

**SJC BOARD  
WORK SESSION MINUTES  
April 6, 2026**

The Work Session was called to order at 5:04 p.m. with the following Board members present:

Valerie Uselman, Chairperson  
R. Shane Chane, Vice Chairperson  
Evelyn Benny, Secretary  
Byron Manning, Member  
Julie Rasor, Member  
Bev Taylor, Member  
GloJean Todacheene, Member

Staff Members Attending:

San Juan College Administrators and Staff in Attendance Included:

Toni Hopper Pendergrass, Edward DesPlas, Boomer Appleman, Kerri Langoni Carpenter, Michael Ottinger, Roy Lytle, Yolanda Benally, Carrie Tsosie-Jim, Gwyn Adams, Mystelle Beasley, Josh Bishop, Troy Brown, Alicia Corbell, Aurelia Etcitty, Veronica Evans, Thalia Garcia-Charley, Ana Greif, Chris Harrelson, Murdoch Maloney, Robert Martinez, Kimberly Nath, Sherry Paxson, Elizabeth Phelps, Chris Rosen, Rhonda Schaefer, and Donna Ellis, Recorder

Guest(s): None

Topics Discussed Included:

**1. Questions on Board Agenda Items**

None.

**2. Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Development Update**

Trustees were briefed on the direction of Fiscal Year 2027 budget development. The presentation focused largely on revenues and anticipated increases, the planned uses of those additional funds, and the status of the College's fund balance in light of those plans. The College intends to invest most of its increase in discretionary funds in compensation.

Two key takeaways emerged:

- 1) Although the methodology driving the Fiscal Year 2027 faculty pay increases under the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) differs from that used for the Fiscal Year 2025 professional and support staff compensation study, the outcomes are reasonably aligned in terms of the number of employees affected, average pay increases, and maximum increases.
- 2) Adjunct pay has not been adjusted in three years.

**3. Fiscal Year 2027 CHES Allocations**

Trustees were briefed on the allocated costs associated with the Collaborative for Higher Education Shared Services (CHES). Of particular note is the \$18.7 million appropriation secured by CHES on behalf of five member colleges for use in Fiscal Years 2027 and 2028. San Juan College's share of the "C-2" appropriation is \$3.7 million, which will help ease pressure on the College's fund balance as it enters the final year of Workday implementation.

**4. Recommended Re-prioritized Uses of Educational Technology Notes Proceeds**

Trustees received an update on the reprioritized uses of the \$3.4 million issuance of Educational Technology Notes. The College is doubling the funding allocated to acquisitions under the IT Master Plan, with upgrades to classroom technology identified as a key priority. Faculty and other stakeholders will be involved as the College plans for these acquisitions, particularly those that directly impact the classroom environment.

**5. Priorities for Summer 2026 HED Capital Requests**

Each year, higher education institutions in New Mexico submit requests for their two highest-priority facilities projects, seeking 75% funding from the State. Two projects were presented for the Board's consideration:

- 1) Exterior renovations (stucco and storefronts)
- 2) Fire alarm replacements for five campus buildings

**6. Update on Project List for Possible 2026 Local G.O. Capital Campaign**

Continuing the discussion of capital projects, Trustees received an update on potential projects for a local San Juan College General Obligation Bond to be considered during the November 2026 general election. Among the concepts discussed was the possibility of developing an outdoor, lighted, six-court pickleball facility.

**7. Operating Budget Report, January 31, 2026**

The Operating Budget Report for the seven months ended January 31, 2026, indicates that revenues and expenses are largely in line with budget and expectations. Overall, San Juan College remains financially stable and well-positioned to continue as a going concern per the accounting world.

**8. Discussion for Changing Date of May 4, 2026, Board Meeting**

As stated in the 2025-2026 Open Meetings Resolution, the May 4, 2026, Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 27, 2026.

Meeting adjourned at 5:59 p.m.