

Board of Governors Northeast Community College Area Minutes of Meeting Thursday, June 9, 2022

ATTENDANCE

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Julie Robinson, Chairperson	Present
Jeffrey Scherer, Vice-Chairperson	Present
Donovan Ellis, Secretary	
Del Ames	
Steve Anderson	Present
Dr. Terry Nelson	Present
Dirk Petersen	Present
Jeanne Reigle	Present
Nicole Sedlacek	Present
Carol Sibbel	Present
Pat Wojcik	Present
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OTHERS PRESENT

Dr. Leah A. Barrett, President

Paul Feilmeier, Vice President, Technology Services

Scott Gray, Vice President, Administrative Services

Dr. Tracy Kruse, Vice President, Development and External Affairs

Amanda Nipp, Vice President, Student Services

Jim Curry, Director of Public Relations

Lindsay Spiegel, Director of Institutional Effectiveness

Diane Reikofski, Executive Assistant to the President

1. Siouxland CEO Roundtable

Roundtable discussion was held regarding needs, challenges, and opportunities in the Siouxland region.

2. Tour of Peterbilt

Board and staff members met with representatives and toured Midwest Diesel Tech Academy in Sioux City. The academy provides training opportunities for Midwest Peterbilt Group Dealership locations in Sioux City, Des Moines, Council Bluffs, Lincoln, and Norfolk.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

No flag available.

4. ADOPT AGENDA

MOTION by Donovan Ellis, **SECONDED** by Del Ames, to adopt the Agenda of the June 9, 2022 Meeting. Official Notice of the meeting was posted on the Northeast Community College website and published in the *Dakota County Star* on Thursday, June 2, 2022 and in the *Norfolk Daily News* on Friday, June 3, 2022.

Voting Yes: Ames, Anderson, Ellis, Nelson, Petersen, Reigle, Robinson, Scherer, Sibbel,

and Woicik

Voting No: None

Abstain: Sedlacek

Absent: None MOTION CARRIED

5. BOARD EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

5.1 Administrative Services Report

5.1.1 Monthly Financial Report and Paid Bills

Monthly Financial Statement and paid bills were briefly reviewed. Scott Gray reported that some large equipment purchases will be completed prior to year end on June 30, 2022.

A Request for Proposal for banking services was conducted this year. Midwest Bank will be Northeast's depository bank beginning July 1, 2022. The bank account at First National Bank will remain open until all transactions have cleared that account. 5.1.2 Review of property tax levy summary and tax asking

Historical data regarding general fund levy, capital fund levy, property tax request, and property tax valuations was reviewed and discussed.

Reminder provided that LB 873 provides property tax credit for the amount of property taxes paid to community colleges. This had no impact on Northeast's budget but serves as a way for the State of Nebraska to provide property tax relief to taxpayers. As part of the Board of Governors outreach efforts, meetings will be scheduled in the counties that have high assessed values. Northeast is required to participate in the Madison County joint public meeting if our property tax request increases by 2% plus growth.

5.1.3 <u>Use of cash on hand to continue operations until approval of budget</u>
Once the new fiscal year begins on July 1st, Northeast does not have an official budget is place. Allowing the use of cash on hand allows Northeast the ability to continue to pay bills until the budget is officially approved in September.

5.1.4 <u>Maclay Program Statement</u>

Review was given to the Program Statement for the Maclay Replacement Project and the Library Resource Center Remodel. A great deal of time has been spent with groups of people who will be utilizing the facilities to optimize the space for the best classrooms for students and instructors. Construction projects below \$2MM do not need to be presented to the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary

Education (CCPE). The estimate for the Library Resource Center Remodel is currently at \$1.8MM. Concerns of increased labor and material costs which could push the remodel over \$2MM and is, therefore, being included in the Program Statement.

The timeline for the projects was reviewed. Kali Eckert, Wilkins Architecture Design Planning (ADP), reported that timing can also play a factor with pricing. If the project receives early approval and the design is approved, materials can begin to be ordered before higher inflation is realized, more contractors may bid on the project which may make bids more competitive, etc.

