

Yavapai College
District Governing Board
Special Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 11th, 2026
Rock House and Virtually
9:00 a.m.

The YouTube channel and Rock House will be open to the public at 8:45 a.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 – ZOOM

Administration Present:

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

MINUTES

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

This agenda item begins at: 08:59:57

<https://yavapai.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=7104dc8b-8951-4d29-b39e-b4a3011ca4d0&start=0.754373>

Board Chair Bracety called the meeting to order at 9:00am.

- b. Pledge of Allegiance {Time: 1}

This agenda item begins at:

<https://yavapai.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=7104dc8b-8951-4d29-b39e-b4a3011ca4d0&start=15.678158>

Dr. Ewell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

- c. Call to the Public – **INFORMATION ONLY** – {Time: 10}
- Yavapai College District Governing Board operates as a policy governance Board. This means that the Board makes all the policy decisions, adopts an annual budget, and hires the college president. The college president oversees daily operations and supervises college employees.*

This agenda item begins at: 9:00:56

<https://yavapai.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=7104dc8b-8951-4d29-b39e-b4a3011ca4d0&start=59.706604>

There were no call cards turned in at the August 11th, 2026, Yavapai College District Governing Board Special Meeting.

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

This agenda item begins at: 09:01:02

<https://yavapai.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=7104dc8b-8951-4d29-b39e-b4a3011ca4d0&start=65.59884>

Board Chair Bracety, seconded by Board Secretary Payne, moved to approve the Agenda for the August 11th, 2026, Yavapai College District Governing Board Meeting. The motion passed unanimously. (Ayes: Bracety, Kiel, and Payne. Absent from vote: McCasland).

2. Board Business

- a. HLC Presentation and Update – Ms. Megan Crossfield, Director of Academic Initiatives and HLC Accreditation Liaison Officer (ALO) and Dr. Douglas Berry, Acting President – **INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION** – {Time: 60}
(Attached)

This agenda item begins at: 09:01:16

<https://yavapai.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=7104dc8b-8951-4d29-b39e-b4a3011ca4d0&start=79.308166>

Ms. Megan Crossfield provided a presentation on HLC Accreditation to the District Governing Board. This presentation cleared concerns being raised in the community and on the College campus. The District Governing Board participated in a discussion during and after the presentation. The discussions and Ms. Crossfield's presentation can be viewed at the link above.

- b. Forensic Audit Status Update – Dr. Douglas Berry, Acting President – **INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION** {Time: 20}

This agenda item begins at:

<https://yavapai.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=7104dc8b-8951-4d29-b39e-b4a3011ca4d0&start=3118.389692>

Dr. Douglas Berry provided an update on the Forensic Audit being conducted at the college. The audit is about 7-10 days out from its final report from the Baker Tilly Advisory group. The intent of the audit was to identify any criminal activity happening at the college. No criminal activity has been found at this time. An additional update will be provided when the Audit is completed. Discussion was held on the topic. The discussion can be viewed at the link above.

- c. Presidential Search Update – Board Chair Steve Bracety – **INFORMATION ONLY** – {Time: 20}

This agenda item begins at: 09:55:52

Yavapai College District Governing Board operates as a policy governance Board. This means that the Board makes all the policy decisions, adopts an annual budget, and hires the college president. The college president oversees daily operations and supervises college employees.

<https://yavapai.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=7104dc8b-8951-4d29-b39e-b4a3011ca4d0&start=3355.967605>

Board Chair Bracety provided an update on the current Presidential Search process. Questions have been raised regarding the search. Chair Bracety explained why and how Dr. Berry was chosen for the Acting President position and the contract with Cizek Associates. Cizek Associated has filled high level positions on the Yavapai College campus as well as several Community Colleges in the state. The anticipated finalized timeline is November 2026-January 2027. Discussion was held between the Board Members and can be viewed at the link above.

- d. Consent Agenda – **DECISION** {Time: 10}
 - i. Intergovernmental Agreement between Yavapai County Community College District and Mountain Institute CTED Regarding Registered Apprenticeships (*Attached*)
 - ii. Intergovernmental Agreement Amendment #1 between Yavapai County Community College District and Mayer Unified School District (*Attached*)

This agenda item begins at: 10:07:55

<https://yavapai.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=7104dc8b-8951-4d29-b39e-b4a3011ca4d0&start=4079.079984>

Board Member Kiel, seconded by Board Secretary Payne, moved to approve the consent agenda for the August 11th, 2026, Yavapai College District Governing Board Special Meeting. The motion passed unanimously (Ayes: Bracety, Kiel, Payne and McCasland).

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

This item begins at: 10:08:36

<https://yavapai.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=7104dc8b-8951-4d29-b39e-b4a3011ca4d0&start=4119.214578>

Board Member Kiel requested two items to be placed on a future agenda. A review and potential revision to Board Policy 310 and potential direction to College Staff to explore potential partnership opportunities between Yavapai college and Meta's America's Workforce Academy.

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

This agenda item begins at: 10:10:29

<https://yavapai.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=7104dc8b-8951-4d29-b39e-b4a3011ca4d0&start=4232.289623>

Board Chair Bracety, seconded by Board Member Kiel, moved to adjourn the August 11th, 2026, Yavapai College District Governing Board Special meeting at 10:10am. The motion passed unanimously (Ayes: McCasland, Kiel, Bracety, and Payne).

Yavapai College District Governing Board operates as a policy governance Board. This means that the Board makes all the policy decisions, adopts an annual budget, and hires the college president. The college president oversees daily operations and supervises college employees.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim Whitman

Kimberly Whitman, Recording Secretary

9/23/2026

Date

Stephen L. Bracety

Mr. Steve Bracety, Board Chair

Toby Payne

Mr. Toby Payne, Board Secretary

Yavapai College District Governing Board operates as a policy governance Board. This means that the Board makes all the policy decisions, adopts an annual budget, and hires the college president. The college president oversees daily operations and supervises college employees.