



MEETING: Board of Trustees, Georgia Military College, Bulldog Room, Tuesday, June 17, 2025, 4:00 PM

PRESENT: Mr. George Hogan, Sr., Chairman of the Board; Members: Mr. Mike Cobb, Mr. Brooks Snider, Elder Alan Hale Wicker, Mrs. Emilie Cook, Mayor Mary Parham-Copelan (*arrived at 4:25 pm*), LtGen William B. Caldwell, IV, 21<sup>st</sup> President of Georgia Military College, MG Terrence McKenrick, 22<sup>nd</sup> President of Georgia Military College ; Mr. Randy New, COL Jim Watkins, Advisory Board Members; and other interested parties.

ABSENT: Ms. Doris Renfroe

BUSINESS:

1. Chairman of the Board, Mr. George Hogan, Sr., having declared a quorum to be present, called the meeting to order.
2. Chairman Hogan asked for a motion for the agenda to be adopted as presented. Elder Wicker made the motion with Mr. Snider seconding the motion. The agenda was adopted by unanimous vote. All present Advisory Board members unanimously approved as well.
3. Chairman Hogan asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the meetings on March 18, 2025, March 25, 2025, March 27, 2025, April 2, 2025, April 8, 2025, and April 22, 2025. Mrs. Cook made the motion, with Mr. Snider seconding the motion. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote. All present Advisory Board members unanimously approved as well.
4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Hogan shared that today marks the final Board of Trustees meeting for Lieutenant General (Ret.) William B. Caldwell, IV, as President of Georgia Military College. On behalf of the Board, he expressed sincere appreciation for General Caldwell's 12 years of distinguished service and transformational leadership. His unwavering dedication, integrity, and commitment to the mission of developing educated citizens and contributing leaders has elevated Georgia Military College in profound and lasting ways. The Board collectively recognized and honored General Caldwell for his extraordinary service, legacy, and impact on the institution.

Chairman Hogan welcomed Chairman Andrew Strickland of the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners, who was in attendance to deliver a special proclamation in honor of General Caldwell's service to GMC and the community.

The Chairman formally welcomed Major General (Ret.) Terrence McKenrick to his first official Board of Trustees meeting as President of Georgia Military College. The Board expressed enthusiasm for this new chapter of leadership and affirmed their support as General McKenrick assumes his role. On behalf of the Board, the Chairman extended a warm welcome and stated it is an honor to serve alongside him.

Finally, the Chairman reminded Board members that 2025 is an election year for the Board of Trustees. Qualifying dates for those choosing to run for reelection are scheduled for August 18–22.

5. Mr. Jody Yearwood, Senior Vice President of the Global Online Leadership College (GOLC), provided the Board with an update on the GOLC. Highlights from that update include:

- **Strategic Vision:** GOLC continues to align both academic and business decisions with the overarching goal of student success, recognizing that successful students are also essential for institutional sustainability.
- **Understanding Online Student Needs:** The college has identified that today's online learners seek programs that are:
  - Relevant to their careers
  - Fast and flexible
  - Affordable
  - Backed by a strong institutional reputation
  - Accessible and convenient
- **Transition from Course 1.0 to 2.0:**
  - *Course 1.0 Model:* A highly structured weekly model with set deadlines and mandatory discussion forum participation, which has historically produced excellent outcomes.
  - *Course 2.0 Model:* A new student-centered approach where students progress at their own pace, without weekly deadlines or forced engagement in discussion forums. Faculty provide feedback in real time, and the only firm deadline is the end of the term.
  - *Guiding Principle:* The transition follows a “do no harm” philosophy—maintaining quality outcomes while meeting changing student expectations.

6. COL Chip Kirby, USA (Ret), GMC Chief Financial Officer, presented a finance committee update. The update included the following topics:

- Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Execution
- Fiscal Year 2026 Operating Budget
- Board Approval of Fiscal Year 2026 Budget
- Way Ahead

A copy of this report is attached and made a part of these minutes.

7. Chairman Hogan asked for a motion for the approval of the FY26 GMC Budget as presented by COL Kirby. Elder Wicker made the motion, with Mrs. Cook seconding the motion. The FY26 GMC Budget was approved by unanimous vote. All present Advisory Board members unanimously approved as well.

## 8. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Caldwell delivered his final report to the Board of Trustees, offering reflections on GMC's recent accomplishments and its path forward. He reaffirmed the College's mission as a leadership institution rooted in the values of duty, honor, and love of country, emphasizing the enduring theme of GMC's “Legacy of Leadership.”

He shared the exceptional achievements of Lt. Gen. Alexis Grynkeiwich, a 1989 GMC Prep graduate recently nominated to serve as NATO's Supreme Allied Commander Europe, as a testament to the lifelong impact of a GMC education.

Over the past decade, GMC has made significant strides: articulation agreements have nearly tripled, eight BAS degrees have been established, and 54 properties have been acquired, expanding the Main Campus by 50 acres. Fifteen major capital projects totaling \$60 million—with \$38 million supported by state funding—have enhanced GMC's facilities. Current projects include the Prep School Athletic Facility, soccer field renovations, and a new rappel tower.

The President acknowledged ongoing financial challenges. For FY26, GMC received \$11.4 million in state appropriations—just 17% of its \$65.3 million operational needs. Rising costs tied to mandated benefits, such as health insurance and retirement contributions, continue to pressure institutional finances. Efforts are underway to secure increased maintenance funding and expand the State Service Scholarship program.

Despite funding constraints, GMC's outcomes remain strong. As of June 13, 2025, the College awarded 1,289 degrees, a 1% increase over last year. Bachelor of Applied Science degrees rose 11%, and the Global Online Leadership College saw a 49% increase in graduates, with 475 total. GOLC enrollment now exceeds 5,000 students.

President Caldwell also provided an update on the 2027 SACSCOC reaffirmation process. Of the 68 required standards, 34% are in draft, 13% have been returned for revision, 22% are ready for initial review, and 31% are nearly final. SACSCOC Vice President Dr. Trish Parrish will visit campus in January 2026 ahead of the compliance report deadline in March. The reaffirmation team will return for an on-site visit in September, with a final decision expected by July 2027.

A key element of the College's long-term vision is the continued growth of its Legacy Endowments. As of June 2025, five major endowments total \$6.2 million of the institution's \$23 million endowment goal. These endowments will support scholarships, operations, and facility maintenance as GMC moves toward its \$80 million goal for the 150th anniversary in 2029.

President Caldwell closed by expressing gratitude to the Board for their unwavering support and confidence in GMC's continued success under new leadership.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Hogan asked for a motion to open an Executive Session. Mr. Cobb made the motion, with Elder Wicker seconding the motion and an Executive Session was called to order by unanimous vote.

- Discussion regarding O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)

Chairman Hogan asked for a motion to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene regular session. Mr. Snider made the motion, with Mrs. Cook seconding the motion and regular session reconvened by unanimous vote.

10. The next meeting of the Board was scheduled for September 16, 2025.

11. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



George Hogan, Sr.  
Chairman

Doris Renfroe  
Secretary-Treasurer

Reviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_

LtGen. William B. Caldwell, IV  
President, Georgia Military College