ST. JOHNS RIVER STATE COLLEGE
DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
May 13, 2026

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Mr. Rich Komando, Chairperson
Mr. Nick Primrose, Vice Chair
Mr. Wendell Davis
Mr. Jud Sapp
Ms. Chereese Stewart (via Zoom)
Mr. Cyrus Zomorodian

OTHERS PRESENT:
Joe H. Pickens, J.D., Executive Secretary
Charlie Douglas, J.D., Board Attorney

I. Meeting Call to Order:
Chairperson Komando called the meeting to order at 2:15 pm.

II. Public Comment:
The floor was open to Public Comments. Hearing none, the floor was closed to Public Comments.

III. Old Business:
There was no Old Business.

IV. Consent Agenda Items:
Chairperson Komando requested approval of the Consent Agenda Items IV.A-D:

A. 1. Minutes of April 15, 2026, Board Meeting
B. Chief Operating Officer/Senior Vice President – Dr. Melanie Brown: 1. Personnel Matters
C. Vice President for Finance/CFO – Randy Peterson: 1. Monthly Financial Report – April 2026; 2. Facilities Usage Report – April 2026; and 3. Write-Offs of Tangible Personal Property.
D. VP / Chief Institutional Research Officer – Dr. Ros Humerick: 1. CareerSource Northeast Florida (CSNEFL) Rural Initiative Grant

Mr. Primrose moved approval of Consent Agenda Items IV.A-D. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. Motion carried (Davis, Komando, Primrose, Sapp, Stewart, Zomorodian – Yes).

V. New Business:

A. Chief Operating Officer/Senior Vice President – Dr. Melanie Brown – Action and Informational Agenda Items *(If you have any questions, please call Dr. Brown's direct #386-312-4202.)*

Chairperson Komando asked if there were any objections to having a group public hearing for all of the amendments to and repeals of board rules listed on the agenda. There being no objections, Chairperson Komando called a public hearing for the following Amendments to SJR Board Rules: 1.10 Board Minutes and Actions; 1.34 The College Catalog; 2.15 Contracting for Architectural and Other; repeal 3.03 Recognition of Meritorious Service; 3.04(C) Administration of the Dr. Philip Benjamin Matching Grant Program; 3.07 Guidelines for Acceptable Computer Lab and Internet Use; 3.08 Website Policy; 3.20 Security and Crime Statistics; 3.21 Emergencies—Illness or Injury of Faculty, Staff, Students, or Visitors; 3.22 Hurricanes and Other Disasters and Disaster Preparedness; 3.26 Volunteers; 3.36 Sexual Misconduct Policy; 4.16 Institutional Membership; 4.39 Bid Protests; 5.02 Terminal Pay; 5.06 Misuse of College Technology and Communication Resources; 5.07 Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP); 5.15 Keys; 5.29 SJR Campus Security Officers/Duties; 5.37 Code of Ethics and Principles of Professional Conduct; 5.49 COVID-19 Leave Policy; 6.01 Control and Discipline of Students; 6.18 Student Directory Information and Student Opt-Out Provisions Policy; 7.10 Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy for Students Receiving Federal Financial Aid and Florida Student Assistance Grant; . There being no comments, he adjourned the public hearing.

Mr. Primrose moved approval of all of the amendments and repeals as listed in the public hearing. Mr. Zomorodian seconded the motion to approve the Chief Operating Officer Items V.A.2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, and 48 (a detailed listing is contained in the material submitted by the Office of Chief Operating Officer). Motion carried (Davis, Komando, Primrose, Sapp, Stewart, Zomorodian – Yes).

49. **Information Only**: After advertising, these Rules will be brought to the June 2026 BOT meeting for approval.
    a. Amendment to Rule 3.32 Substantive Change Reporting Policy for Regional Accreditation
    b. Amendment to Rule 7.19 Policies Concerning the Library

Dr. Brown informed the Trustees that no later than June 1, Chuck Romer will email the evaluation tool and data sets for President Pickens's evaluation. It is requested that the completed evaluation be returned by June 30.

