**SCCPCCD GOVERNING BOARD**
**Regular Board Meeting Minutes**
**WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2026**
2021 North Grand Avenue ~ Nogales, AZ 85621

## 1. OPENING ITEMS

### A. *Call to Order:*

Chair Varona called the Public Regular Board Meeting of the Santa Cruz County Provisional Community College District (SCCPCCD) Board to order on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at 3:00 p.m.

***Pledge of Allegiance:***

Mr. Pauole led the Pledge of Allegiance.

***Roll Call / In Attendance:***

Dr. Marcelino Varona, Jr.- Chair, Dr. Angela Meixell – Member, Dr. Melisa Lunderville-Member (via Zoom), Mrs. Georgina Tavera- CFO, Mr. Greg Lucero- CEO, Mr. Jose Corrales-IT Manager, Ms. Denissa Peiro (Records Technician), Mr. David Pauole (Legal Counsel, via Zoom), and other staff and guests. Dr. Carrie Pottinger - Vice-Chair and Mrs. Dina Sanchez-Member were not in attendance.

### B. *Adoption of the Agenda*

Chair Varona entertained a motion to adopt the agenda of Wednesday, May 20, 2026, as presented and recommended by Mr. Lucero. Motion was made by Dr. Meixell to adopt the agenda of Wednesday, March 18, 2026, as presented, seconded by Dr. Pottinger. Motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

| | Dr. Marcelino Varona Jr. | Dr. Angela Meixell | Mrs. Dina Sanchez | Dr. Melisa Lunderville | Dr. Carrie Pottinger |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AYE | X | X | Excused Absence | X | Excused Absence |
| NAY | | | | | |
| ABSTAIN | | | | | |

### C. *Public Comment – Call to Audience*

No Call to the Public. No requests for public comment were received.

## 2. STANDING REPORTS AND ACTION ITEMS

### A. Monthly Financials

Mrs. Tavera presented the April 2026 Financials. Balances reported were $943.498 in checking, $1,478,414 in savings, and $4.959,362 million in the Arizona Treasury account. Non-recurring expenses included catering for the joint board meeting ($4,941), Fall 2025 semester payment to Pima ($90,735), furniture payment to CORE ($10,125 – to be reimbursed by South32), final payment for the board dias table ($2,517 – custom-built to save approximately $30,000 compared to manufacturer quotes), electricity ($4,265), and medical insurance ($4,000). Deposits included state assistance ($20,775), rural aid ($24,975), and workforce funding ($5,543).

### B. Chairperson of the Governing Board

Chair Varona reported on attending a USMCA trade agreement implementation session at Bombardier in Tucson.

He highlighted the importance of training a local workforce to keep talent in the community, noting that this aligns with Mr. Lucero's workforce development efforts. He also observed that Bombardier operates a facility three times larger in Guanajuato, Mexico, demonstrating the potential for similar workforce development in Santa Cruz County.

**C. Members of the Governing Board**

No reports were given.

**D. PCC-Santa Cruz Center District Report**

This item was tabled to the next meeting, as Mr. Soto was attending Pima Community College's graduation ceremony.

**E. Dr. Angela Meixell's Resignation and Recognition**

Mr. Lucero announced that Dr. Meixell had submitted her letter of resignation, effective at the end of the meeting. He noted her approximately nine years of service to the board, including multiple terms as board chair. Mr. Pauole clarified that the board does not need to accept the resignation, as it is submitted directly to the County School Superintendent. Chair Varona and Ms. Liz Collier (former board member) thanked Dr. Meixell for her invaluable service, particularly her willingness to join during a turbulent period. Dr. Meixell expressed her honor in serving and her excitement about the District's direction. No motion was required. Dr. Meixell's resignation was recognized.

