El Camino College FOUNDATION

Board Meeting Minutes
September 22, 2026

Board Members:	Komal Ahmed, Roy Dietz, Heath Gregory, Karla Harness Brown, Laurie Love, Victoria Lozzi, Brooke Matson, Darcie McClelland, McKenzie Neely-Wright, Jason Nishiyama, Ann O'Brien, Tamara Powers, Kasey Stinson, Brenda Thames, Clay Zachary
Absent:	Laurie Brandt, Ralph Felix, Cynthia Grande, Janan Johnson, David Liaw, Kathy Maschler, Daniel Schrader, Sabrina Steele, Ben Steinberger, Paul Wafer, Nina Watanabe
Staff:	Andrea Sala, Kate Choi, Nancy Tonner, Heidi Wang
Recorder:	Victoria Lozzi, Board Secretary

President Laurie Love called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

1) Approve Consent Agenda:

Brooke Matson moved to approve the Consent Agenda; Jason Nishiyama seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from the public.

NON-CONSENT AGENDA

I. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Laurie Love

1) Robotics Presentation
   - Joe Weichman, ECC Robotics Instructor presented an overview of our Robotics program.

2) Request for Funding
   - Professors Xocoyotzin Herrera and Argelia Andrade presented a funding request for $18,000 to support the 2027 Study Abroad program.
   - Andrea Sala presented funding requests from the Journalism and Architecture Departments. Approval was needed for additional funding since Sala could not approve more than $2,500.

Komal Ahmed made a motion to approve $18,000 to help students with program costs for the 2027 Study Abroad program in Spain. Brooke Matson seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

Victoria Lozzi made a motion to approve additional funding for the Journalism Celebration ($2,500) and Architecture Exhibit ($1,000). Komal Ahmed seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

3) ECC Investment Overview
   - Dan Tichenor, Graystone Consulting, gave an investment overview for fiscal year 2025-2026. Tichenor stated the NACUBO Study is a common metric used to measure investment performance of college and university portfolios. The ECCF portfolio performed slightly better than the NACUBO return for the fiscal year ended June 2026.

II. BOARD GOVERNANCE

Tamara Ritchey Powers

1) New Proposed Policies
   - Powers presented two new policies – Operating Reserve Policy and Unrestricted Funds Spending Policy, which replaces the General Fund Policy.
   - Reserve Policy change included holding one year's budget in reserve.
   - The current General Fund Policy is being archived and replaced with the new Unrestricted Funds Policy.
   - Changes to the Unrestricted Fund Spending Policy include:
     - The Executive Director may approve individual expenditures of up to **$5,000**, not to exceed **$25,000 in any fiscal year** without additional approval.
     - The Executive Committee may approve expenditures of up to **$10,000**, not to exceed **$50,000 in any fiscal year** without additional approval.
     - Expenditures **over $10,000** shall require approval by the full Board of Directors.

Tamara Powers moved to approve the Operating Reserve Policy and Unrestricted Funds Spending Policy; Brooke Matson seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

III. FINANCIALS

Clay Zachry

1) 2026-2027 Operating Budget
   - Zachry presented the 2026-2027 Operating Budget for approval.

Clay Zachry moved to approve the 2026-2027 Operating Budget; Brooke Matson seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

IV. OPERATIONS

Laurie Brandt – Unable to attend the meeting

V. ECC STUDENT REPORT

Nina Watanabe – Unable to attend meeting

VI. ECC PRESIDENTS REPORT

Dr. Brenda Thames

- Hit 2% additional enrollment target this semester.
- Bond campaign: Polling was not in favor of the bond. Will revisit in 2028 and engage Manhattan Beach residents, who had the lowest approval rating.
- Strengthened emergency management training.
- In final negotiations for Harbor Boys and Girls Club to be on campus by spring.
- Intern South Bay: Jason Barquero, Dean of Workforce Readiness held a reception for students who participated in the program. This is good return on investment. Thank you for investing in this program.
- The Veterans department conducted a 911 Anniversary Celebration on campus.

VII. STAFF REPORT

Andrea Sala/Heidi Wang

1) AwardSpring Donor / Scholarship Management Software
   - The 2027-28 Scholarship Application is up and running with the new software.
   - Updating donor records in current software in order to transfer to AwardSpring in the next couple of months.

2) ECC Filming
   - Currently filming a movie featuring Matt Damon at multiple locations on campus.

3) ECC State of the College
   - Mark calendar to attend the 2026 ECC State of the College event on Friday, November 6 at 11:30 am in the East Dining Room.

4) President's Circle Event
   - We have booked a President's Circle Event for Thursday, April 8, 2027 at the Stand House in Manhattan Beach. Please mark your calendar.

5) Holiday Party
   - The Board Holiday Party will be held right after the Executive Committee Meeting on Tuesday, December 15 at LA Ale Works in Hermosa Beach from 5pm to 7pm.

VIII. DISCUSSION/NEW BUSINESS

No New Business

Meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.
Laurie Love made the motion to adjourn. Brooke Matson seconded. Motion passed.