



Board of Governors
Northeast Community College Area
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Thursday, June 15, 2023

ATTENDANCE

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Dr. Leah A. Barrett, President
Scott Gray, Vice President, Administrative Services
Dr. Charlene Widener, Vice President, Educational Services
Dr. Tracy Kruse, Vice President, Development and External Affairs
Amanda Nipp, Vice President, Student Services
Jessica Dvorak, Vice President, Human Resources
Paul Feilmeier, Vice President, Technology Services
Lindsay Spiegel Director of Institutional Effectiveness
Jim Curry, Director, Public Relations
Diane Reikofski, Executive Assistant to the President
Pat Caveye, WJAG
Amber Fehrs, *Norfolk Daily News*
Neila Muminovic, *Norfolk Daily News*

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice-Chairperson Jeff Scherer convened the meeting at 1:11 p.m. and led the assembly in pledging their allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

2. ADOPT AGENDA

MOTION by Steve Anderson, **SECONDED** by Del Ames to adopt the Agenda of the June 15, 2023 Regular Meeting. Official Notice of the meeting was posted on the Northeast Community College website and published in the *Norfolk Daily News* on Friday, June 9, 2023.

Voting Yes: Ames, Anderson, Ellis, Scherer, Sibbel, and Wojcik

Voting No: None

Absent: Nelson, Petersen, Reigle, Robinson, and Sedlacek

MOTION CARRIED

3. OPEN MEETINGS ACT

A copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted on the table at the back of the meeting room, along with a copy of the June 15th Board of Governors Meeting agenda and all printable supporting documents.

4. CLOSED SESSION

At 1:13 p.m., Del Ames **MOVED** to enter into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing the status of collective bargaining and to reconvene to the public meeting once business is discussed. Carol Sibbel **SECONDED** the motion.

Voting Yes: Anderson, Ellis, Scherer, Sibbel, Wojcik, and Ames

Voting No: None

Absent: Nelson, Petersen, Reigle, Robinson, and Sedlacek **MOTION CARRIED**

Reconvened to the public hearing at 1:42 p.m.

5. CLOSED SESSION

At 1:42 p.m., Del Ames **MOVED** 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. Donovan Ellis **SECONDED** the motion.

Voting Yes: Ellis, Scherer, Sibbel, Wojcik, Ames, and Anderson

Voting No: None

Absent: Nelson, Petersen, Reigle, Robinson, and Sedlacek **MOTION CARRIED**

Reconvened to the public hearing at 1:49 p.m.

6. BOARD EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

6.1 Administrative Services Report

6.1.1 Monthly Financial Report and Paid Bills

Review was given to the financial report for the period ending May 31, 2023, along with some of the larger fund changes related to receipt of property taxes and ARPA funds. Items of significance within the May paid bills report included payments to Huff Construction for modifications being done to the Lifelong Learning Center, Mid-West 3D Solutions Inc. for the purchase of a MechLab Training System used in training students in the manufacturing program, and Kustom Kitchens related to the purchase of the building downtown and the relocation assistance allowed by law.

6.2 Development/External Relations Report

6.2.1 NCCA Report

The 2023 legislative session is over and will be remembered for all of the filibusters. State employees overtime was doubled compared to a year ago and the state patrol had 14% in additional costs due to covering protests.

The NCCA Executive Board Meeting will be conducted on July 17th and the third quarter NCCA Board Meeting and strategic planning session is scheduled to be held on August 7th.

6.2.2 Legislative update

- The community college budget is within the Appropriations Budget. Community colleges originally requested a 3.5% increase plus 1% for dual enrollment and received a 1.97% increase.
- Three additional appropriations that support community colleges include:
 - LB610-CTE funding – provides for a \$5MM annual increase.
 - LB586-Training clinical nurse faculty - \$10MM in one-time monies.
 - LB385-Teacher retention and recruitment – one-time monies for dual enrollment training incentive.
- Community College Future Fund provides:
 - Annual increase of 3.5%.
 - Retention of the 2-cent capital levy authority.
 - Ability to return to the property tax if state fund obligations are not met.

6.2.3 President's update

- The Farm Bill now provides funding for training of technicians at community colleges.
- ACCT Connect is the new primary communication tool that provides an avenue for trustees to engage and communicate. It will also keep trustees updated with activities occurring at and information from community colleges across the nation. Board members are encouraged to sign up to receive updates.
- Four bids were received for the Maclay Building project with Hausmann Construction being awarded the bid. Scott Gray is working with Hausmann to finalize the schedule so that construction can begin.
- Norfolk Area Childcare Co-op, led by Daycos, is a non-profit group that would create a childcare facility to serve the greater Norfolk region. Eight area CEOs are involved in the discussions.

