



# Laurel Ridge Community College Board Meeting

## Minutes

Laurel Ridge Community College Board  
2/6/2025 12:00 PMEST @ Zoom

### **Attendance**

#### **Present:**

Members: Kim Blosser - President, Renard Carlos - Fauquier County, Jeanian Clark - Vice President, Workforce Solutions, Ed Daley - Warren County, Will Fairhurst - Rappahannock County, Ben Freakley - Shenandoah County, Ashley Hansen - Executive Assistant to the President, Liv Heggoy - Associate Vice President, Development; Executive Director, Educational Foundation, Andrew Keller - Shenandoah County, Brandon Monk - Frederick County, William (Clay) Perry - Frederick County, Maryam Tabatabai - Clarke County, Cory Thompson - Vice President, Financial & Administrative Services, Johanna Weiss - Vice President, Academic & Student Affairs, Jim Wells - Warren County

#### **Absent:**

Members: Chris Coutts - Vice President, Communications & Planning; Provost, Fauquier Campus, Krista Farris - Winchester City, Brad Hodgson - Winchester City, Paul Johnson - Page County, Brian Sours - Page County

- I. Call to Order (Presenters: Ben Freakley, College Board Chair)
- II. Approval of Meeting Minutes, November 7, 2024 (Presenters: Ben Freakley, College Board Chair)

 [Minutes 270 - November 7 2024.pdf](#)

#### **Motion:**

Motion to approve College Board Meeting Minutes, November 7, 2024

Motion moved by William (Clay) Perry and motion seconded by Maryam Tabatabai. Unanimously Approved

### III. New Business

- A. New College Board member, William Fairhurst, representing Rappahannock County (Presenters: Ben Freakley, College Board Chair)

Board Chair Ben Freakley welcomed new College Board member, Will Fairhurst representing Rappahannock County. Fairhurst was appointed to an unexpired term ending June 30, 2028, and will be eligible to be reappointed to a first four-year term in July 2028.

This was an information item and required no further action.

- B. Recommendation to approve 2025 College Board Medallion of Recognition nominations (Presenters: Kim Blosser, President)

President Kim Blosser reviewed the criteria for medallion recipients and guided board members to review the attached nominations for recipients of the 2025 College Board

Medallion of Recognition. Nominees include Dennis W. "Bill" Pence, retired Laurel Ridge Workforce Solutions director of operations; Mary Leigh McDaniel, former Fauquier County Board of Supervisors; and Michael S Wenger, former Laurel Ridge College Board chair and member representing Rappahannock County.

Medallion recipients will be publicly recognized in the 2025 Laurel Ridge Commencement Ceremonies print program and related press release. Honorees will be presented medallions during a recognition ceremony held in May 2025.

 [Recommendation Memo - Medallion Recognition 2025.pdf](#)

**Motion:**

Motion to approve 2025 College Board Medallion of Recognition nominations  
Motion moved by Maryam Tabatabai and motion seconded by Renard Carlos.  
Unanimously Approved

- C. Recommendation to approve 2025 Laurel Ridge Professor Emeritus nominations  
(Presenters: Kim Blosser, President)

President Kim Blosser guided board members to review the attached nominations for professor emeritus to be conferred in 2025. Nominees include Kimmarie Lewis, retired professor of English and speech; and M. Beth Shanholtzer, retired associate professor of health information management.

Professor emeritus nominations are submitted by Laurel Ridge full-time faculty. Nominees must meet certain criteria including having taught for ten or more years, retired for at least one year prior to being nominated, and exhibiting exemplary work during their tenure with the College. There is a maximum of two nominees allotted per year.

Professor Emeritus honorees will be publicly recognized in the 2025 Laurel Ridge Commencement Ceremonies print program and related press release. Honorees will be recognized in-person during a special ceremony held in May 2025.

 [Recommendation Memo - Professor Emeritus 2025.pdf](#)

**Motion:**

Motion to approve 2025 Laurel Ridge Professor Emeritus nominations  
Motion moved by Ed Daley and motion seconded by Renard Carlos.  
Unanimously Approved

- D. Recommendation to approve 2025 Laurel Ridge Classified Staff Emeritus nominations  
(Presenters: Kim Blosser, President)

President Kim Blosser guided board members to review the attached nominations for classified staff emeritus to be conferred in 2025. Nominees include Margaret Barnett, retired budget and finance director (1997-2014); Providence "PJ" Lopresti, retired

library specialist (2006-2022); and Barbara Woods, retired human resources analyst (1999-2024).

Classified staff emeritus nominations are submitted by Laurel Ridge classified staff members. Nominees must meet certain criteria including having been employed full-time by the college or VCCS for ten or more years, being retired for at least one year prior to being nominated, and exhibiting exemplary work during their tenure with the College.