**F. Discussion and Possible Action: SCCPCCD Governing Board requests that the County Superintendent appoint Dr. Homero Lopez to replace Dr. Meixell for the remainder of her term**

Mr. Lucero presented a request from Dr. Meixell that the board recommend Dr. Homero Lopez to the County School Superintendent to fill in the remainder of her term (Precinct 4). Motion was made by Dr. Meixell to authorize the Chairman of the SCCPCCD Governing Board to submit a letter to the Santa Cruz County School Superintendent recommending the appointment of Dr. Homero Lopez to fill the vacancy in Precinct 4, seconded by Dr. Lunderville. Motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

| | Dr. Marcelino Varona Jr. | Dr. Angela Meixell | Mrs. Dina Sanchez | Dr. Melisa Lunderville | Dr. Carrie Pottinger |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AYE | X | X | Excused Absence | X | Excused Absence |
| NAY | | | | | |
| ABSTAIN | | | | | |

Dr. Meixell spoke to the leadership principle of "replacing yourself," noting that Dr. Lopez is highly qualified, having served as a community college president in the Maricopa County Community College District. Chair Varona concurred, praising Dr. Lopez's credibility and commitment to Santa Cruz County

**G. Report of Santa Cruz County Provisional Community College District Annual Budgeted Expenditure Limitation Report**

Mr. Lucero presented the Auditor General's report on the expenditure limitation. Mrs. Tavera explained that the report showed the District underspent its expenditure limitation by approximately $351,000 for the fiscal year in question. Chair Varona confirmed for the public record that the District lived within its budget. The report was received and filed.

**H. Acceptance of Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration (SME) Funds for Mining Scholarships**

Mr. Lucero reported that the Arizona SME chapter had donated $5,000 to support scholarships for students in mining and minerals-related fields. The funds will be deposited into the Santa Cruz Center Educational Foundation account and used in coordination with Pima College. Motion was made by Dr. Meixell to accept the $5,000 donation from the Arizona Society of Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration (SME) and authorize the CFO to deposit the funds into the Santa Cruz Center Educational Foundation account, seconded by Dr. Lunderville. Motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

| | Dr. Marcelino Varona Jr. | Dr. Angela Meixell | Mrs. Dina Sanchez | Dr. Melisa Lunderville | Dr. Carrie Pottinger |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AYE | X | X | Excused Absence | X | Excused Absence |
| NAY | | | | | |
| ABSTAIN | | | | | |

**I. Approval of Statement of Work 3 Automated Industrial Technology between the Provisional College District and South32**

Mr. Lucero presented the third statement of work for the AIT program. This SOW allows five students from Santa Cruz Valley Unified School District's AIT program (who are three classes short of certification) to complete their certificate at SCCPCCD, with South32 covering the cost. Dr. Lunderville noted that the document incorrectly referred to "Santa Cruz Valley High School" instead of "Santa Cruz Valley Unified School District." Mr. Lucero agreed to correct the language to reference the school district. Dr. Lunderville asked Mr. Pauole whether her role in connecting the parties created a conflict. Mr. Pauole advised that she had no personal financial interest and that the district was not receiving funds, so she could participate. Motion was made by Dr. Meixell to approve the Statement of Work agreement and authorize the CEO to sign the document on behalf of the district, with the correction to refer to "Santa Cruz Valley Unified School District.", seconded by Dr. Lunderville. Motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

| | Dr. Marcelino Varona Jr. | Dr. Angela Meixell | Mrs. Dina Sanchez | Dr. Melisa Lunderville | Dr. Carrie Pottinger |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AYE | X | X | Excused Absence | X | Excused Absence |
| NAY | | | | | |
| ABSTAIN | | | | | |

**J. JP Chase Morgan Bank Signatures Update**

Mr. Lucero requested signature card updates due to Dr. Meixell's departure. Motion was made by Dr. Meixell, to delete Dr. Angela Meixell as Secretary on the JP Morgan Chase bank signature card, add Dr. Carrie Pottinger as Secretary, and change Georgina M. Tavera to Acting Secretary, seconded by Dr. Lunderville. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

| | Dr. Marcelino Varona Jr. | Dr. Angela Meixell | Mrs. Dina Sanchez | Dr. Melisa Lunderville | Dr. Carrie Pottinger |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AYE | X | X | Excused Absence | X | Excused Absence |
| NAY | | | | | |
| ABSTAIN | | | | | |

