



Board of Governors Meeting - Special Meeting Minutes

Board of Governors-Northeast Community College Area

5/18/2026 9:30 AMCDT

@ Lifelong Learning Center, Suites H & I, 801 East Benjamin Avenue, Norfolk, NE 68701

Attendance

Present:

Members: Del Ames-Secretary, Board of Governors; Steve Anderson-Member, Board of Governors; Diane Davies-Member, Board of Governors; Donovan Ellis-Chairperson, Board of Governors; Terry Nelson-Member, Board of Governors; Julie Robinson-Member, Board of Governors; Jeffrey Scherer-Member, Board of Governors; Nicole Sedlacek-Vice-Chairperson, Board of Governors, Pat Wojcik-Member, Board of Governors

Absent-Excused:

Members: Dirk Petersen-Member, Board of Governors; Carol A. Sibbel-Member, Board of Governors

Staff:

Leah Barrett - President, Scott Gray - Vice President, Administrative Services and General Counsel, Tracy Kruse - Vice President, Development and External Affairs, Dr. Charlene Widener - Vice President, Educational Services, David Cone - CIO, Jennifer Greve - Executive Director of Marketing and Recruitment, Mike Walkowiak - Vice President, Human Resources & Organizational Development, Diane Reikofski - Executive Assistant and Board Recording Secretary

Guests: Karsan Ahlman, Jim Buckendahl, Craig Evans, Jeff Hoffman, Matt Johnson, Travis Kaup, Carly Krause, Tracy Kruse, Kathy Lammers, Jean Lance, Brittney Lance, Michael Lance, John Liewer, Jonathan Matthies, Chris McKibbon, Jacob Meier, Mark Melcher, Zach Miller, Randy Nicolay, Randy Oertwich, Joe Ottis, Todd Pfeil, Brad Ranslem, Kristi Rastede, Brian Rastede, Diane Reikofski, Sarah Sellin, Nathan Simpson, Connie Sixta, Jesse Slosser, Cleve Stolp, Wendy Swenson, Jennifer Timmerman, Kyle Voecks, Adam Wachter, Dr. Charlene Widener, Michael Zierke, Kevin McLouth

1. CONVENE SPECIAL MEETING (Presenters: Donovan Ellis)

Chairperson Ellis convened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. on May 18, 2026.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Presenters: Donovan Ellis)

Chairperson Ellis led the assembly in pledging their allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

3. OPEN MEETINGS ACT (Presenters: Donovan Ellis)

Pursuant to Nebraska Statute Section 84-1412, the public is advised that a copy of today's agenda and all reproducible printed material which will be discussed at today's meeting is located in Suites H&I of the Lifelong Learning Center and on the Northeast Community College website. Also available in Suites H&I is a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act which is accessible to members of the public.

Official Notice of the meeting is posted on the Northeast Community College website, and published in the [Norfolk Daily News](#) on Tuesday, May 12, 2026.

4. PUBLIC HEARING

Employment-related hearing under Nebraska Statute §85-1528.

At 4:28 p.m. on May 18, 2026, the hearing was recessed for the day.

The hearing reconvened at 9:01 a.m. on May 19, 2026.

Motion:

At 3:40 p.m., motion was made to enter into Closed Session to deliberate on the facts provided during the hearing related to the employment of Mr. Jonathan Lance and to reconvene to the meeting upon the conclusion of discussion.

Motion moved by Julie Robinson and motion seconded by Nicole Sedlacek. Voting yes by verbal vote: Ames, Anderson, Davies, Ellis, Nelson, Robinson, Scherer, Sedlacek, Wojcik. Absent-Excused: Petersen and Sibbel. MOTION CARRIED.

Reconvened to the public meeting at 6:02 p.m.

5. Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action related to the Public Hearing.

Motion:

Based on the evidence provided and documents provided during the hearing, motion was made to terminate the employment of Jonathan Lance and to not renew his contract for the 2026-2027 academic year.

Motion moved by Jeffrey Scherer and motion seconded by Steve Anderson. Voting yes by verbal vote: Ames, Anderson, Davies, Ellis, Nelson, Robinson, Scherer, Sedlacek, Wojcik. Absent-Excused: Petersen and Sibbel. MOTION CARRIED.

6. ADJOURNMENT

At 6:04 p.m., there being no further business to discuss, it was UNANIMOUSLY PASSED by VOICE VOTE to ADJOURN the meeting.