Professor Emeritus honorees will be publicly recognized in the 2025 Laurel Ridge Commencement Ceremonies print program and related press release. Honorees will be recognized in-person during a special ceremony held in May 2025.

 [Recommendation Memo - Classified Staff Emeritus 2025.pdf](#)

**Motion:**

Motion to approve 2025 Laurel Ridge Classified Staff Emeritus nominations

Motion moved by William (Clay) Perry and motion seconded by Ed Daley.

Unanimously Approved

- E. Recommendation to approve President Evaluation Procedures 2024-25 (Presenters: Ben Freakley, College Board Chair, Kim Blosser, President)

Board Chair Ben Freakley recommended to board members that the proposed procedure for the President's evaluation be consistent with years prior. In April, Dr. Kim Blosser will provide board members with a written progress report on the AY 2024-25 Laurel Ridge Institutional Priorities. At the April board meeting, Dr. Blosser will give a verbal progress report on these goals.

After the April College Board meeting, board members will complete an anonymous electronic survey evaluating the President's performance over the 2024-25 academic year. A sample survey was included as an attachment for review. The College Board Chair will review the survey results and draft a letter of evaluation for board review. Upon board member approval, the letter will be sent to the Chancellor in May 2025.

 [Recommendation Memo - President Evaluation Procedures 2025.pdf](#)

**Motion:**

Motion to approve President Evaluation Procedures 2024-25

Motion moved by Maryam Tabatabai and motion seconded by Brandon Monk.

Unanimously Approved


- F. State Budget update (Presenters: Kim Blosser, President)

President Kim Blosser reviewed with board members the attached update on the state budget. This was an information item and required no further action.

 [Recommendation Memo - State Budget update.pdf](#)

- G. College Board Budget FY2025 quarterly update (Presenters: Cory Thompson, Vice President, Financial and Administrative Services)

Cory Thompson reviewed with board members the attached College Board Budget quarterly update including local contributions and expenses as of the second quarter of fiscal 2025. This was an information item and required no further action.

 [Recommendation Memo - FY25 Q2 College Board Budget update.pdf](#)

- H. Recommendation to approve Discontinuance of Recreation and Outdoor Leadership Career Studies Certificate (Presenters: Johanna Weiss, Vice President, Academic and Student Affairs)

Johanna Weiss recommended the discontinuation of the recreation and outdoor leadership career studies certificate for board approval. Board members reviewed the attached curricular proposal.

 [Recommendation Memo - Discontinuance CSC Recreation and Outdoor Leadership.pdf](#)

**Motion:**

Motion to approve discontinuance of recreation and outdoor leadership career studies certificate

Motion moved by Ed Daley and motion seconded by Renard Carlos.

Unanimously Approved

- IV. Report of the College Board Chair (Presenters: Ben Freakley, College Board Chair)

Board Chair Ben Freakley highlighted recent successes of the college including Laurel Ridge leading the VCCS in the number of high school students earning college credit, and a partnership with Blue Ridge Hospice providing Laurel Ridge students hands-on experience and bolstering healthcare in our region. Board Chair Freakley will be the keynote speaker at the upcoming Laurel Ridge Workforce Solutions Leadership Institute graduation ceremony on February 13 recognizing 18 participants.

- V. Report of the Laurel Ridge Educational Foundation Representative (Presenters: Ed Daley, College Board member, Warren County)

There was no report of the Educational Foundation representative as the Foundation had not yet met in 2025.

- VI. Reports of the College (Presenters: Kim Blosser, President, Jeanian Clark, Vice President, Workforce Solutions, Chris Coutts, Vice President, Communications and Planning, Fauquier Campus Provost, Johanna Weiss, Vice President, Academic and Student Affairs, Cory Thompson, Vice President, Financial and Administrative Services, Liv Heggoy, Associate Vice President, Development)

 [Reports of the College - February 2025.pdf](#)

VII. Important Dates (Presenters: Kim Blosser, President)

 [Important Dates - February 2025.pdf](#)

VIII. Adjournment (Presenters: Ben Freakley, College Board Chair)

Action Item

**Motion:**

Motion to adjourn meeting at 1:18 pm.

Motion moved by Ed Daley and motion seconded by Renard Carlos.

Unanimously Approved

**SUBMITTED BY:**

**APPROVED BY:**

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Kimberly P. Blosser  
President, Laurel Ridge Community College;  
Secretary, Laurel Ridge Community College Board

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Benjamin C. Freakley  
Chair, Laurel Ridge Community College Board

Copy + Attachments to: All College Board Members and College Senior Leadership members.

Copy of Approved Laurel Ridge Community College Board Minutes – November 7, 2024, filed with Dr. David Doré, Chancellor, Virginia Community College System.