**K. Arizona State Treasurer's Accounts SCCPCCD-Pool 5 and SCCPCCD-Pool 7 Investment Account's Signatures Update**

Mr. Lucero requested updates to the signature cards for the Arizona Treasury investment accounts. Motion was made by Dr. Meixell, to add Dr. Carrie Pottinger and CEO Greg Lucero as signers on the Arizona State Treasurer investment accounts for SCCPCCD Pool 5 and Pool 7, seconded by Dr. Lunderville. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

| | Dr. Marcelino Varona Jr. | Dr. Angela Meixell | Mrs. Dina Sanchez | Dr. Melisa Lunderville | Dr. Carrie Pottinger |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AYE | X | X | Excused Absence | X | Excused Absence |
| NAY | | | | | |
| ABSTAIN | | | | | |

**L. Santa Cruz County Provisional Community College District CEO Performance Evaluation**

Motion was made by Dr. Meixell to move into executive session pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(1) to discuss and consider CEO employment, including performance evaluation, seconded by Dr. Lunderville. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

| | Dr. Marcelino Varona Jr. | Dr. Angela Meixell | Mrs. Dina Sanchez | Dr. Melisa Lunderville | Dr. Carrie Pottinger |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AYE | X | X | Excused Absence | X | Excused Absence |
| NAY | | | | | |
| ABSTAIN | | | | | |

**M. New CEO Employment Contract**

Motion was made by Dr. Meixell to move into executive session pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3) for legal advice regarding the new CEO employment contract, seconded by Dr. Lunderville. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

| | Dr. Marcelino Varona Jr. | Dr. Angela Meixell | Mrs. Dina Sanchez | Dr. Melisa Lunderville | Dr. Carrie Pottinger |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AYE | X | X | Excused Absence | X | Excused Absence |
| NAY | | | | | |
| ABSTAIN | | | | | |

## 3. EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS

The board convened in Executive Session at approximately 4:00 PM to discuss items ***L*** & ***M***.

The board reconvened to public session at **4:47 PM**.

**ACTION ITEMS FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**A. Special Board Meeting Scheduled**

Chair Varona announced that a Special Board Meeting would be held on Friday, May 29, 2026, at 12:00 PM for the sole purpose of considering and approving the CEO's employment contract. Mr. Pauole will prepare a proposed contract offer based on board feedback from executive session, which will be presented at that meeting

## 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**A. Approval of Minutes**

Dr. Varona entertained a motion to approve the recommendation of CEO Greg Lucero, to accept the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting minutes of April 15, 2026 as presented. Dr. Lunderville made a motion, seconded by Dr. Meixell. Motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

| | Dr. Marcelino Varona Jr. | Dr. Angela Meixel | Mrs. Dina Sanchez | Dr. Melisa Lunderville | Dr. Carrie Pottinger |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AYE | X | X | Excused Absence | X | Excused Absence |
| NAY | | | | | |
| ABSTAIN | | | | | |

**B. Future Meeting Agenda times**

a. Security recommendations following meetings with Pima Community College Police Chief and Nogales Police Chief (including facility rental policies). Chair Varona raised a concern about the practice of renting the facility to outside groups while students are present on campus. He expressed that this creates a loss of control over who is in the building.
b. Emergency Response. Dr. Lunderville echoed the need for continued focus on safety
c. Accreditation Pathways. Chair Varona wants the board to continue its discussion regarding the two different accrediting bodies available for the District.

**C. Future Meeting Date**

a. Wednesday, June 17, 2026, at 3:00 p.m.
b. Friday, May 29, 2026, at 12:00 PM Special Board Meeting

## 5. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Varona entertained a motion to adjourn this meeting at 4:49 p.m. Dr. Meixell made a motion to adjourn this meeting, seconded by Dr. Lunderville. Motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

| | Dr. Marcelino Varona Jr. | Dr. Angela Meixel | Mrs. Dina Sanchez | Dr. Melisa Lunderville | Dr. Carrie Pottinger |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AYE | X | X | Excused Absence | X | Excused Absence |
| NAY | | | | | |
| ABSTAIN | | | | | |

*Minutes presented respectfully by:*

**Mr. Greg Lucero SCCPCCD CEO**