



**NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE AREA**

**MINUTES of REGULAR MEETING**

**Tuesday, October 26, 2021**

Prior to convening the meeting, Chairperson Steve Anderson led the assembly in pledging their allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

12867

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 .....	Present
Dirk Petersen.....	Present
Jeffrey Scherer .....	Present
Nicole Sedlacek .....	Present
Carol Sibbel .....	Present
Gene Willers .....	Present

**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  
Paul Muncy, History/Geography Instructor  
Rose Graham, Student Leadership Association President  
Cody Ronnenfeldt, WJAG  
Lauren Wagner, *Norfolk Daily News*  
Bill Johnson, NPPD board member  
Brittney Koenig, NPPD representative

12868

Notice of the Regular Meeting is published on the Northeast Community College website and was published in the *Norfolk Daily News* on Wednesday, October 20, 2021. Chairperson Steve Anderson convened the Regular Meeting at 4:13 p.m. in Suites E & H of the Lifelong Learning Center.

12869

Del Ames MOVED to adopt the Agenda of the October 26, 2021 Regular Meeting. Donovan Ellis SECONDED the motion.

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

**Voting No:** None

**Absent:** Kuehn

**MOTION CARRIED**

12870

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.

12871

Dirk Petersen MOVED, and Nicole Sedlacek SECONDED the motion to approve Minutes of the September 14, 2021 meetings as follows:

1. Public Hearing, Special Hearing, and Regular Meeting
2. External Relations Committee Meeting
3. Finance Committee Meeting
4. Governance Committee Meeting, and
5. Special Meeting of October 18, 2021

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

**Voting No:** None

**Absent:** Kuehn

**MOTION CARRIED**

12872

- Bill Johnson and Brittney Koenig, representatives of the Nebraska Public Power District, presented a check in the amount of \$15,000 to Northeast Community College. The funding, used for scholarships awarded to students enrolled in the state's community college system, was part of the funds raised during the 30th annual Wells Fargo Open golf tournament held at the Elks County Club in Columbus in September. Over the 30 years that the tournament has

been held, \$1,788,221 has been raised cumulatively, with Northeast receiving a total of \$356,160.

- Rose Graham, SLA president, reported that SLA is working on the Spooktacular Children's Carnival, making tie blankets for residents of the Nebraska Veteran's Home, working on the frisbee golf project, and has also opened a suggestion box for ideas on how make campus better.
- President Leah Barrett announced that Northeast Community College faculty member, Brian Anderson, media arts-broadcasting instructor, was presented the 2021 Nebraska Community College Association's Faculty Member Award during the NCCA's Annual Conference, held at Western Nebraska Community College in Scottsbluff earlier this month.
- Jim McKenzie, information systems manager for the City of Norfolk, was selected to receive the 2021 Distinguished Alumnus award from Northeast Community College.
- The National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR) has selected two Northeast Community College employees for recognition. Leah Barrett, president, was presented the NCMPR District 5 Pacesetter award while Crystal Hollmann, director of marketing, received the District 5 Communicator of the Year award. Northeast's marketing and public relations department was recognized for excellence among two-year college communicators, receiving two gold awards, two silver awards, and two bronze awards, while the public relations department received one silver award and one bronze award during its annual District 5 conference.
- The Aspen Institute College Excellence Program has announced that Leah Barrett, president, is one of 25 leaders selected for the 2021-22 class of the Aspen New Presidents Fellowship. The program supports community college presidents in the early years of their tenure as they aim to achieve higher and more equitable levels of student success. The 25 Aspen Fellows were selected through a highly competitive process.
- Trentee Bush, Northeast horticulture instructor is one of 40 individuals who has been selected to participate in the Nebraska LEAD (Leadership Education/Action Development) program.
- Gina Holtz has been selected as Northeast's new director of extended campus operation in West Point.
- Northeast students, faculty and staff were among those who participated in the PATCH (Planned Approach to Community Health) Health Fair in the Cox Activities Center on the Northeast campus. The event offered free and low-cost screenings as well as complete blood profiles at a reduced cost.
- Instructors in Northeast's building construction and theatre programs worked together to design and construct the set for the latest Northeast Community College/Norfolk Community Theatre production of *Noises Off*. The set required a two-level set that rotates 180 degrees between acts, which made it a challenge to both design and build. Both programs have worked together on past productions.
- Northeast's Business and Humanities Division hosted a series lectures on Friday evenings during October to celebrate National Humanities Month.
- A large number of area high school musicians and vocalists showcased their talents during Northeast's third annual HAWKFEST. The event featured 65 students, approximately 30 in band and 35 in choir, from 15 area high schools.
- A Northeast Community College graduate, Ben Viergutz, who owns a film production studio in Norfolk debuted his short film in the Cox Activities Center Theatre recently. The film, *Mirror of Lies*, is a PG-rated thriller and may now be viewed on Fatt Sunnie Studio's You Tube page.