Dr. Brown discussed the need for a Board Workshop on the Clay County Services Complex project. She proposed that the workshop be held at 1:00 pm immediately prior to the Board Meeting already scheduled on August 26. President Pickens stated that a packet of information will be emailed in advance for a discussion during the workshop. Following discussion, it was decided to schedule the regular Board Meeting to begin at 1:00 pm and the workshop will be the first item on the agenda.

Dr. Brown discussed scheduling a board retreat in the fall to discuss strategic planning, facilities, etc. It was the consensus of the Board to move forward with planning this meeting. Dr. Brown noted this item will be further discussed at the June Board Meeting.

B. Vice President for Finance/CFO – VP Randy Peterson – Action Agenda Items *(If you have any questions, please call VP Peterson's direct #386-312-4022.)*

1. VP/CFO Peterson reviewed and requested approval of Course Fee and Full Cost of Instruction Fee Changes for fiscal year 2026-2027.

Mr. Primrose moved, seconded by Mr. Davis, to approve Vice President for Finance/CFO Item V.B.1 (a detailed listing is contained in the material submitted by the Office of VP/Chief Finance Officer). Motion carried (Davis, Komando, Primrose, Sapp, Stewart, Zomorodian – Yes).

2. VP/CFO Peterson reviewed and requested approval of a Contract for Debris Monitoring Services between Rostin Solutions, LLC, and St. Johns River State College.

Mr. Davis moved, seconded by Mr. Primrose, to approve Vice President for Finance/CFO Item V.B.2 (a detailed listing is contained in the material submitted by the Office of VP/Chief Finance Officer). Motion carried (Davis, Komando, Primrose, Sapp, Stewart, Zomorodian – Yes).

VI. President's Report:

President Pickens informed the Trustees that at the next State Board of Education meeting a new rule will be on the agenda. It is regarding the Florida College System colleges being required to monitor and enforce that no student be admitted without verification that he/she is an American citizen or is lawfully in the United States. This also applies to dual enrollment students. President Pickens stated that he is part of the Council of Presidents workgroup that has been wordsmithing the rule and communicating with the Chancellor on ways to make it doable. He explained the difference in the terms admit and enroll as those apply to the FCS.

President Pickens stated two items that need to be addressed are the evaluation of dual enrollment tuition and an increase in the mileage and meal reimbursement/ allowance for travel.

President Pickens noted that he attended Trustee Zomorodian's Mother's funeral. Condolences were expressed.

President Pickens informed the Board that at the end of the bi-weekly call, Commissioner Kamoutsas called out institutions who had not submitted an application to be a Purple Star Campus. SJR State has had many veteran-friendly accommodations in place for years. He thanked Dr. Jordan and his team for compiling the information, which President Pickens subsequently shared in a letter to the Commissioner. A copy was distributed to the Trustees for their information. President Pickens noted that he is attending the Commissioner's Summit on Campus Safety and Security in Miami on May 14-15. Dean of Criminal Justice and Public Safety Tim Adams is attending also. It was announced today that the Commissioner will be the new President at Polk State College.

President Pickens noted that in his communication with Legislators Bradley, Garrison, Hooper, Leek, and Sapp, there was not any negative feedback in regard to the PECO funding for the Workforce renovation project being the budget.

President Pickens thanked the Trustees who attended graduation and noted that it was meaningful to our students.

President Pickens noted that the Baseball team lost in the Region 8 tournament, so the season is over. The Softball team won in the Region and Super-Region tournaments, so they are participating in the World Series next week! They are seeded sixth and play the first game on Wednesday at 1:30 pm. Coach Jones informed him that the Volleyball and Softball student-athletes' grade point averages have gone up.

A. President Pickens reviewed and requested approval of Amendment #2 to Agreement for Attorney Services with Douglas Law Firm.

Mr. Primrose moved, seconded by Mr. Davis, to approve President Item VI.A (a detailed listing is contained in the material submitted by the President). Motion carried (Davis, Komando, Primrose, Sapp, Stewart, Zomorodian – Yes).

VII. Trustees' Comments:
Trustee comments were made.

VIII. Adjournment
Chairperson Komando adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.