

**NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Thursday, November 9, 2017

**EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Carol A. Sibbel, Chairperson	PRESENT
Steven M. Anderson	ABSENT
Don Oelsligle	PRESENT
Dirk A. Petersen	PRESENT
Dr. Terry F. Nelson, ex-officio	ABSENT

**STAFF**

Dr. Michael Chipps  
John Blaylock  
Lyle Kathol  
Lynne Koski  
Derek Bierman  
Amanda Nipp  
Eric Johnson  
Dr. Tracy Kruse  
Craig Garrett  
Diane Reikofski  
Brenda Sock

**OTHER BOARD MEMBERS**

Keith E. Harvey	ABSENT
Arlan W. Kuehn	ABSENT
Shirley J. Petsche	PRESENT
Julie Robinson	ABSENT
Jeffrey M. Scherer	PRESENT
Gene L. Willers	PRESENT

**MINUTES**

1. Carol A. Sibbel, Chairperson of the External Relations Committee, convened the meeting at 9:54 a.m. in Room 1108B of the College Welcome Center.
2. Recommended approval of the Minutes of the October 12, 2017 meeting.
3. September 20th was the kickoff date for the employee campaign for the Ag and Water Nexus project. Dr. Tracy Kruse reported that the employee campaign generated \$125,000.

Review was given to a complete set of the Ag and Water campaign materials. The campaign website is fully live and may be accessed at [www.agwater nexus.com](http://www.agwater nexus.com). The website has all of the paper content that was presented as well as videos and testimonials. The testimonials are a great way to show the impact of the project.

Two co-chairs have been identified for the campaign as well as leaders for each of the Ag sectors. Sector leads are currently working to identify large donors within their industry sector. The printed materials prove to be helpful for the volunteers as they are talking with potential donors.

Dirk Petersen inquired about competitors that have similar interests. Dr. Kruse reported that Northeast has the 8<sup>th</sup> largest two-year program in the country. Other Ag programs are out there, but none have the assets that the Northeast Ag program has.

Shirley Petsche asked if technology would have an impact on the project and Derek Bierman advised that these projects have been staged well to make things work. The grand goal will be to tie together the Ag and Water Center for Excellence and the Technology and Applied Research Park.

4. Dr. Chipps and Dr. Kruse recently had the opportunity to meet with Senator Joni Albrecht in Wayne. They learned of her priorities and what she would like to accomplish. Towards the end of the meeting they took the opportunity to introduce the Ag and Water Center for Excellence project. Senator Albrecht was interested and very supportive of the project.
5. The quarterly Foundation Report was provided by Dr. Tracy Kruse. Lori Olson and Nicole Kreitel from the auditing firm of Dana F. Cole, presented the Foundation's audited Financial Statement which was approved unanimously.

The Northeast Community College Foundation was the recipient of two Peter Kiewit grants over the last quarter, totaling \$350,000. One grant is for student scholarships and student support and the other is for supporting strategic analytics. The Foundation also received a \$420,000 Sherwood Foundation grant for funding the equipment and furnishings at the West Point Career and Technical Training Facility.

6. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned 10:32 a.m.