

**WESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE AREA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**INFORMAL MEETING
MINUTES
Wednesday, July 16, 2025**

The Western Community College Area Board of Governors held an Informal Board meeting at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, July 16, 2025, at Western Nebraska Community College Scottsbluff Campus, 1601 East 27th Street, in the City of Scottsbluff, in the County of Scotts Bluff, in the State of Nebraska, as per the publicized notice in the Star-Herald on Tuesday, July 8, 2025.

A current agenda was available in the Board Secretary's office on the Scottsbluff Campus at the time of the publicized notice.

ROLL CALL

AREA BOARD

Linda A. Guzman-Gonzales	Absent
Joshua R. Hanson.....	Absent
Mark A. Kaufman	Absent
Allan D. Kreman	Present arrived at 10:17 a.m.
Starr Lehl, Vice Chairperson	Present
Lori J. Liggett.....	Present arrived at 10:08 a.m.
William M. Packard	Present
Coral E. Richards.....	Present
R. J. Savely, Jr	Absent
Marjorie A. Schmidt.....	Present
John P. Stinner, Chairperson.....	Present

Ms. Guzman-Gonzales, Mr. Hanson, Mr. Kaufman, and Mr. Savely informed the Board Secretary they would be unable to attend the meeting due to personal business commitments.

QUORUM

Chair Stinner declared a quorum was present for the transaction of business.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Chair Stinner asked for comments from the community. Pursuant to Board Policy BP-106, community members who wish to make comments will be limited to a five-minute presentation. There were no comments.

BOARD CHAIR COMMENTS

Chair Stinner announced for public information there was a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act available on the table at the back of the room.

iPad Board Training

The WNCC Information Technology staff assisted Board members with use of iPads.

WNCC Budget Review – Designated and Restricted Funds

Ms. Koski, Vice President of Administrative Services, reviewed the tentative other non-tax supported funds budget.

	Designated Fund	Restricted Fund	Loan Fund	Agency Fund	Total Funds
Beginning Fund Balance	\$4,564,492	\$4,082,480	\$112,796	\$266,801	\$9,026,569
Federal Receipts		2,888,159	600,000		3,488,159
State Receipts		890,355			890,355
Local Receipts	<u>4,059,576</u>	<u>1,889,915</u>		<u>160,000</u>	<u>6,109,491</u>
Total 2025-26 Funds Available	<u>\$8,624,068</u>	<u>\$9,750,909</u>	<u>\$712,796</u>	<u>\$426,801</u>	<u>\$19,514,574</u>
2025-26 Expenditures	\$8,624,068	\$9,750,909	\$712,796	\$426,801	\$19,514,574
Total 2025-26 Expend & Reserves	<u>\$8,624,068</u>	<u>\$9,750,909</u>	<u>\$712,796</u>	<u>\$426,801</u>	<u>\$19,514,574</u>
2025-26 Budget	\$8,624,068	\$9,750,909	\$712,796	\$426,801	\$19,514,574
2024-25 Budget	8,050,000	17,432,346	740,250	391,720	26,614,316

Federal Funding Updates

Dr. Grant Wilson, Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Services shared information regarding the impact of the “One Big Beautiful Bill” on student financial assistance.

Regarding Pell Grants, the definition of full-time and part-time students did not change. Full-time is still defined as twelve or more credit hours per semester and part-time is still defined as six or more credit hours per semester. The Student Aid Index (SAI) formula has changed, affecting how a student's Pell Grant eligibility is determined. Maximum Pell Grant remains at \$7,395 for the 2025-26 award year. Starting July 1, 2026, Pell eligibility will expand to include certain short-term career and workforce training programs as part of the new Workforce Pell Grant initiative.

On June 30, 2025, the State was informed by the U.S. Department of Education that, due to the change in federal administration, the Department is currently reviewing Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 funding for the Adult Education Basic Grants to States program. As a result of this ongoing review, the Department will not be issuing Grant Award Notifications (GANs) on July 1, 2025, as originally scheduled. Further information will be provided once the review is complete.

Discussions have been ongoing regarding the potential use of up to \$170,000 from cash reserves to sustain Adult Education services through May 2026. This amount may be reduced if certain services are scaled back, and/or the Federal Government releases funds to the states, and the State of Nebraska allocates a portion to us.

As of July 8, 2025, we were awarded the AEC Grant in the amount of \$22,291.20 by the Nebraska Department of Education. These grant funds are sufficient to cover the salary of one position within the Adult Education program.

Federal Funding Updates (cont.)

Some deferment options for unemployment or financial hardship have been eliminated. Borrowers now have two opportunities to use Loan Rehabilitation (previously only one). This allows borrowers to get a defaulted loan back in good standing more than once, offering greater flexibility for those struggling with repayment.

On July 8, 2025, the institution received a Grant Award Notification (GAN) from the U.S. Department of Education for the TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) Program. The award was for the performance period of September 1, 2025 to August 31, 2030, \$416,576 each year.

Board Member Comments

There were no comments.

Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday, July 16, 2025, 1:00 p.m., Coral E. Richards Boardroom, Scottsbluff Campus, 1601 East 27th Street, Scottsbluff, NE.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 11:01 a.m.

John P. Stinner, Chairperson

Susan L. Verbeck, Secretary