

MINUTES of the Board Meeting
of the BOARD OF TRUSTEES of VICTORIA COLLEGE
March 23, 2026

V. Bland Proctor, <i>Chair</i>	Luis A. Guerra, <i>Vice-Chair</i>	John Zacek, <i>Secretary</i>	Dr. Daniel Cano	Catherine McHaney	Dr. Estella De Los Santos	Ron Walker
√	X	√	X	√	√	√

Also in attendance: VC Staff: Dr. Jennifer Kent, Mary Ann Rodriguez, Keith Blundell, Terri Kurtz, Darin Kazmir, James Martinez, Amber Baker, Babette Lowe, Marty Deckard and Matt Wiley, Matt Weiler, Heather Roeske, and Vee Strauss (VC Foundation Board Chair).

The Victoria College Board of Trustees met for a board meeting on Monday, March 23, 2026 at 4:00 PM in Corporate Training Room 101 in the Academic Building of Victoria College located at 2200 E. Red River, Victoria, TX. Mr. Bland Proctor, Chair, presided over the meeting.

A. Call to Order:

1. Quorum Call:

Mr. Bland Proctor called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m. and announced that a quorum of board members was present.

2. Certification of the Posting of the Notice of the Agenda

Dr. Jennifer Kent certified that the agenda had been properly posted per Texas statute also in accordance with the provisions of Sections 551.125 and 551.127 of the Texas Government Code.

B. Citizen Communication:

1. At this time, the public is invited to address the Board of Trustees.

No members of the public spoke to the Board.

C. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

1. CONSIDER Minutes of Regular Board Meeting held on November 17, 2025

Mr. Ron Walker moved to accept the minutes as presented. Mr. John Zacek seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

2. CONSIDER Minutes of Special Board Meeting held on December 8, 2025

Mrs. Catherine McHaney moved to accept the minutes as presented. Mr. Ron Walker seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

3. CONSIDER Minutes of the Board Workshop held on January 26, 2026

Mrs. Catherine McHaney moved to accept the minutes as presented. Mr. John Zacek seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

4. CONSIDER Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on January 26, 2026

Mr. Ron Walker moved to accept the minutes as presented. Mrs. Catherine McHaney seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5. CONSIDER 2025 December and 2026 January Financial Statements

Mr. Keith Blundell presented. He shared with the board that since the financials are cumulative, he would review only the January financials in detail if everyone was in agreement. Mr. Blundell then began with the Statement of Net Position as compared to the same time last year, that total current cash and investments is at about \$18.499 million (due to construction) compared to about \$19.455 million same time last year. We are down due to projects. He noted there were no changes in OPEB or Capital Assets since the last audit. Mr. Blundell also noted that current liabilities are favorable to prior year. Total net position is at \$46.347 million. Mr. Blundell then reviewed the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Net Assets for the consolidated fund and the Gonzales Center and other projects funds in detail, asking if any clarification was needed as he proceeded. State appropriations are coming in as planned. Ad-valorem is still too early. He compared current year actual to 2025 actual and explained any differences. Tuition and fees for credit classes are at about 94%. Credit hours and rates are up. Non-credit is at about 55% of budget and we are at 42% of the year so this is also very good. Mr. Blundell also noted that expenditures are at 43.5% and we are at 41.6% of the year. He also noted that our net (decrease) is at (\$842K) compared to \$4.508MIL last year. He pointed out that is due to the reserves transfer of \$7MIL into the project fund as approved by the board at a past board meeting. Mr. Blundell noted on page 12-14 revenues equal expenditures, that is exactly what we want to see. Mr. Blundell also noted on page 15 of 21 that Auxiliary is at about \$320K in the red compared to about (\$192K) last year. This is actually inline even at 42% of the year. He moved on to page 18 of 21, pointed out that budget adjustments are at net \$0. He noted that on page 19, Gonzales Center still shows a balance of \$868 in case any needed projects occur. Mr. Blundell moved on to page 20 and 21. He shared that currently we have around \$42.822 million in the master plan budget with about \$37.276MIL already expended leaving us at about \$5.545 million. He clarified that this total does not include pledges. Mr. Ron Walker moved to accept the statements as presented. Mr. John Zacek seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

