

**NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Thursday, June 14, 2018

EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Julie Robinson, Chairperson	ABSENT
Del Ames	PRESENT
Jeff Scherer	PRESENT
Carol Sibbel	PRESENT
Dirk Petersen, ex-officio	PRESENT

STAFF

Dr. Michael Chipps
John Blaylock
Lyle Kathol
Lynne Koski
Carla Streff
Amanda Nipp
Eric Johnson
Dr. Tracy Kruse
Craig Garrett
Jim Curry
Diane Reikofski
Brenda Sock

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS

Steve Anderson	PRESENT
Keith Harvey	PRESENT
Arlan Kuehn	PRESENT
Terry Nelson	ABSENT
Shirley Petsche	ABSENT
Gene L. Willers	PRESENT

MINUTES

1. Del Ames, member of the External Relations Committee, convened the meeting at 1:50 p.m. in Room 1108B of the College Welcome Center.
2. Recommended approval of the Minutes of the May 10, 2018 meeting.
3. Dr. Michael Chipps and Dr. Tracy Kruse are working closely with representatives on both the house and senate side to amend language in the farm bill. The language amendment would allow the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Natural Resource and Conservation Service (NRCS) to work with rural community colleges and allow college farms to be considered producer farms. This would provide an additional opportunity for Northeast to work with NRCS to do demonstration projects.

Dr. Kruse will prepare a thank you letter for board members to sign that will be sent to Nebraska senators involved with advancing the farm bill. The thank you letter will include appreciation for the time that Senator Deb Fischer spent on campus learning about Northeast's Precision Agriculture program.

4. Now that the primary election is over, Dr. Kruse is making a concerted effort to develop relationships with candidates in the various districts.
5. Del Ames inquired about the PROSPER Act. Dr. Tracy Kruse reported that this Act deals with financial aid and risk sharing. She feels that it is likely that it will pass on the House side but the chance of it advancing on the Senate side is not likely.
6. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned 2:02 p.m.