



NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE AREA

**MINUTES of PUBLIC HEARING,
SPECIAL HEARING, and REGULAR MEETING**

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

12844

Roll call was taken with a quorum present.

AREA BOARD

Steve Anderson, Chairperson.....	Present
Arlan Kuehn, Vice-Chairperson	Absent-Excused
Julie Robinson, Secretary.....	Present
Del Ames	Present
Donovan Ellis.....	Present
Dr. Terry Nelson	Absent-Excused
Dirk Petersen.....	Present
Jeffrey Scherer	Present
Nicole Sedlacek	Present
Carol Sibbel	Present
Gene Willers	Absent-Excused

OTHERS PRESENT

Dr. Leah A. Barrett, President
Paul Feilmeier, Vice President, Technology Services
Scott Gray, Vice President, Administrative Services
Amanda Nipp, Vice President, Student Services
Dr. Michele Gill, Vice President, Educational Services
Jessica Dvorak, Associate Vice President, Human Resources
Jim Curry, Director of Public Relations
Diane Reikofski, Executive Assistant to the President
Coleen Bressler, Executive Director, Administrative Services
Paul Muncy, History/Geography Instructor
Hannah Stahl, Student Leadership Association
Lauren Wagner, *Norfolk Daily News*
Cody Ronnenfelt, WJAG

12845

The Northeast Community College Board of Governors met for the Official Public (Budget) Hearing regarding the 2021-2022 College budgets on Tuesday, September 14, 2021. Notice of the Budget Hearing, Budget Summary, and Special Hearing to Set Final Tax Request was published in the *Norfolk Daily News* on Thursday, September 9, 2021. Chairperson Steve Anderson declared the Public (Budget) Hearing convened at 3:03 p.m., in Suites F & G of the Lifelong Learning Center, located on the campus of Northeast Community College.

12846

Scott Gray, Vice President, Administrative Services, presented information on the General Fund Operating Budget, Building Improvement Fund Budget, and Self-Supporting Funds Budgets for the Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

12847

At 3:18 p.m., there being no further discussion on the proposed budgets, Chairperson Anderson declared the Public (Budget) Hearing adjourned.

12848

Chairperson Anderson convened the Official Special Hearing at 3:18 p.m. and Mr. Gray presented information on the setting of the Final Property Tax Request for 2021-2022.

12849

At 3:22 p.m., there being no further discussion on the Final Property Tax Request for 2021-2022, Chairperson Anderson declared the Official Special Hearing adjourned.

12850

The Northeast Community College Board of Governors met for its regular session Board Meeting on Tuesday, September 14, 2021 in Suites F & G of the Lifelong Learning Center, located on the campus of Northeast Community College. Notice of the Regular Meeting was published in the *Norfolk Daily News* on Wednesday, September 8, 2021 and on the Northeast Community College website. Chairperson Anderson convened the Regular Meeting at 3:22 p.m.

12851

Jeff Scherer MOVED to adopt the Agenda of the September 14, 2021 Regular Meeting. Del Ames SECONDED the motion.

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

Voting No: None

Absent: Kuehn, Nelson, and Willers

MOTION CARRIED

12852

Chairperson Anderson 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.

12853

Dirk Petersen MOVED, and Julie Robinson SECONDED the motion to approve Minutes of the August 11, 2021 meetings as follows:

1. Regular Meeting
2. Governance Committee Meeting
3. Finance Committee Meeting
4. External Relations Committee Meeting
5. Student Success Committee Meeting
6. Facilities Committee Meeting

Voting Yes: Anderson, Ellis, Petersen, Robinson, Scherer, Sibbel, and Ames

Voting No: None

Abstain: Sedlacek

Absent: Kuehn, Nelson, and Willers

MOTION CARRIED

12854

Hannah Stahl, Student Leadership Association representative, stated that SLA will host Constitution Day on Friday, September 17th, in an effort to raise awareness about the U.S. Constitution. Golf carts will travel across campus carrying SLA members who will ask trivia questions of students. Prizes will be given for correct answers. SLA members will participate in a retreat at which time the SLA signature project will be identified.

12855

President Barrett provided the following report:

- Northeast Community College hosted two COVID-19 vaccination clinics on the Norfolk campus on August 19 and 26.
- Northeast Community College held its Fall-In-Service in mid-August. Faculty and staff came together to discuss how to measure the success of the *enVISION* strategic direction, learn to be more acutely aware of cybersecurity in their daily lives, and discovered how to open a dialogue when they see acts of harassment or prejudice. Workshops were offered throughout the week that included divisional updates and planning sessions related to guided pathways, professional development and facilities.

