

President's Cabinet Meeting Minutes

June 30, 2025

1. Student Guest: Karen Brunner introduced Nathalie Navedo, a 43-year-old Computer Science major from Crossville. She works from home and home-schools her son and decided to come to Roane State to train for a career as a consultant data analyst or cyber defense analyst. She stated that the best thing about Roane State is the flexibility and understanding of the faculty. She takes all of her classes online, including a course during Maymester which was a real challenge. Despite the flexibility that she has encountered, she indicated that adult students would appreciate faculty sometimes allowing more time for deadlines. On the few occasions when she goes to campus, she feels safe and thinks the facilities are nice, and provides lots of information and support for students.
2. TBR Quarterly Meeting Update: The meeting will be hosted by Roane State at the new Knox campus on September 18-19, 2025. Teresa Duncan is going to ask UCOR if they would like to sponsor the dinner on Thursday. President Kelly Chaney is deciding which lunch she would like TCAT Knoxville to sponsor. The Roane State Foundation will sponsor the Hospitality Room at the hotel (Hampton Inn/Cedar Bluff). On Thursday before the committee meetings, guests will have an opportunity to tour the Simulation Center and the dental assisting lab.
3. Website Update: Sarah Self and Todd Appleton are working on migrating files from the current site to the new one. Once the academic programs have been migrated, they will need to be reviewed to make sure all information is up to date. Target launch is still tentatively scheduled for the end of summer.
4. Campus Security Update: Marsha Mathews reported that the equipment needed to make employee badges has been received. Once a design has been created, the process for getting photos will be developed with a goal of starting the project in August. Marsha also reported that, with Tamsin Miller's retirement, a Campus Enhancement Committee will be formed. In a supplemental role to his job with the Foundation fundraising, Joey Gilbert will lead this committee.
5. Enrollment Update: Doug Wallace reported that the current 7-day average, without dual enrollment, is +5% HC/+3% FTE.
6. Facilities Project Updates: Marsha reported that the chiller for the O'Brien Building is up and running, but the contractor needs to change out the switches before everyone can return. The Cumberland paving project bid came in lower than estimated; work will begin in a couple of weeks. Approval is still pending for the Expo Seating project. Marsha received a copy of Walters State's policy for planting trees in memory of faculty/staff. An area will be designated for memorial trees on each campus. Marsha is also investigating the purchase of hammocks.

7. Other updates: Dr. Whaley updated the Cabinet about the 82-acre Vann property, which is adjacent to the Roane County campus. The Foundation has decided to sell the property and is accepting RFP's. The focus is on apartment developers that could construct affordable student housing.