5.2 <u>Development/External Relations Report</u>

5.2.1 NCCA Report

A strategic planning session was held in Kearney at the end of May at which time the Board of Directors identified goals that would be focused on. This includes relationship building and streamlining data to tell the community college story to the Nebraska Legislature. Courtney Wittstruck will develop a plan that will be considered during the August Board of Directors meeting, along with the budget. The Board will also identify priorities as we head into the next legislative session.

As part of the NCCA Annual Meeting, scheduled to be held November 6-7, 2022 in Kearney, the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) has been invited to conduct a Governance Leadership Institute (GLI). The GLI training will be more targeted to community college's role in Nebraska and board members are encouraged to attend.

5.2.1.1 ACCT Report

Steve Anderson will be attending the ACCT retreat that will be held at the end of July in Springfield, MO. This is the first time that the ACCT Board of Directors will meet in person since Steve has been elected to the ACCT Board.

Mr. Anderson encouraged Northeast board members to become more astute of what is happening at the national level and of things that are happening in other states that we are not aware of in Nebraska.

Attendance is encouraged at the ACCT Leadership Congress that will be held in October. Please contact Diane Reikofski if you are interested.

5.2.2 President's update

- Northeast's Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Self-Study visit will occur on October 23-24, 2023 and board members will need to be engaged.
- As part of Northeast's safety and security plan we continue to build our relationship with local law enforcement; provide on-line learning modules related to active shooter, bloodborne pathogens, first aid, etc.; have become a JED Campus; hired a Director of Student Care and Outreach to provide a broader based health and wellness approach, etc.
- Following Covid in 2020 and free summer tuition in 2021, summer enrollment at Northeast is returning to normalcy. Inquiry was made about the possibility of

offering free summer tuition in future years as well as concerns voiced regarding the increased cost of gas and how that may deter students from attending college. Support of Norfolk's public transit system, North Fork, will continue to be available and encouraged to students. Discussions will also be held earlier next year to evaluate opportunities for providing more classes in summer 2023.

- President's Barrett's professional development and networking opportunities include her attendance at the Siouxland Chamber Fly-In to DC, NCCA Strategic Planning Retreat, Aspen New President's Fellowship from June 15-19, and the Rural Guided Pathways Institute from June 27-29, 2022.
- Nebraska's educational attainment goal is to increase from 58% to 70% by 2030, the number of individuals, ages 25-34, who have a degree, certificate, diploma, or other postsecondary or industry-recognized credential with economic value.
 - 5.2.2.1 <u>Prep for Monitoring Report, EL-08, Communication & Support to the Board</u>

In an effort to obtain evidence for EL-08, a survey will be created to obtain feedback from the Board of Governors. Questions will include whether members feel they are receiving adequate information, if information provided by staff is clear and not over complex, if there is a feeling of favoritism that could impede the board's holism, etc. The information from the survey will be used and the monitoring report will be provided to the Board of Governors in September.

5.2.2.2 September meeting date/time
Because of schedule conflicts of Dr. Leah Barrett and Scott Gray, the
September Board of Governors meeting will be scheduled from
approximately 2:00-5:00 p.m.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1 Governance Committee

Governance Committee met on May 31st via Zoom.

- 6.1.1 Content Review of EL-01, <u>Treatment of Students</u>. Governance Committee discussed the use of the term 'insensitive'. It was felt that the language was appropriate and allows for conversations to be held. No changes are recommended.
- 6.1.2 Content Review of EL-02, <u>Access to Education</u>. Following review of the EL-02 during the May meeting, revisions were identified with regard to how tuition and fees were stated. Suggested revisions will be made.
- 6.1.3 BP-3511, <u>Information Security Policy</u>. This policy is addressed through procedures and is recommended for deletion.
- 6.1.4 BP-2010, College Property Naming Policy. This policy is addressed within EL-06, <u>Asset Protection</u> and also within procedures. BP-2010 is recommended for deletion.
- 6.1.5 BP-2225, <u>Conflict of Interest Policy</u>. This policy is included in Item # 3 of GP-10, Board Code of Conduct. BP-2225, <u>Conflict of Interest</u> is recommended for deletion.
- 6.1.6 BP-5610, <u>Recognized Student Organizations Policy</u>. This policy is included as Item #4 of E-00, <u>Global Ends</u>, and is also included in procedures. This policy is recommended for deletion.

The Governance Committee is suggesting a workshop be conducted at the end of September to review the process for Monitoring Worksheets.

