



BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JAMES A. RHODES STATE COLLEGE
538th Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2026

The Rhodes State College (RSC) Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, January 20, 2026 at 4:30 pm in the Keese Hall Board Room, Cabinet and Faculty Association President were present in the room, all other guests via Zoom, a virtual platform.

CALL TO ORDER AND QUORUM

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Butch Kirk, Chair. Members present were Mr. Butch Kirk, Mr. Sam Bassitt, Dr. Wilfred Ellis, Ms. Jessica Cunningham, Mr. Robert Sielschott and Ms. Jill Jacobs.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE BOARD MEETING OF DECEMBER 16, 2025

Chair Kirk called for the approval of the minutes from the December 16 2025, Board meeting. Ms. Cunningham moved to approve the minutes, and Mr. Sielschott seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

PRESENTATION OF FOUNDATION CHECK WITH MR. RICK KORTOKRAX, FOUNDATION VICE CHAIR

Mr. Kevin Reeks, Secretary of the Foundation and VP for Institutional Advancement and Mr. Rick Kortokrax, Vice Chair of the RSC Foundation Board of Directors, presented a check totaling \$473,175.00.

Of this amount, \$268,175.00 is allocated for student scholarships. The remaining \$205,000.00, represents gifts and pledges collected to date from donors through the Major Gifts Campaign for capital needs.

SECOND QUARTER FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF DECEMBER 2025

Notes to the Financial Statements

These financial statements were prepared in the format of our annual financial report. Many estimates are utilized when preparing financial statements. However, some presented amounts cannot be estimated, so they are held constant throughout the year until information is available to update them. These items include the Pension and OPEB liabilities and the corresponding deferred inflows and outflows.

Areas where estimates have the highest impact include accounts receivable, accounts payable, compensated absences, and deferred revenue on the Statement of Net Position, as well as tuition and fee revenue, scholarship expense, and depreciation on the Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position.

The College follows the "business-type activities" reporting requirements of GASB Statement No. 35 (as amended). The financial statement presentation required by GASB Statement No. 35 is intended to provide a comprehensive, entity-wide perspective of the College's assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, net position, revenues, expenses, changes in net position, and cash flows. For financial reporting purposes, GASB Statement 35 defines business-type activities as those financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties for goods or services. Accordingly, these financial statements have been presented using the economic resources measurement focus and on the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when earned. Expenses are recognized when incurred. Interfund receivables and payables have been eliminated in the Statement of Net Position.

Statement of Net Position

Overall Financial Position

The College's financial position remains stable as of December 31, 2025. Total assets declined year over year, primarily due to reductions in pension- and OPEB-related deferred items, rather than operational or liquidity concerns. Liabilities also declined significantly, driven by lower long-term debt, pension, and OPEB obligations.

Assets

Cash and cash equivalents increased modestly compared to the prior year, reflecting stable liquidity and effective cash management. Accounts receivable declined materially year over year, largely due to writing off older accounts to keep us in line with accounting standards for accounts receivable.

Capital assets remain relatively flat, with only a modest decrease attributable to normal depreciation exceeding new capital additions during the period. Subscription assets declined as expected, reflecting amortization of existing software subscription agreements.

Deferred outflows related to pensions and OPEB declined significantly year over year. This change reflects updated actuarial valuations and investment experience and does not represent a cash impact to the College.

Liabilities

Total current liabilities decreased slightly compared to the prior year. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities declined, reflecting normal timing differences in vendor payments and payroll-related accruals at the reporting date.

Deferred revenue increased year over year, primarily due to the timing of grant receipts and other advance payments received prior to year-end that will be recognized as revenue in future periods.

Noncurrent liabilities declined materially, driven by scheduled reductions in long-term debt and a decrease in net pension and OPEB liabilities based on updated actuarial assumptions.

Summary

In summary, the College continues to maintain a stable financial position. Liquidity remains strong, long-term liabilities are trending downward, and changes in pension and OPEB-related balances reflect external actuarial factors rather than operating stress. These statements are unaudited and represent a point-in-time snapshot through December 31, 2025.

Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position

Operating Revenues

Net tuition and fees increased modestly year over year, reflecting stable enrollment and rate activity, partially offset by a higher scholarship allowance. The increase in scholarship allowance is consistent with institutional aid strategies and does not represent an unexpected cost increase.

