

Yavapai College
District Governing Board
Special Board Meeting

Wednesday, July 29th, 2026
Rock House and Virtually
1:00 p.m.

The YouTube channel and Rock House will be open to the public at 12:45 p.m. at the latest. All individuals attending the meeting in person will be allowed to bring clear bags ONLY into the meeting. In addition, the College has implemented advanced weapons detections systems/metal detectors for attendees. These requirements are similar for attendees at any sporting event or concert, and they are intended to ensure safety. Please plan accordingly.

Prescott Campus
Rock House
1100 E Sheldon Street
Prescott, AZ 86301

Livestream Link:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/YavapaiCollege>

Member's Present:

Mr. Steve Bracety, Board Chair
Mr. Toby Payne, Board Secretary
Mr. William Kiel, Board Member
Mrs. Deb McCasland, Board Member

Administration Present:

Dr. Doug Berry, Acting President
Mr. Jon Paladini, Board Attorney
Ms. Kimberly Whitman, Secretary to the Board

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING PUBLIC MINUTES

1. General Functions: Procedural
 - a. Call to Order

This agenda item begins at: 13:00:00

<https://yavapai.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=f13f7c37-1756-4d5d-bfdf-b49601751f78&start=10.647756>

Board Chair Bracety called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

- b. Pledge of Allegiance {Time: 1}

This agenda item begins at: 13:00:10

<https://yavapai.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=f13f7c37-1756-4d5d-bfdf-b49601751f78&start=20.859109>

Mr. Jack Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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- c. Call to the Public – **INFORMATION ONLY** – {Time: 10}

This agenda item begins at: 13:00:35

<https://yavapai.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=f13f7c37-1756-4d5d-bfdf-b49601751f78&start=45.381628>

One call card was received for Mr. Ray Sigafoos, who spoke to the District Governing Board about concerns related to the Presidential Search, Donors to the Yavapai College Foundation and the previous President of Yavapai College, Dr. Lisa Rhine. Mr. Sigafoo's call can be viewed at the link above.

- d. Adoption of Agenda – Board Chair Steve Bracety – **DECISION** {Time: 5}

This agenda item begins at 13:04:31

<https://yavapai.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=f13f7c37-1756-4d5d-bfdf-b49601751f78&start=281.61928>

Board Chair Bracety, Seconded by Board Secretary Payne, moved to approve the Agenda. The motion passed unanimously (Ayes: Bracety, Payne, Kiel and McCasland).

2. Board Business

- a. Board Liaison Appointments – Board Chair Steve Bracety – **DISCUSSION AND DECISION** {Time: 10}

This agenda item begins at: 13:04:49

<https://yavapai.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=f13f7c37-1756-4d5d-bfdf-b49601751f78&start=299.531255>

Board Chair Bracety appointed himself as the AACCT Representative, a duty belonging to the Board Chair, and as the Board Spokesperson. Board Chair Bracety appointed Board Member Kiel as the District Governing Board's Yavapai College Foundation Liaison.

- b. Consent Agenda – **DECISION** {Time: 10}

- i. Fifth Amendment to Lease Agreement between Yavapai Community College District and Northern Arizona Council of Governments Head Start (*Attached*)
- ii. First Amendment to Intergovernmental Agreement Between Yavapai County Community College District and Chino Valley Unified School District #51 (*Attached*)
- iii. T-Mobile Asset Purchase Agreement Assignment of FCC License Closing Document (*Attached*)
- iv. Memorandum of Understanding Between the Yavapai County Workforce Development Board and One-Stop Partners Providing for the Operation of the Yavapai County Local Workforce Development Area One-Stop Delivery System
- v. Waiver of Conflict of Interest: Attorney-Client Privileged Communication Regarding Bike Repair Station Within Yavapai County
- vi. District Governing Board Special Public Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, June 30th, 2026 (*Attached*)

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This agenda item begins at 13:05:52

<https://yavapai.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=f13f7c37-1756-4d5d-bfdf-b49601751f78&start=362.383557>

Board Member Kiel, seconded by Board Secretary Payne, moved to approve the Consent Agenda except for item iii, which was pulled for discussion. The motion passed unanimously (Ayes: Bracety, Kiel, Payne and McCasland).

Board Member Kiel expressed concerns with how much the T-Mobile Asset Purchase Agreement was settled for. Mr. Patrick Burns and Mr. Ed Lacasse joined the session to discuss item iii with the District Governing Board. The discussion on the item can be viewed at the link above.

