



Foundation

**Cuesta College Foundation
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Monday, Dec. 1, 2025 | 3 p.m.
Associated Students Auditorium | Building 5400, Room 5401
Zoom Option Available**

A. Call To Order

Foundation Board President Craig Darnell called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

B. Roll Call: A quorum was present.

Board Members

Present:

Executive Committee

Craig Darnell, Chair

Stuart Campbell

Jeff Darnton (Zoom)

Janice Fong Wolf

Grigger Jones

Debbie Perrault

Jill Stearns, Ph.D.

Mary Strobridge (Zoom)

Rob Garcia

Patricia Gordon, Ed.D.

(Zoom)

Eric Holmen

Robyn Letters

Barbara Martinez

(Zoom)

Steve McGrath

John Rolph

Lisa Rubio-Castillo

Marcy Woolpert Rourke

Pragna Patel-Mueller

George Pudlo

Isaac Pummil

Cheryl Vines

Foundation Staff

Present:

Rick Camarillo

Andrea Horvath

Katie Osman

Jessica Strano

Board Members

Ryan Ashlock

Michael Boyer

Andrea Devitt

Susan Dressler, Ph.D.

Cyndee Edwards

(Zoom)

Board Members

Absent:

Jim Anderson

Scott Lathrop

Erica Flores Baltodano

Elizabeth Coria, Ed.D.

Mary E. Howell

Guests Present:

Tyree Cochrane,

Associate Director,

Rodeo and Ranch

Operations



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C. Approval of Agenda

Motion: Approve as presented. (Jones/Strobridge)

Result: Motion passed unanimously.

D. Public Comment

None.

E. Approval of Minutes

Motion: Approve the October 6, 2025 Board of Directors meeting minutes as presented. (McGrath/Dressler)

Result: Motion passed unanimously.

F. Program

Featured Program: Rodeo Club. Tyree Cochrane, Associate Director of Rodeo and Ranch Operations, presented an update on the Rodeo Club, highlighting the dedication of its student-athletes, recent achievements, and current program challenges. No action was taken.

G. Business Agenda

a. Financial Report

Rick Camarillo provided a financial report for the period July 1, 2025, through October 31, 2025, reviewing the Foundation's income and expenditures for the same period. No action was taken.

H. Action Items

a. Proposal for Fundraising Event for Rodeo Club

Katie Osman presented a proposal to host a one-time fundraising event in support of the Cuesta College Rodeo Club and to honor Clint and Connie Pearce for more than ten years of volunteer service. The tentative date for the event is Thursday, May 14, 2026. She reviewed funding priorities and provided an overview of the proposed event.

Motion: Approve the proposed fundraising event for the Rodeo Club, including the recognition of Clint and Connie Pearce, as presented. (Garcia/Woolpert Rourke)

Result: Motion passed unanimously.



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b. Personnel Update and FY26 Budget Revision

Katie Osman and Rick Camarillo presented an update on the Foundation's recent recruitment process and requested approval of a revised FY26 personnel budget. The proposed adjustment results in net cost savings while strengthening day-to-day operational capacity.

Katie outlined the rationale for consolidating from two Director of Philanthropy positions to one Director supported by two Foundation Program Coordinators. This revised structure aligns compensation with scope of work, maintains leadership in major gifts, and increases capacity in donor relations, scholarship administration, alumni engagement, and compliance at a lower overall personnel cost. The proposed revisions reflect a more sustainable and scalable staffing model that improves service delivery and internal controls while reducing long-term personnel expenses.

Motion: Approve the revised FY26 personnel budget and authorize the hiring of two Foundation Program Coordinators. (Garcia/Ashlock)

Result: Motion passed unanimously.

c. Approval of the 2024-2025 Audit

Rick presented the audit of the Foundation's financial statements on behalf of the Foundation Audit Committee, chaired by Susan Dressler.

Motion: Approve the 2024-2025 Audit, as presented (McGrath/Dressler)

Result: Motion passed unanimously.

I. Executive Reports

a. Foundation Board President

Craig Darnell congratulated the Foundation on a clean audit, commended the Finance Committee for its stewardship, and highlighted the success of the Giving Tuesday campaign. He noted that a consultant has been engaged to support the strategic planning process and that two in-person retreats, focused on vision and detailed planning, are scheduled for January and February. No action was taken.

b. Superintendent/President



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Dr. Jill Stearns shared that Cuesta College is again eligible to apply for the 2027 Aspen Prize, recognizing the strong work underway at the College. She noted that crowdfunding campaigns to support Athletics are being led by the Director of Philanthropy and highlighted recent athlete successes, including awards received by student-athletes and coaches. She also announced that the Children's Center has received an accolade and that progress on the SLO Campus Center project continues. No action was taken.

c. Foundation Executive Director

Katie Osman provided an update on her initial months as Executive Director, highlighting donor engagement activity, community outreach, and recent major gifts. No action was taken.

J. Representative Reports

a. Board of Trustees

Mary Strobridge shared an update on the progress of the new North County building and expressed support for the Rodeo Program. She also highlighted the Accelerated RN (LVN to RN) Cohort Class and the Medical Assistant Program, both of which will be honored at pinning ceremonies in December. No action was taken.

b. Faculty

Andrea Devitt reported that Academic Counseling Services is experiencing a particularly busy period due to transfer application deadlines. She noted that registration has opened and shared that a new academic renewal policy allows prior coursework to be excluded from GPA calculations upon transfer.

K. Committee Chair Reports

a. Alumni Relations Committee (Fong Wolf)

The Honored Alumni event has been scheduled at Hotel Cerro in San Luis Obispo immediately following the February 2 Board of Directors meeting, which will also be held at the same location, allowing Board members to proceed directly to the reception. To ensure proper recognition of the 2025 recipients, the 2026 Honored Alumni nomination period will remain open until May 4, with recognition



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taking place in the fall.

b. Development Committee (Darnton)

A brief fundraising update was provided, noting solid progress on the Annual Fund. Jeff reminded the Board that Giving Tuesday is tomorrow, December 2, and encouraged everyone to support Cuesta.

c. Finance Committee (Campbell)

An update on investment performance was provided.

d. Nominating Committee (Lathrop)

No report.

L. Comments by Staff

None.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:34 p.m.

Next Foundation Board Meeting Date: Monday, Feb. 2, 2026.