

**WESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE AREA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

The Western Community College Area Board of Governors held a Regular Board meeting at 1:06 p.m. on Wednesday, February 18, 2026 at Western Nebraska Community College, Coral E. Richards Boardroom, 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 Tuesday, February 10, 2026.

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

AREA BOARD

Linda A. Guzman-Gonzales.....	Present
Joshua R. Hanson	Present
Mark A Kaufman	Present
Allan D. Kreman.....	Present
Starr Lehl, Vice Chair.....	Present
Lori J. Liggett.....	Absent
Coral E. Richards	Present
R. J. Savely, Jr.....	Absent
Marjorie A. Schmidt.....	Present
John P. Stinner, Chair	Present (via Zoom)

Mr. Savely notified the Board secretary he was unable to attend the meeting due to personal business commitments. Ms. Liggett notified the Board secretary she was unable to attend the meeting due to personal health appointments.

QUORUM

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

RECESS

At 1:08 p.m., Mr. Kaufman MOVED that the Regular meeting recess until the conclusion of the program closure hearing. Mr. Kreman SECONDED the motion. The vote was, Yes: Guzman-Gonzales, Hanson, Kaufman, Kreman, Richards, Schmidt, Stinner, Lehl. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Liggett, Savely. Motion carried.

Open Meeting

The Regular meeting reconvened at 3:50 p.m.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

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

BOARD CHAIRPERSON COMMENTS

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

Vice Chair Lehl announced that the Board reserves the right to enter a closed session if deemed necessary for any item on the agenda per Section 84-1410 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes.

Vice Chair Lehl called for a motion to amend the agenda. Due to the late start, Chair Lehl proposed removing the reports listed under agenda item I, Institutional Reports (1-5). Information from these reports will be included in the March 18, 2026 Regular Board meeting agenda.

Ms. Schmidt MOVED for approval of the amended agenda. Mr. Hanson SECONDED the motion. The vote was, Yes: Hanson, Kaufman, Kreman, Richards, Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Lehl. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Liggett, Savely, Stinner. Motion carried.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Review Contents of Consent Calendar
 - a. Agenda
 - b. Excuse Absent Board Member(s) Liggett and Savely
 - c. Minutes
 1. January 21, 2026, Informal Meeting
 2. January 21, 2026, Regular Meeting
2. **Claims:** January 2026
 - a. WCCA Unrestricted Fund - \$2,342,903.96
 - b. WCCA Restricted Fund - \$15,303.05
 - c. WCCA Federal Fund - \$600.00
 - d. WCCA Agency Fund - \$19,908.96
 - e. WCCA Loan Fund - 0 -
 - f. WCCA Plant Fund - \$331,646.94
 - g. WCCA Auxiliary Fund - \$105,212.07
3. City Planning Commission Reports – no reports
4. Approval of Consent Calendar
5. Consideration of Items Extracted from Consent Calendar

Vice Chair Lehl entertained a motion for approval of the amended consent calendar.

Mr. Kaufman MOVED to approve the amended Consent Calendar. SECONDED by Ms. Guzman-Gonzales. The vote was, Yes: Kaufman, Kreman, Richards, Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Hanson, Lehl. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Liggett, Savely, Stinner. Motion carried.

BOARD MEMBER MILEAGE AND/OR EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT

Ms. Guzman-Gonzales MOVED to approve the following travel expense: Mr. Allan Kreman for \$27.30. SECONDED by Mr. Kaufman. The vote was, Yes: Richards, Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Hanson, Kaufman, Lehl. No: None. Abstain: Kreman. Absent: Liggett, Savely, Stinner. Motion carried.

Mr. Kaufman MOVED to approve the following travel expense: Ms. Starr Lehl for \$56.34. SECONDED by Mr. Hanson. The vote was, Yes: Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Hanson, Kaufman, Kreman, Richards. No: None. Abstain: Lehl. Absent: Liggett, Savely, Stinner. Motion carried.

Ms. Guzman-Gonzales MOVED to approve the following travel expense: Ms. Lori Liggett for \$32.34. SECONDED by Mr. Kreman. The vote was, Yes: Guzman-Gonzales, Hanson, Kaufman, Kreman, Richards, Schmidt, Lehl. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Liggett, Savely, Stinner. Motion carried.

Ms. Richards MOVED to approve the following travel expense: Mr. R. J. Savely for \$256.50. SECONDED by Ms. Guzman-Gonzales. The vote was, Yes: Hanson, Kaufman, Kreman, Richards, Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Lehl. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Liggett, Savely, Stinner. Motion carried.

Mr. Kreman MOVED to approve the following travel expense: Ms. Marjorie Schmidt for \$364.80. SECONDED by Ms. Guzman-Gonzales. The vote was, Yes: Kaufman, Kreman, Richards, Guzman-Gonzales, Hanson, Lehl. No: None. Abstain: Schmidt. Absent: Liggett, Savely, Stinner. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S PERSONNEL REPORT

Resignation(s)

1. No resignations

Appointment(s)

1. Ms. Nichelle Paz, Student Wellbeing Director
Effective March 10, 2026
2. Ms. Tiffany Sabala, Administrative Services Administrative Assistant
Effective February 16, 2026

Consideration of Items Extracted from President's Personnel Report

President Dart reported that Ms. Sabala decided not to move forward with accepting the Administrative Services Administrative Assistant position.