6. CONSIDER 2025-2026 Second Quarter Investment Report

Mr. Keith Blundell presented. He shared that this is the required quarterly disclosure of our investments for the quarter ended 02-28-26. Due to the current interest rate environment, the college transferred the majority of its available funds to Texpool Prime. The Endowment Fund, General Fund, Auxiliary Fund, Debt Service Fund and Construction Fund accounts earned \$124,868.39 for the quarter. Texpool Prime accounts earned an average of 3.895% for the quarter. Mrs. Catherine McHaney moved to accept the report as presented. Mr. Ron Walker seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

7. CONSIDER Proposed 2026-2027 Academic Year Tuition and Fee Schedule

Mr. Keith Blundell presented. In the 89th legislature, Governor Abbot requested a rider in SB1 (appropriations act) called the Higher Education Affordability Rider which requires "certain" institutions of higher education to freeze all tuition and fees for the next two academic years. This bill passed and, therefore, the college is required to freeze its required tuition and fee until the 2027-2028 fiscal year.

It is the intention of the college to continue the state's Financial Aid for Swift Transfer (FAST) program for dual credit students next Fall. That program will separate Educationally Disadvantaged (ED), from non-ED students. ED Students are students on free or reduced lunch. In the FAST program the state will reimburse VC \$60.10 per SCH for the ED students and the college cannot

charge the student for anything else, including materials. For the non-ED students, we are limited to \$60.10 SCH for tuition, but we can charge them for fees and materials. We recommend keeping a \$40 SCH in-district tuition rate and maintaining the out-of-district fee of \$43 SCH to these students. The non-resident/foreign tuition rate will hold at \$56 per SCH. The ED students will receive state funding revenue. The recommended tuition and fees for dual credit under the FAST program are \$100,484 higher than prior year's revenues. Administration further recommends the differential tuition be waived for these students, but lab fees and course fees be charged.

For non-dual credit students, the College is budgeting for a 0.31% increase in semester credit hours (SCH) used to determine tuition and fee revenue for the year. The administration recommends maintaining the required tuition and fees due to the Governor's rider. Therefore, we recommend holding the in-district tuition rate to \$60 per SCH and the out of district fee to \$61 per SCH each. We recommend holding the general fee to \$41 per SCH and the technology fee to \$23 per SCH and no change in the non-resident/foreign tuition rate of \$158 per SCH. We recommend no changes to the differential tuition rate for allied health programs or industrial/workforce programs. These changes would result in an overall increase in the tuition and fee revenue of \$208,835 or 2.56%

The administration recommends the attached tuition and fee schedule. The total cost per SCH for in-district students will be \$124 SCH. The total cost per SCH for out-of-district students will be \$185 SCH and the total cost per SCH for out-of-state/non-resident students will be \$222 SCH. Students in the programs listed will be subject to either a \$105 or \$40 per SCH differential tuition. Rates for dual credit students will be \$78 SCH for in-district, \$121 SCH for out-of-district and \$137 SCH for non-resident. **Fiscal Impact:** This schedule would provide **\$208,835** more revenue than the prior year budget. Mr. Ron Walker moved to accept the tuition and fee schedule as presented. Dr. Estella De Los Santos seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

8. **CONSIDER Purchase of Goods/Supplies**

a. **PURCHASE – Firewall Equipment and Support Contract**

Mr. Keith Blundell presented. He shared that they recommend awards to SHI Government Solutions Inc. with The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS) contract #230105. Current firewall equipment is two years away from end of manufacturer support. Fiscal Impact: \$100,151.88 total; \$20,030.38 annually.

Mrs. Catherine McHaney moved to accept the purchase as presented. Mr. John Zacek seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

b. **PURCHASE – Increase of Roofing Products, Services and Job Order Contracting (JOC) Services for the Academic Building**

Mr. Keith Blundell presented. He shared with the board they had approved \$615,604 for roofing products and services related to reroofing the Academic Building roof. This did not include an alternative to reroofing the walkway between the Academic Building and Johnson Hall. Total increase for this project is \$127,206. This includes the cost of the alternate and material price increase of \$6,102. The new cost includes a \$50,000 owners contingency. Fiscal Impact:

Increase of \$127,206. Project total not to exceed \$742,810; Major R&R Budget (1101-2037-7102-1700). Mr. John Zacek moved to accept the purchase as presented. Mr. Ron Walker seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

9. **CONSIDER Resolution Amending Authorized Representatives for Texpool**

Mr. Keith Blundell presented. He shared that the attached resolution would add Lindsey Brown, New Business Office Manager, as an authorized user on our Texpool account. Mrs. Catherine McHaney moved to accept the amended resolution as presented. Dr. Estella De Los Santos seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