6.2.4 Naming of the LLC community room

A written nomination for officially naming the community room in the Lifelong Learning Center was presented for consideration by the Board of Governors. The nominee has given generously of his time, knowledge, talent, and financial resources for many decades. Dr. Kruse requested that the information remain confidential until the nominee has been contacted. The written nomination is available within today's Teams site. A naming event will occur in conjunction with the August 10th Board of Governors meeting.

6.2.5 HLC update: Criterion 5, Institutional Effectiveness, Resources, and Planning.

The institution's resources, structures, and processes are sufficient to fulfill its mission, improve the quality of its educational offerings, and respond to future challenges and opportunities.

6.3 Educational Services Report

- 6.3.1 The Educational Services Team is recommending the removal of the Food Service/Dietary Management program from its course offerings at Northeast. The program continues to have the same enrollment concerns noted by the Board of Governors during the 2016 review and prospects for future enrollment are bleak.

The Food Service/Dietary Management program is listed in the 2023-2024 catalog. Northeast will serve students enrolled for the fall 2023 start and also need to serve the students currently enrolled as part of the accreditation teach out requirements. The courses will be taught online with adjunct faculty.

The Food Service/Dietary Management program will go through the process outlined by policy to sunset the program and it will not be included in the 2024-2025 catalog.

Northeast will continue to work with the advisory board during the 2023-2024 academic year to determine the best way to serve our communities, including the exploration of moving the program to a workforce training model.

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT on Board Education and Information**

Vice-Chairperson Scherer advised that individuals commenting on Board Education and Information items are allowed three minutes each. No constituents were in attendance to address the board with a public comment.

8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

8.1 Governance Committee

The Governance Committee conducted a Content Review (CR) of the following:

- EL-01, Treatment of Students. The policy was reviewed and there are no recommendations for revision.
- EL-02, Access to Education. No recommendations for revisions. Due to the passage of LB243, Item #1 will be taken to the Board for discussion regarding the property tax levy. The Governance Committee believes that the policy should be reviewed again next year after there is an opportunity to see what impact LB243 has on tuition.

The first and second reading of policies, as recommended by the Governance Committee, was inadvertently omitted from the June agenda and will be included for consideration on the July 13, 2023 agenda.

9. **PUBLIC COMMENT on Committee or Monitoring Reports**

Vice-Chairperson Scherer advised that individuals commenting on Committee or Monitoring Reports are allowed three minutes each. No constituents were in attendance to address the board with a public comment.

10. **CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION by Carol Sibbel, **SECONDED** by Pat Wojcik to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- 10.1 Minutes of the May 11, 2023 Regular Meeting as presented.

- 10.2 Monthly Financial Report for May 31, 2023 and claims paid in May 2023.
 10.3 Naming of the LLC community room as presented.

Voting Yes: Scherer, Sibbel, Wojcik, Ames, Anderson, and Ellis

Voting No: None

Absent: Nelson, Petersen, Reigle, Robinson, and Sedlacek **MOTION CARRIED**

11. COLLEGE REPORTS

11.1 President's Report

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 today's Teams site.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT on Items for Decision

Vice-Chairperson Scherer advised that individuals commenting on Items for Decision are allowed three minutes each. No constituents were in attendance to address the board with a public comment.

13. ITEMS FOR DECISION

MOTION by Steve Anderson, **SECONDED** by Del Ames to **APPROVE** the discontinuation of the Food Service/Dietary Management program at Northeast Community College. A teach-out program is now in place to serve the students currently enrolled in the program and the program will not be included in the 2024-2025 catalog.

Voting Yes: Scherer, Sibbel, Wojcik, Ames, Anderson, and Ellis

Voting No: None

Absent: Nelson, Petersen, Reigle, Robinson, and Sedlacek **MOTION CARRIED**

14. The evaluation of today's meeting was conducted and recorded in the Board of Governors Meeting Self-Evaluation document and is available in today's Board of Governors Teams site.

15. ADJOURNMENT

At 3:37 p.m., there being no further business to discuss, it was **UNANIMOUSLY PASSED BY VOICE VOTE** to **ADJOURN** the meeting.

Minutes prepared by Diane Reikofski, Recording Secretary.

Jeff Scherer, Vice-Chairperson
 Northeast Board of Governors

Donovan Ellis, Secretary
 Northeast Board of Governors