- During the Fall In-Service, an engaging speaker who shared an inspiring message that encouraged employees to find the perspectives that motivate them in their daily work and lives. Aaron Davis is a professional speaker, coach and trainer and a member of the Nebraska Cornhuskers 1994 national championship football team, shared with Northeast employees that they are the living, breathing embodiment of the institution as it relates to the mission and vision of the College. He said, “When the students see that you love it, your teammates see you love it, the culture begins to strengthen and becomes ideal for you every day.”
- A new public transit service that will serve Norfolk and the surrounding region will begin operations in 2022. North Fork Area Transit will provide “safe, efficient and affordable” public transportation seven days a week. One of the stops in Norfolk will be Northeast Community College. Northeast is exploring the use of student fees to pay for transit services for students.
- Approximately 150 Northeast Community College students interested in part-time employment had the opportunity to visit with potential employers. Career Services hosted its annual Part-Time Job Fair in the Lifelong Learning Center. Students were able to visit with 48 employers who registered for the event on part-time employment opportunities that are available during the 2021-22 academic year.
- Northeast Community College has joined a national effort in support of student well-being and mental health. The program is a nationwide initiative of The Jed Foundation (JED) that is designed to help schools evaluate and strengthen their mental health, substance misuse and suicide prevention programs and systems to ensure that schools have the strongest possible mental health safety nets.
- Retirements include Richard Chrisman, employed since August 1997, has retired from his position of Information Technology Instructor; Timothy Miller, employed since November 1983, has retired from his position of Media Arts -Audio Recording Technology Instructor; Gregory Nelson, employed since September 1991, has retired from his position of Utility Line Instructor; Gigi Simonsen, employed since December 1994, has retired from her position of Information Technology Instructor; Gary Timm, employed since August 1996, has retired from his position of History/Political Science Instructor; and Kim Timperley, employed since 1987, has retired from his position of Physics Instructor.
- On Sunday, August 15, approximately 30 graduates of Northeast’s Physical Therapist Assistant and Paramedic programs were honored with a full commencement ceremony in the Lifelong Learning Center. The event was held after students in both programs completed their clinical and field experiences this summer, a requirement to confer their degrees.
- A Northeast broadcasting graduate has earned state-wide recognition for his work in television news. Lance Vie, of Fontanelle, was recognized with a “Gold” award in the collegiate division of the 2021 Nebraska Broadcasters Association (NBA) Pinnacle Awards contest. Vie, who graduated from Northeast in May, was recognized with the first-place award in the TV news story category for his feature titled, “NEXUS Groundbreaking.” Northeast competed against other two-and-four-year NBA member colleges and universities from across the state.
- The Northeast Agriculture Department hosted an Agriculture Field Day and Industry Expo at the Chuck M. Pohlman Agriculture Complex. The event provided over 100 high school students from a dozen area communities and Northeast ag students opportunities to learn more about college programs and industry specific information.
- Northeast Biology Instructor Jennifer Judt is one of three national winners in a contest sponsored by Carolina Biological Supply Co. that awarded teaching materials to science teachers. She received four anatomical models - an oversized human heart, a skull with the

cervical vertebrae attached, a knee joint, and a micro torso that features removable organs. The models will be used primarily in introductory anatomy and physiology classes that focus on the study of bones, joints, and organ systems.

- A 1990 Northeast Community College graduate, Pat O’Neill, was instrumental in the Garth Brooks’ Concert last month in Lincoln. O’Neill led an eight-person sound crew that worked for days to make sure Brooks could be heard by the entire crowd. The audio recording technology program graduate and Grand Island native credits Northeast Community College for giving him the foundation and knowledge to get him to where he is today.
- Hundreds of students returned to the Norfolk campus beginning Thursday, August 19. New students moved into the residence halls with the assistance of their families and Northeast employees on that particular day with returning students arriving the following Sunday. In addition, New Student Orientation was held throughout the day on Friday, August 20, with a record 764 students participating.
- Student Activities hosted activities each day during the first week of classes. These events ranged from Black Light Bingo to the Cheers to Leadership Root Beer Kegger that introduced students to clubs and organizations on campus.
- Northeast’s Annual Welcome Back Picnic & Inflatable Fun was held August 25th. Free food, courtesy of Chartwells, and served by members of administration, and inflatables were available to all students, faculty, staff, and families.
- Northeast announced the roster for its new dance team for the 2021-22 academic year. The eight-member, non-competitive squad will perform during the fall and spring semesters during various volleyball and basketball games. Two qualified judges selected members of the coed team following auditions.
- Northeast’s fall athletics schedule is in full swing for golf, men’s and women’s soccer, and volleyball.

12856

The NCCA Board of Directors met on August 30th to conduct interviews for the replacement of Greg Adams, NCCA Executive Director, who is retiring on December 31st. The Board hopes to finalize the selection in the next few days and make an announcement during the NCCA Annual Meeting that will be held in Scottsbluff, October 3-4, 2021.

The Nebraska Legislature has convened to address redistricting across the state. Northeast Community College is working with the University of Nebraska-Omaha, Center for Public Affairs Research, to readjust the boundaries of our 20-county service area.

12857

Del Ames, member of the Finance Committee, MOVED to approve and adopt the 2021-2022 budgets for Northeast Community College.

General Operating Budget in the amount of \$51,007,037

Building Improvement Budget in the amount of \$11,695,192

Self-Supporting Funds Budget in the amount of \$37,285,176

Donovan Ellis SECONDED the motion.

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

Voting No: None

Absent: Kuehn, Nelson, and Willers

MOTION CARRIED

12858

Del Ames MOVED and Carol Sibbel SECONDED the motion to approve the Property Tax Request as follows:

2021-2022 Property Tax Request	\$31,325,902.00
2021 Tax Rate	0.094000

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

Voting No: None

Absent: Kuehn, Nelson, and Willers

MOTION CARRIED

12859

Board and staff member birthdays for the month of September were acknowledged by Chairperson Anderson. In closing, on behalf of the Board of Governors, Chairperson Anderson commended the work of the faculty, staff, and administration. We, the Board of Governors, appreciate the efforts that continue to move the College forward.

12860

At 3:40 p.m., with no further business to discuss, it was UNANIMOUSLY PASSED BY VOICE VOTE to ADJOURN the meeting.

Minutes prepared by Diane Reikofski, Recording Secretary.

Steve Anderson, Chairperson
Northeast Board of Governors

Julie Robinson, Secretary
Northeast Board of Governors