10. **CONSIDER Victoria College Core Curriculum – Addition of Two New Courses**

Mr. Matt Weiler, Dean of Science, Math, Engineering and PE, presented. He shared with the board that in accordance with Texas Senate Bill 37 and TASB policy EFAA Local, the Victoria College Board of Trustees now approves changes to Victoria College’s general education curriculum 45 days before we submit them to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

We would like to add two new courses, BIOL 1308 Biology for Non-Science Majors I and BIOL 1309 Biology for Non-Science Majors II, to our course inventory and our core curriculum. We currently offer the four-hour version of these courses. However, most of our transfer university partners do not require that non-science majors take lab science courses. These two new 3-hour courses would provide non-lab biology options for our students to take prior to transferring. Mr. Ron Walker moved to accept the two new courses as presented. Mrs. Catherine McHaney seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

11. **CONSIDER Proposed 2026-2027 Academic Year Instructional Fee Changes**

- a. **Allied Health Fees** b. **EMS Course Fees** c. **Welding Lab Fee**

Ms. Darla Strother presented the Allied Health and EMS Fees below.

Course	Current Fee 2025-2026	Proposed Fee 2026-2027	Justification
Emergency Medical Services EMSP 2444, 2243	\$345	\$395	An increase of \$25 per student enrolled in the fall and spring semester courses due to the vendor Centre for Health Sciences for attending the Critical Care Skills Lab.
AH Liability Insurance EMSP 1160, 1261, 2262, 2363	\$20	\$16	The NSO Affinity Insurance agency decreased fees by \$4 per student enrolled in the EMSP courses.
Associate Degree Nursing Program RNSG 2361	0	\$20	The platform vendor, My Clinical Exchange, charges \$20 to schedule within the Driscoll Children’s Hospital system. This is needed for the clinic pediatric rotations.
Associate Degree Nursing Program RNSG 1523, 2504, 2514, 2535	\$47.50	\$48.65	The vendor, ExamSoft, increased the cost per student by \$1.15 for the listed courses.
Associate Degree Nursing Program RNSG 1327, 2514, 2535	\$34.03	\$32.47	The vendor, ExamSoft, decreased the cost per student for the listed courses by \$1.56.
Respiratory Therapy Program RSPT 2360	\$45	\$55	An increase of a \$10 fee for testing from the vendor for the Neonatal Resuscitation program.

Fiscal Impact:

Emergency Medical Services program (EMSP 2444, 2243): Total net cost increase of \$50 per student (from \$345 to \$395) due to vendor costs associated with the Critical Care Skills Lab.

Emergency Medical Services program (EMSP 1160, 1261, 2262, 2363): Total net decrease of \$4 per course listed. Total net savings of \$16 per student, as fees would not be collected from the insurance vendor.

Associate Degree Nursing program (RNSG 2361): Total net cost increase of \$20 for students enrolled in the capstone clinical course and collected by the vendor.

Associate Degree Nursing program (RNSG 1523, 2504, 2514, 2535): Total net increase of \$1.15 per course listed. The total net cost per student increases by \$4.60 due to vendor pricing adjustments.

Associate Degree Nursing program (RNSG 1327, 2514, 2535): Total net decrease of \$1.15 per course listed. Total net savings of \$4.68 per student, as fees would not be collected from the vendor.

Respiratory Therapy program (RSPT 2360): Total net cost increase of \$10 per student paid to the vendor as testing fees.

Mr. James Martinez presented the welding fee changes. He asked the board to consider approval of a Welding Program lab fee increase for the 2026–2027 academic year to offset the rising cost of consumable materials. The current lab fee is \$12 per credit hour. A 25% increase is proposed, which would adjust the fee to \$15 per credit hour. This 25% increase in the Welding Program lab fee will help cover the rising cost of consumable materials used in training. The goal is to keep the program self-sustaining and reduce reliance on general funds. For students, this represents an increase of \$3 per credit hour. Mr. Ron Walker moved to accept fee changes as presented. Mrs. Catherine McHaney seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ron Walker moved to accept all fee changes as presented. Mrs. Catherine McHaney seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

12. **CONSIDER Proposed 2026-2027 Academic Year Student Services Fee Changes**

a. **Testing Center Fees**

Dr. Marisa Pierce presented the fee changes below.