6.2 Ownership Linkage Committee

The Ownership Linkage Committee met on June 3rd.

- Discussion on strategies around meeting with various counties and being good stewards and meeting with constituents in the 20-county service area that are having large tax asking. A meeting with Keya Paha/Brown/Rock Leadership Group is being planned for this fall. Details regarding a meeting with Dakota County residents has not yet been established.
- Student involvement in board meetings may include invitation to board luncheons, opportunities for students to share 'their story', etc.

6.2.1 LB 873

LB 873 provides property tax credit for the amount of property taxes paid to community colleges. This had no impact on Northeast's budget but serves as a way for the State of Nebraska to provide property tax relief to taxpayers. As part of the Board of Governors outreach efforts, meetings will be scheduled in the counties that have high assessed values. Northeast is required to participate in the Madison County joint public meeting if our property tax request increases by 2% plus growth.

7. MONITORING REPORT

7.1 None

8. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Julie Robinson, **SECONDED** by Jeff Scherer to approve the CONSENT AGENDA:

- 8.1 Approve Minutes of the May 12, 2022 Meeting with correction.
- 8.2 Acknowledge and accept the Monthly Financial Report for May 31, 2022 and claims paid in May 2022.

Voting Yes: Anderson, Ellis, Nelson, Petersen, Reigle, Robinson, Scherer, Sedlacek, Sibbel, Wojcik, and Ames

Voting No: None

Absent: None MOTION CARRIED

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairperson Robinson noted that a copy of the Open Meetings Law is posted on the table at the back of the room. No constituents were in attendance to address the board with a public comment.

10. COLLEGE REPORTS

10.1 <u>President's Report</u>

President Leah Barrett highlighted activities, events, and accomplishments of faculty, staff, students, and athletes that have occurred during the past month. A complete copy of the President's Report is available in the President's Office or in today's Teams site.

11. ITEMS FOR DECISION

11.1 **MOTION** by Donovan Ellis, **SECONDED** by Terry Nelson to authorize the use of cash on hand to continue operations of the College pending final approval of the 2022-2023 budgets in September 2022.

Voting Yes: Ellis, Nelson, Petersen, Reigle, Robinson, Scherer, Sedlacek, Sibbel,

Wojcik, Ames, and Anderson

Voting No: None

Absent: None MOTION CARRIED

- 11.2 FIRST READING for the DELETION of:
 - 11.2.1 BP-3511, Information Security Policy
 - 11.2.2 BP-2010, College Property Naming Policy
 - 11.2.3 BP-2225, Conflict of Interest Policy
 - 11.2.4 BP-5610, Recognized Student Organizations Policy
- 11.3 FIRST READING of revisions to the following:
 - 11.3.1 BPD-04, Monitoring President Performance
 - 11.3.2 EL-09, Organizational Integrity
- 11.4 **MOTION** by Jeanne Reigle, **SECONDED** by Dirk Petersen to continue the development of the preliminary Maclay Program Statement.

Voting Yes: Nelson, Petersen, Reigle, Robinson, Scherer, Sedlacek, Sibbel, Wojcik,

Ames, Anderson, and Ellis

Voting No: None

Absent: None MOTION CARRIED

12. **OTHER**

None.

13. CLOSED SESSION

At 3:57 p.m., **MOTION** by Julie Robinson, **SECONDED** by Jeff Scherer, to enter into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing the potential purchase of real estate and to reconvene to the public meeting once business is discussed.

Voting Yes: Petersen, Reigle, Robinson, Scherer, Sedlacek, Sibbel, Wojcik, Ames,

Anderson, Ellis, and Nelson

Voting No: None

Absent: None **MOTION CARRIED**

Donovan Ellis was **excused** from the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Reconvened to the public meeting at 4:21 p.m.

14. BOARD of GOVERNORS Meeting Self-Evaluation.

15. ADJOURNMENT

At 4:22 p.m., with no further business to discuss, Terry Nelson MOVED to **ADJOURN**. **UNANIMOUSLY PASSED BY VOICE VOTE**.

Minutes prepared by Diane Reikofski, Recording Secretary.

Julie Robinson, Chairperson Northeast Board of Governors

Donovan Ellis, Secretary Northeast Board of Governors