

**MEETING OF THE
BOARD GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

May 7, 2025

Minutes

The Board Governance Committee of Houston Community College Board of Trustees met on Wednesday, April 2, 2025, at the HCC Administration Building, 3100 Main, Second Floor Auditorium, Houston, Texas.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Monica Richart, Committee Chair
Sean Cheben, Committee Member
Dave Wilson, Committee Member
Laolu Davies, Alternate Member
Renee Patterson
Pretta VanDible Stallworth

CHANCELLOR COUNCIL

Margaret Ford Fisher, Chancellor
Rima Adil, Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Services
Andrea Burrridge, Vice Chancellor for Strategy, Planning, and Institutional Effectiveness
Jerome Drain, President, Online College
Michael Edwards, Office of the Ombudsman
Betty Fortune, Interim President, Northeast College
Frances Villagran-Glover, President, Southeast College
Lutricia Harrison, President, Coleman College
Sherry Hawn, Senior Vice Chancellor, Finance and Administration and Chief Finance and Building Operations
Edmond "Butch" Herod, President, Central College
Zachary Hodges, President, Northwest College
Warren Hurd, Vice Chancellor, Administrative Services
James Jackson, Interim Chief Information Officer, Information Technology
Bob McCracken, Vice Chancellor, Administration and Operations
Nicole Montgomery, Interim General Counsel
Rodney Nathan, Interim Vice Chancellor for Talent Engagement and Chief Human Resource Officer
Norma Perez, Senior Vice Chancellor for Instructional Services and Chief Academic Officer
Miguel Ramos, Vice Chancellor, Instructional Services
Karen Schmidt, Executive Director, HCC Foundation
James Walker, Interim Chief Facilities Officer
Michael Webster, President, Southwest College
Morgan Yette, Staff Senate President

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Remmele Young, Vice Chancellor of External and Governmental Relations, Transfer and Alumni Relations

OTHER PRESENT

Melissa Mihalick, Board Counsel, Thompson and Horton, LLP

CALL TO ORDER

Trustee Monica Richart, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m. and declared the Board convened to consider matters of Houston Community College as listed on the duly posted Meeting Notice.

(The following Trustees were present: Cheben, Patterson, Richart, VanDible Stallworth, and Wilson)

HEARING OF THE CITIZENS

No citizens signed up to speak before the Committee.

(Dr. VanDible Stallworth stepped out at 2:05 p.m.)

(Trustee Patterson stepped out at 2:05 p.m.)

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION

PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY CAK (LOCAL) - APPROPRIATIONS AND REVENUE SOURCES: INVESTMENTS

Motion – Trustee Sean Cheben motioned, and Trustee David Wilson seconded.

Dr. Fisher apprised that Dr. Nicole Montgomery, Interim General Counsel, will provide the report on the policy CAK (LOCAL), appropriations, and revenue sources: investments.

Dr. Montgomery noted the changes are recommended by the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) and apprised that Dr. Lucie Tredennick, Assistant General Counsel, would provide an overview and entertain any questions.

Dr. Tredennick apprised that the revisions listed under Sellers apply the required qualifications applicable to representatives of brokers/dealers to representatives with distributors of investment pools and indicate representatives with distributors of investment pools must be registered in good standing with the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board.

Vote – The motion passed with a vote of 3-0 with Trustees Richart, Cheben, and Wilson in favor.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY CDE (LOCAL) - ACCOUNTING: FINANCIAL ETHICS

Motion – Trustee Monica Richart motioned, and Trustee David Wilson seconded.

Dr. Fisher apprised that Dr. Montgomery will provide the report on the proposed revisions to CDE (Local) recommended by TASB regarding Accounting Financial ethics.

Dr. Montgomery noted that the college is already operating under CDE (Legal) and that the proposed revisions will add clarity to the policy. Dr. Tredennick added that the effort aims to make the policy more transparent.

Trustee Wilson inquired about the origin of the requested change. Dr. Tredennick noted that the recommendation comes from TASB.

Vote – The motion passed with a vote of 3-0 with Trustees Richart, Cheben, and Wilson in favor.

(Trustee Davies arrived at 2:15 p.m.)

PROPOSED CHANGES TO DHB (LOCAL): EMPLOYEE STANDARDS OF CONDUCT: CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT REPORTING

Motion – Trustee Sean Cheben motioned, and Trustee David Wilson seconded.

Vote – The motion passed with a vote of 3-0 Trustees Richart, Cheben, and Wilson in favor.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO FAA (LOCAL) POLICY: EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY: PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS

Motion – Trustee Sean Cheben motioned, and Trustee David Wilson seconded.

Trustee Wilson noted that he previously voted against the adoption of the International Auditor and expressed concern regarding the new recommendation related to the college's operations.

Vote – The motion passed with a vote of 3-0 Trustees Richart, Cheben, and Wilson in favor.

PROPOSED BOARD BYLAWS REVISIONS TO ARTICLE F, SECTION 1: COMMITTEES AND ARTICLE G, SECTION 17: AGENDA

Motion – Trustee Sean Cheben motioned, and Trustee David Wilson seconded.

Trustee Richart noted that Melissa Mihalick, Board Counsel could provide an overview.

Ms. Mihalick noted that the closed session was included on the agenda should there be a need to discuss the item privately. She apprised that although the Board has adopted to conduct its Committee meetings under the Texas Open Meetings Act (TOMA), its requirements do not apply to committee meetings, and the proposed revisions would remove those obligations. She also noted that the item would move the monthly financial statement from the Committee of the Whole (COTW) to the Consent Agenda. Ms. Mihalick apprised that, due to the way the bylaws are structured, this change would require the item to be formally moved from the COTW meeting.

Trustee Richart inquired whether the changes would result in an increased workload. Ms. Mihalick noted that discussions have taken place with the General Counsel and Board Services regarding the agenda preparation process. She apprised that due to the requirement to provide the agenda material in advance, there may be varying timelines for its preparation.

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Trustee Wilson inquired whether the item would be voted on or discussed in a closed session.

Trustee Richart noted that she had concerns about the additional workload and the availability of Trustees to fully participate in the discussion.

Trustee Cheben expressed concerns about transparency and apprised that the community values openness in decision-making.

Trustee Wilson also noted that the proposed change could send the wrong message to the community and apprised that greater transparency would be preferable.

Trustee Richart further noted that should the item not pass out of committee, it could be brought back for reconsideration if more Trustees wished to explore it.

Vote – The motion failed with a vote of 0-3 Trustees Richart, Cheben, and Wilson opposed.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business coming before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 3:09 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Sharon Wright, Director, Board Services

Minutes Approved as Submitted: June 18, 2025