Ms. Schmidt MOVED to approve the President's Personnel Report as presented. SECONDED by Mr. Hanson. The vote was, Yes: Kreman, Richards, Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Hanson, Kaufman, Lehl. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Liggett, Savely, Stinner. Motion carried.

WESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE AREA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Reports and Recommendations from the Board Executive Committee Appointments to Board Standing Committees

This item was tabled until the District 5 vacancy has been filled.

Ms. Guzman-Gonzales MOVED to approve tabling the Board standing committee assignments until the District 5 vacancy has been filled. SECONDED by Mr. Kaufman. The vote was, Yes: Richards, Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Hanson, Kaufman, Kreman, Lehl. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Liggett, Savely, Stinner. Motion carried.

Request for Sale & Use of Alcohol Beverages at a College Sponsored Event Vocal Music Spring Gala, March 27 and 28, 2026

President Dart reported that two upcoming Performing Arts Department events will be held off-site at third-party venues. It was noted that the venues will sell alcohol during the events and alcohol sales are conducted under the venue's liquor license. The venue retains all profits from alcohol sales. The sale of alcohol is part of the standard venue use contract between the College and the respective facilities. The College does not sell, serve, or receive revenue from alcohol at these events.

Ms. Guzman-Gonzales MOVED to approve the request for Sale and Use of Alcohol Beverages at a College Sponsored Event. The event is the Vocal Music Spring Gala. SECONDED by Mr. Kaufman. The vote was, Yes: Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Hanson, Kaufman, Richards, Lehl. No: Kreman. Abstain: None. Absent: Liggett, Savely, Stinner. Motion carried.

Request for Sale & Use of Alcohol Beverages at a College Sponsored Event Instrumental Music Jump, Jive, & Swing, May 3 2026

Mr. Hanson MOVED to approve the request for Sale and Use of Alcohol Beverages at a College Sponsored Event. The event is the Instrumental Music Jump, Jive, and Swing. SECONDED by Ms. Richards. The vote was, Yes: Guzman-Gonzales, Hanson, Kaufman, Richards, Schmidt, Lehl. No: Kreman. Abstain: None. Absent: Liggett, Savely, Stinner. Motion carried.

ACCT National Legislative Summit

President Dart reported that he and Board Chair, John Stinner traveled to Washington, D.C. to attend the ACCT Legislative Summit. While there, they met with representatives from the US Department of Labor and the Department of Education to discuss current initiatives and issues affecting community colleges. They also had the opportunity to meet with members of their legislative delegation. Overall, the summit was a great event. There were productive conversations about the needs of community colleges, and it was encouraging to see strong support for the nation's colleges.

Reports and Recommendations from the Board Finance and Operations Committee Mowing Services Bid

Ms. Lynne Koski, Vice President of Administrative Services reported that in January 2026, bids were received for the mowing services at the Scottsbluff campus. This contract includes mowing services and chemical application for fertilizer and weed control April 15 to September 30, for a three-year term beginning in 2026. The rate per week is \$3,800, which is unchanged from the previous year and locks in the rate for the three-year timeframe (2026, 2027, 2028).

**Reports and Recommendations from the Board Finance and Operations Committee (cont.)
Mowing Services Bid**

It was the recommendation of the selection committee to accept the bid amount of \$95,000 per year for a three-year period from Yost Lawn Service, LLC., beginning April 15, 2026.

Mr. Kaufman MOVED to approve Mowing Services Bid in the amount of \$95,000 per year for a three-year period from Yost Lawn Service, LLC. SECONDED by Ms. Guzman-Gonzales. The vote was, Yes: Hanson, Kaufman, Kreman, Richards, Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Lehl. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Liggett, Savely, Stinner. Motion carried.

INSTITUTIONAL REPORTS (the following reports were tabled)

Spring 2026 Census and Fall 2025 End of Semester Reports
Student Report
Faculty Report
Nebraska Community College Association
WNCC Foundation

President Comments

No comments

Board Member Comments

Board members were thanked for their time and contribution to the day's discussions.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

1. **2026 NCCA Legislative Day**
February 25, 2026
Nebraska State Capitol Building
Lincoln, NE
2. **2026 Higher Learning Commission Annual Conference**
March 20-24, 2026
Chicago, Illinois
3. **2026 Vocal Music Spring Gala**
March 27 and 28, 2026, 6:00 p.m.
Gering Civic Center
4. **2026 AACC Annual Conference**
April 10-14, 2026
Seattle, Washington
5. **2026 Instrumental Music Jump, Jive and Swing**
May 3, 2026, 5:15 p.m.
Scottsbluff Hampton Inn and Suites

Upcoming Meetings and Events (cont.)

6. **2026 NCCA Board of Directors Second Quarter Meeting**
Monday, May 11, 2026
Southeast Community College, Lincoln, NE

7. **2026 NCCA Board of Directors Third Quarter Meeting**
Monday, August 17, 2026
Southeast Community College, Lincoln, NE

8. **2026 NCCA Board of Directors Fourth Quarter Meeting and Annual Conference**
Sunday and Monday, October 4 & 5, 2026
Western Nebraska Community College, Scottsbluff, NE

9. **2026 ACCT Leadership Congress**
October 21-24, 2026
Hyatt Regency, Chicago, Illinois

****Follow links to access information.**

[WNCC Athletics](#)

[WNCC Performing Arts](#)

[WNCC Athletic and Academic Calendar](#)

Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday, March 18, 2026, 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 4:07 p.m.

Starr Lehl, Vice Chair

Susan L. Verbeck, Secretary