 students with a capacity of another 25 students for the Palm Bay Campus, and the welding program will be upgraded from 40 welding booths to around 60. Mr. Margiotta emphasized that both programs are full-time cohorts and one-year programs.

Dr. Richey asked Mr. Parker to speak briefly about the dental program expansion. Mr. Parker gave a recent example of the necessity for the expansion, stating that the cohort for dental hygiene in August had 12 openings and 84 applicants for the programs. Potential legislative funding will make it possible to relocate the program to a larger area and double the size of the dental program's laboratories.

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Howse stated there was no old business.

## **VIII. DIRECT SUPPORT ORGANIZATION TRUSTEE REPORTS**

### **A. EFSC Student Housing Corporation**

Mr. Howse invited Mr. Jack Parker, Vice President of External Affairs, to give the report for the Student Housing Corporation. Mr. Parker began with an update on the efforts to market room availability for the upcoming summer and fall terms. There were 103 applications received for the summer term and 185 received for the fall. Next, Mr. Parker acknowledged Mr. Russ DeGraw, the facilities team, and the security team, for their responsiveness to promptly correct any housing issues found during the frequent inspections.

Next, regarding student and resident activities, Mr. Parker reported that the student services team, along with housing staff, have partnered with SGA to host a variety of monthly social events with many more planned for the summer. The theatre room, gaming room, and outdoor recreation areas continue to be in high demand, receiving much use from the students. Mr. Parker concluded the report by thanking the housing team for managing a successful residential complex.

B. EFSC Foundation

Dr. Figueroa invited Ms. Victoria Jones, Interim Executive Director, to give the report on the Foundation. Ms. Jones began with an update on the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Backyard BBQ held on February 21, 2026. A reported 2,000 people attended the event that raised over \$162,000 for scholarships, which was a record year. Over the past 10 years, the BBQ has raised a total of \$800,000.

Next, Ms. Jones noted that the Alumni and Friends held a beach cleanup event at Val Steele Park in partnership with the Sea Turtle Preservation Society. Ms. Jones also reported that the Titan Scholarship Reception dinner was held on April 9, 2026. The event was very successful with over 200 attendees at the Student Union on the Melbourne campus. The keynote speaker and recipient of the EFSC 2026 Distinguished Alumni award was Dr. Sandy Handfield. Ms. Jones concluded her report with Dr. Handfield’s biography and highlighted several of her accomplishments.

C. King Center for Performing Arts

Mr. Howse invited Mr. Jack Parker to give the report on the King Center. Mr. Parker began the report with two announcements stating that Legends Global was in final negotiations with their top choice for the new general manager and The King Center marked its 38<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Friday, April 10, 2026. Mr. Parker noted the inaugural performance of *Singin’ in the Rain* and announced the upcoming 2026-2027 Broadway series to showcase performances of *Mrs. Doubtfire*, *Water for Elephants*, *Legally Blonde*, *Hadestown*, and *A Christmas Carol*.

Mr. Parker reported that since January, the King Center has welcomed more than 30,000 guests. To conclude, Mr. Parker highlighted a few upcoming shows– Theresa Caputo, the Long Island Medium; Josh Gates, Expedition Unknown; Classic Albums Live Summer Series, and Travis Tritt.

**IX. TRUSTEE’S CLOSING COMMENTS**

Mr. Deardoff applauded the EFSC team for their focused-driven results and a job well-done.

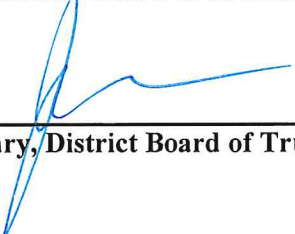
**X. PRESIDENT’S CLOSING COMMENTS**

Mr. Howse invited Dr. Richey to say a few words in recognition of Mr. Winston Scott, EFSC Board Member, upon his retirement from the board. Dr. Richey recognized the leadership and faithful service that Mr. Scott extended over his five years as a board member and board liaison to the King Center. Dr. Richey also highlighted many of the college transformations that happened during Mr. Scott’s time as a board member. Dr. Richey then presented a plaque to Mr. Scott. Mr. Scott stated that he was truly honored and humbled to have been part of a well-run organization and thanked everyone for the recognition.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

APPROVED:   
Chair, District Board of Trustees

APPROVED:   
Secretary, District Board of Trustees