- Approximately 50 students at Northeast Community College qualified for membership this fall in the Phi Theta Kappa, (PTK), Tau Chi Chapter. To be eligible for induction into PTK, students must have earned at least 12 credit hours and achieved a minimum grade point average of 3.5 or above out of a 4.0 system.
- Grace Jansen of Hartington was named the TRIO program’s Student of the Month in September.
- Northeast Community College hosted its annual Latino Youth Summit that featured several Latino leaders and college students who shared stories on how they broke through barriers and achieved success and also answered questions from the high school students. Approximately 150 students from six area high schools attended. In addition, \$1,000 tuition scholarships to Northeast were awarded to ten seniors who attended the event.
- Recruiting events that were held at Northeast in September and October include career days on the Norfolk campus for Health & Wellness, Cybersecurity, Applied Technology, Human Services & Education, and Criminal Justice, and a College and Career Exploration Day on the South Sioux City Extended Campus.
- Northeast hosted a College Transfer Fair in Union 73 recently. The fair provided a great opportunity for students to meet with representatives from colleges across Nebraska and South Dakota to get started with the transfer process. Representatives from 16 colleges and universities were in attendance.
- Hawksoberfest, previously known as Sober in October, an event designed to educate students on the dangers of binge drinking and driving under the influence was held in the Chuck M. Pohlman Ag Complex recently. Hawksoberfest, featured several areas that allowed students to participate or learn more by participating in a “standard drinking quiz,” take a ride on the Nebraska State Patrol’s seatbelt convincer sled or drive a golf cart on a simulated drunk driving course using Fatal Vision Goggles, which impair an individual’s physical capabilities, including balance and equilibrium, reaction time, judgment, and targeting.
- The Northeast men's golf team finished in first place after an intense playoff round at the Nebraska Intercollegiate tournament at the Norfolk Country Club. The Hawks captured the team title after a playoff with Midland University.
- Ty Heimes was named Iowa Community College Athletic Conference (ICCAC) Athlete of the Week, October 4-10. Leading the Hawks to a first-place finish at the Nebraska Intercollegiate tournament, Heimes tied for fifth, shooting 1-under par the first round with a 71, and shooting an even 72 for round two.
- Romeni Gurmendi, of Northeast’s women’s soccer team, was named both National Junior College Athletic Association and ICCAC Division II Women’s Athlete of the Week, September 27-October 3, for her performances in matches against Hawkeye Community College and North Iowa Area Community College (NIACC).
- Several students-athletes from Northeast’s men’s and women’s basketball and soccer teams, baseball, and golf programs walked in the 41st Norfolk Lions Club Annual Parade. Jerrett Mills, athletic director, received many compliments about the student-athletes and how nice it was to see athletics back in the parade.

12873

The NCCA Annual meeting was held in Scottsbluff, October 3-5, 2021. Earlier today, the Board of Governors had the opportunity to meet Courtney Wittstruck, who will be the NCCA Executive Director, effective January 1, 2022. The NCCA Board of Directors will meet in January to review the legislative agenda.

The NCCA Board of Directors is in its final phase of replacing Greg Adams, as NCCA Executive Director.

12874

Gene Willers MOVED, and Nicole Sedlacek SECONDED the motion to acknowledge and accept the Monthly Financial Report for September 30, 2021 and claims paid in September 2021 as follows:

General Funds.....	\$ 5,373,033.70
Auxiliary Funds.....	\$ 443,965.99
Grants and Contracts .....	\$ 18,805.14
Scholarships and Financial Aid.....	\$ 8,543.00
Student Loans .....	\$ 1,408.67
Student Clubs.....	\$ 0.00
Other Agencies .....	\$ 15,499.57
Capital Improvement.....	\$ 20,952.00
Restricted Plant.....	\$ 1,553,771.33
Debt Service .....	\$ 0.00
Payroll Fund .....	\$ <u>3,312,068.53</u>
TOTAL CLAIMS PAID.....	\$ 10,748,047.93

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

**Voting No:** None

**Absent:** Kuehn

**MOTION CARRIED**

12875

Chairperson Anderson recognized board member birthdays for the month of October.

12876

At 4:38 a.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