Board Member McCasland, seconded by Board Chair Bracety, moved to approve item iii, the T-Mobile Asset Purchase Agreement on the Consent agenda. The motion passed with a 3-0 vote. (Ayes: McCasland, Payne and Bracety. Board Member Kiel abstained from the vote).

c. Executive Session

- i. A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3)(Legal Advice) and (A)(4)(Contracts), Discussion and direction to the Board's Attorneys Regarding the Terms of the College President's Contract – Attorney Jon Paladini, Board Attorney – **PROCEDURAL** - {Time: 90}
- ii. A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3)(Legal Advice), Discussion and direction regarding waiver of attorney-client privilege and possible release of confidential Board documents - Attorney Jon Paladini, Board Attorney – **PROCEDURAL** - {Time: 30}
- iii. A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3)(Legal Advice) and (A)(4)(Contracts), Discussion and Possible Direction Regarding Procurement Process for Board Legal Counsel Hiring – Mr. Ed Lacasse, Director of Procurement and Contract Services – **PROCEDURAL** - {Time: 30}

This agenda item begins at 13:31:26

<https://yavapai.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=f13f7c37-1756-4d5d-bfdf-b49601751f78&start=1896.919425>

Board Member Kiel, seconded by Board Secretary Payne, moved to enter into Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously (Ayes: McCasland, Kiel, Payne and Bracety).

The Yavapai College District Governing Board entered into Executive Session at 1:32pm.

d. Convene in Public Session

- i. Possible Action: Consideration of President's Contract and Board Legal Counsel Hiring as the Result of Executive Session. – Attorney Jon Paladini, Board Attorney - **DECISION** - {Time: 10}
- ii. Possible Action: Consideration and decision on approval of Administrator on Duty Employment Contract – Vice President Janet Nix – **DECISION** – {Time: 10}

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This agenda item begins at: 15:30:04

<https://yavapai.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=f13f7c37-1756-4d5d-bfdf-b49601751f78&start=2615.865393>

The Yavapai College District Governing Board returned to Public Session at 3:30pm.

Board Chair Bracety, seconded by Board Member Kiel, moved to deem Dr. Rhine as having resigned from her role as President of Yavapai College because it was understood that she had accepted a position as President of Central Arizona College, effective, today (July 29th, 2026). With the payment of an amount equivalent to her base salary through August 30th, 2026, on the condition she agrees to sign the release and waiver of any and all claims she believes she has against the college. Her resignation effective today will allow her to cash in any unpaid time off. The motion passed with a 3-1 vote (Ayes: Kiel, Bracety and Payne. Nays: McCasland).

Board Chair Bracey, seconded by Board Secretary Payne moved to appoint Pierce Coleman as Board counsel under the safe Pinal County Cooperative Purchasing Contract at the rate set forth in the Pinal County Cooperative Purchasing Contract retroactive to the date Pierce Coleman was retained at interim Board counsel in the form of a credit against future legal invoices. The motion passed with a 3-1 vote (Ayes: Bracety, Kiel and Payne. Nays: McCasland).

Board Chair Bracety, second by Board Member Kiel, moved to appoint Dr. Doug Berry as Acting President with a 20% pay increase, and directed the Board Attorney to work with Dr. Nix and negotiate the final terms of the contract with Dr. Berry and the Board President is authorized to sign the contract on behalf of the College Board once approved by the Board Attorney. The motion passed unanimously (Ayes: McCasland, Kiel, Payne, Bracety).

3. Request for Future Agenda Items - **INFORMATION, DISCUSSION AND DECISION** {Time: 10}

This agenda item begins at: 15:32:53

<https://yavapai.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=f13f7c37-1756-4d5d-bfdf-b49601751f78&start=2785.476831>

Board Member McCasland requested an update on the Forensic Audit being conducted by the Baker Tolly Advisory Group as a future Agenda item.

4. Adjournment of Board Regular Meeting: Procedural – **DECISION** {Time: 1}

This agenda item begins at: 15:34:41

<https://yavapai.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=f13f7c37-1756-4d5d-bfdf-b49601751f78&start=2893.001983>

Board Member Kiel, Seconded by Board Secretary Payne, moved to adjourn the July 29th, 2026, District Governing Board Special Meeting at 3:34pm. The motion passed unanimously (Ayes: Bracety, Kiel, McCasland, and Payne).

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Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Whitman

Kimberly Whitman, Recording Secretary

9/23/2026

Date

Stephen Z. Bracety

Mr. Steve Bracety, Board Chair

Toby Payne

Mr. Toby Payne, Board Secretary

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