Texas Success Initiative Assessment (TSIA)				
TSIA	Current Cost	Increase	Proposed Total	Justification
Testing Fees	\$12.00	\$13.00	\$25.00	Revenue Recovery, Eliminates Cross-Subsidy, Resource Allocation

Rationale:

- The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Assessment is a **state-mandated placement test** used to determine college readiness in reading, writing, and math.
- Victoria College currently charges a **flat fee of \$12.00**, which has been in place since **2017**. This fee applies regardless of whether a student takes one section or the full battery of tests.
- The proposal today is to consider a **new fee structure**—one that reflects updated cost realities, addresses market misalignment, and supports better resource sustainability.
- This is not just a pricing update—it’s part of a **strategic financial review** that ensures we’re serving students equitably while also maintaining fiscal responsibility amid budget constraints and enrollment shifts.

Current Fee Structure:

Victoria College charges a **flat rate of \$12.00** for TSI testing. This fee was established in **2017** and has not changed in over seven years, despite rising costs.

- **Cost Breakdown:**
The member unit cost per student is **\$1.75**. A full battery test at VC typically uses **6.28 units**, which brings the total cost per student to **\$10.99**.
- This means that the college earns only **\$1.00 per full battery administration** - a slim margin that doesn't account for other operational costs like staff time, facilities, or student support.
- The key point here is that **our current pricing is outdated**, and while it's technically above cost for the full battery, it **barely breaks even** and **does not reflect the true cost** of service delivery.
- This background establishes the financial and operational foundation for why a pricing adjustment is both necessary and timely.

Victoria College earns approximately **\$1.00 per full battery administration** under the \$12 flat fee. That narrow margin does not account for staff time, facilities, or indirect costs, and it limits our ability to reinvest in student support services.

- By adjusting our testing fee to match regional peers—around **\$25 to \$30**—we project a **significant increase in net testing revenue**, even accounting for potential drops in non-VC test takers.
- This additional revenue could support critical areas such as:
 - Expanding testing center hours,
 - Improving student assessment readiness programs,
 - Reducing operational dependency on other cost centers.
- Including this slide with specific **revenue projections** (based on recent testing volumes and proposed price points) will help stakeholders clearly see the **financial upside and return on strategic alignment**.

Mr. John Zacek moved to accept the testing fee changes as presented. Dr. Estella De Los Santos seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

13. **CONSIDER Nominations to Victoria College Foundation Board of Directors**

Ms. Vee Strauss, VC Foundation Board Chair, presented. She shared with the board that at the regular meeting of the Victoria College Foundation Board of Directors on January 12, 2026, the Board approved the Nominating Committee's recommendations, as listed below, to be forwarded to the Victoria College Board of Trustees for consideration. A short biography is attached for each nominee.

The Honorable Geanie W. Morrison
Ben Streiff

The Victoria College Foundation Bylaws state: *"All Directors of the Victoria College Foundation Board of Directors shall be appointed by the Victoria College Board of Trustees. The number of Directors shall be no more than twenty-nine, of which no less than two and no more than three members shall also be members of the Victoria College Board of Trustees."*

Mrs. Catherine McHaney moved to accept the nominations as presented. Mr. Ron Walker seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

14. **CONSIDER Board of Trustees TASB Update 50 (Local) Policies**

Ms. Terri Kurtz presented. She shared with the board that Update 50 was discussed in detail at the 3PM Board workshop prior to the 4PM Board Meeting. She shared this update was due to the 89th Legislative Update. She covered sections B (Local Governance), C (Business and Support Services, and D (Personnel). E (Instruction), F (Students) and G (Community and Governmental Relations) would be discussed at the May Board Meeting due to the length of this update. Ms. Kurtz pointed out total new policies and answered any questions the board had. She informed the board that Administration had reviewed all the policies changes and additions in the packet, had

discussions, and their recommendations were included. They went through, reviewed and discussed all 35 pages. Dr. Estella De Los Santos moved to accept the updates as presented. Mrs. Catherine McHaney seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

15. **CONSIDER Certification of Unopposed Candidates and Cancellation of General Election**

Dr. Jennifer Kent shared with the board that all four candidates below were unopposed and therefore we are recommending the cancellation of the General Election that the board approved in January.


Dr. Estella De Los Santos	District 1
V. Bland Proctor	District 3
Ronald B. Walker	District 5
Dr. Daniel A. Cano	District 7


Mrs. Catherine McHaney moved to accept the certification and cancellation as presented. Mr. John Zacek seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Informational Items:

1. Instructional Progress Report, Faculty Tenure, Professor Emeriti – *C. Buchholz*
2. President's Report

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:07 PM.


Mr. V. Bland Proctor, Chair


Mr. John E. Zacek, Secretary