

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
HOUSTON CITY COLLEGE**

December 3, 2025

Minutes

The Houston City College Board of Trustees held a Committee of the Whole meeting on Wednesday, December 3, 2025, at the HCC Administration Building, 3100 Main, Second Floor Auditorium, Houston, Texas.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Eva Loreda, Chair
Laolu Davies, Vice Chair
Sean Cheben, Secretary
Cynthia Lenton-Gary
Monica Ricart
Pretta VanDible Stallworth (via Video Conference)
Dave Wilson

CHANCELLOR COUNCIL

Margaret Ford Fisher, Chancellor
Rima Adil, Interim Vice Chancellor, Communications
Lisa Alcorta, Vice Chancellor, Student Services
Andrea Burrige, Vice Chancellor for Strategy, Planning, and Institutional Effectiveness
Jerome Drain, President, Online College
Michael Edwards, Office of the Ombudsman
Betty Fortune, President, Northeast College
Frances Villagran-Glover, President, Southeast College
Lutricia Harrison, President, Coleman College
Edmond "Butch" Herod, President, Central College
Zachary Hodges, President, Northwest College
Warren Hurd, Vice Chancellor, Administrative Services
Barry Sullivan, Chief Information Officer, Information Technology
Bob McCracken, Vice Chancellor, Administration and Operations
Nicole Montgomery, 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
Karen Schmidt, Executive Director, HCC Foundation
Nathan Smith, Faculty Senate President
Michael Webster, President, Southwest College
Morgan Yette, Staff Senate President
Remmele Young, Vice Chancellor of External and Governmental Relations, Transfer and Alumni Relations

OTHERS PRESENT

Melissa Mihalick, Board Counsel, Thompson and Horton, LLP

CALL TO ORDER

Trustee Eva Loreda, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m. and declared the Board convened to consider matters of Houston City College as listed on the duly posted Meeting Notice.

(The following Trustees were present: Cheben, Davies, Loreda, Lenton-Gary, Richart, VanDible Stallworth, and Wilson)

HEARING OF THE CITIZENS

No citizens signed up to speak before the Board.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION

MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT, FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND BUDGET REVIEW FOR OCTOBER 2025

Motion – Trustee Laolu Davies motioned, and Dr. Cynthia Lenton-Gary seconded.

Dr. Ford Fisher noted that the item is to accept the Investment Report, Financial Statement, and Budget Review for October 2025 and apprised that Mr. Bob McCracken, Vice Chancellor, Administration and Operations, would introduce the report and entertain questions.

Vote – The motion passed with a vote of 7-0 with Trustees Loreda, Davies, Cheben, Lenton-Gary, Richart, VanDible Stallworth, and Wilson.

BUDGET WORKSHOP #1: FY2027 BUDGET DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Dr. Ford Fisher noted that the item provides a review of the Budget Development process and timeline for Fiscal Year 2026-2027, to include an overview of the guiding principles for the budget. She apprised that Mr. Bob McCracken would provide an overview.

Mr. McCracken provided an overview of the Guiding Principles and noted that they would be presented to the Board for consideration in January.

Mr. McCracken reported on the following:

- Alignment with Strategic Priorities
- Institutional Annual Priorities
- Mitigation of Significant Risks
- Maintain Competitive Tax Rate
- Maintain Affordable Tuition and Fees
- Contingency Planning

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Mr. McCracken provided an overview of the timeline and budget development process, including:

- HCC’s Strategic Priorities
- Institutional Annual Priorities
- External Influences on Budget
- FY27 Preliminary Budget Inputs
- Budget Development Timeline for BOT Review, Discussion, and Approval
- FY25 Operating Budget Review
- Review of FY26 Approved Budget Compared to FY26 Projections at Year End
- FY26 Budget
- Funding Source: Ad Valorem Taxes
- Taxable Values vs HCC Tax Rate
- Funding Source: Tuition and Fees
- Tuition & Fee Trends
- Funding Source: State Appropriations
- State Appropriations Updates
- Federal Rates vs HCCS Rate of Return 2022-25
- Operating Expenses: Salaries and Benefits
- Cost of Living vs HCC Compensation Adjustment
- Major Operating Expenses
- Major Operating Expenses Investment
- FY27 Preliminary Operating Budget (Aligned with Guiding Principles)
- Next Steps

Trustee Wilson noted that the City of Houston engaged in a feasibility study and suggested that HCC conduct a similar study to obtain an external, third-party perspective.

Trustee Cheben emphasized that continued funding for Houston Reconnect and Connect 2 Workforce is essential and noted that maintaining financial support is critical to the programs’ development. He also requested that the expenses for the FY2026–27 Enterprise Resources Planning (ERP) upgrade be included as a line item in the budget.

Trustee Davies commented on the timing of budgetary considerations, emphasizing the importance of receiving information earlier to make informed decisions. He referenced Trustee Wilson’s suggestion regarding a review of operations and efficiency and associated Trustee Cheben’s comments regarding the ERP update and funding.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business coming before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Sharon Wright, Director, Board Services

Minutes Approved as Submitted: January 14, 2026