Federal and state grants and contracts declined compared to the prior year, primarily due to the timing of grant reimbursements and the winding down of certain one-time or time-limited awards. Sales and services and other operating revenues also declined, reflecting the closing of the YMCA daycare and less miscellaneous activity compared to the prior year.

Overall, total operating revenues were slightly lower year over year, driven largely by grant timing and non-recurring revenue sources rather than tuition performance.

Operating Expenses

Total operating expenses increased modestly compared to the prior year. Instructional costs remained essentially flat, indicating continued cost control in the core academic function.

Increases were observed in academic support, student services, and student aid, reflecting investments in student success initiatives and higher levels of institutional aid. Operation and maintenance expenses increased year over year, largely due to facilities-related costs and the timing of maintenance and utility expenses.

Institutional support declined compared to the prior year, reflecting cost containment efforts and normal year-to-year timing differences. Depreciation expense increased slightly, consistent with the College's capital asset base.

Nonoperating Revenues

State appropriations increased year over year, providing continued and stable support for College operations. Federal nonoperating grants also increased, reflecting improved drawdowns and additional federal funding activity.

Investment income increased modestly due to higher interest rates and favorable investment performance. Interest expense on capital debt declined, reflecting scheduled debt amortization and lower outstanding balances.

Summary

Overall, the College's financial performance through December 31, 2025 remains stable and in line with expectations. Core instructional costs are controlled, state and federal support remains strong, and year-to-date results reflect prudent financial management. These statements are unaudited and represent a point-in-time snapshot of financial activity.

Mr. Adkins reported on the second quarter financial statements as of December 31, 2025 noting that the overall college financial performance through December 31, 2025 remains stable and in line with expectations.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Informational)

Dr. Spiers presented the December 2025 President's Report, highlighting national, state and local updates. Ms. Angie Heaton provided an overview of the Agricultural Technology Program and Agriculture Program Impact Brief, outlining key partnerships and program successes.

Dr. Eric Mason and Ms. Joy Macke delivered a presentation titled *General Education*, and Mr. Kevin Reeks presented the Foundation Report.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Resolution No. 2026 – 28

Resolved, upon recommendation of the President and with the concurrence of the Executive Staff, that the following personnel actions be approved:

- Faculty/Staff Appointments – January 20, 2026

Chair Kirk requested the Board's consideration and approval of Resolution No. 2026-28 (Consideration of Approval of Personnel Actions). Ms. Cunningham moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-28, and seconded by Ms. Jacobs. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL FOR PURCHASES OVER \$50,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF ELLUCIAN CONSULTING SERVICES
Resolution No. 2026 – 29

Resolved, upon the recommendation of the President, and with the concurrence of the Vice President for Finance & Administrative Services, that approval be given to purchase consulting services for Banner Finance and CRM Recruit.

Purchase:	Ellucian Consulting Services
Amount:	\$63,958
Source of Funds:	Operating Funds

Overview:

Rhodes State College utilizes Ellucian Banner as its Enterprise Resource Management system. We wish to contract with Ellucian to do a systems analysis and optimization engagement to review our current business processes and make recommendations for improvements in the Banner Finance and CRM Recruit modules.

Attachment: None

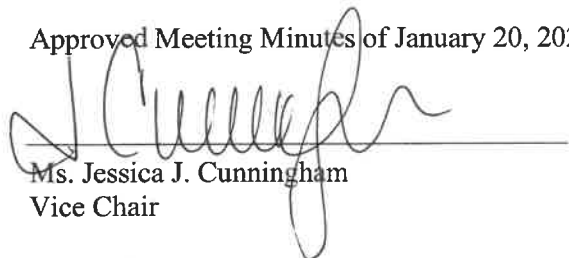
Mr. Adkins provided an overview of the scope of work to be completed by Ellucian.

Chair Kirk requested the Board's consideration and approval of Resolution No. 2026-29 (Consideration of Approval for Purchase of Ellucian Consulting Services). Ms. Cunningham moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-29, and seconded by Ms. Jacobs. Chair Kirk called for a roll call vote. Mr. Kirk, Mr. Bassitt, Dr. Ellis, Ms. Cunningham, Mr. Sielschott and Ms. Jacobs all voted yes.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Kirk called for a motion to adjourn the Board meeting. Ms. Cunningham moved to adjourn the Board meeting, and was seconded by Dr. Ellis. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Approved Meeting Minutes of January 20, 2026



Ms. Jessica J. Cunningham
Vice Chair

Pamela Mooneyhan, Recording Secretary