



NWCCD Mission

NWCCD welcomes all learners, empowers student success, and encourages and strengthens community development.

NORTHERN WYOMING COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT - BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Minutes

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, September 16, 2025, 5:30 p.m.

Sheridan College – Whitney Center for the Arts – Room 235

Trustees Present

Tracy Swanson, Chair
Elaine Henry, Vice Chair
Ward Cotton, Secretary
Bob Leibrich, Treasurer
Gary Reynolds
Tom Ringley

Trustees Absent

Chuck Holloway

Advisory Board Representative Present

Cindy Kremers, Chair, SC in Johnson County Advisory Board

Advisory Board Representative Absent

Administration Present

Dr. Walt Tribley, President
Craig Achord, Vice President of Administrative Services & CFO
Dr. Estella Castillo-Garrison, Vice President of Academic Affairs
Micah Olsen, Interim Vice President of Student Affairs
Wendy Smith, Vice President of Community Engagement, Strategic Communications & PIO
Robert Briggs, Associate Vice President for Institutional Research

Others Present

Codie Henderson, NWCCD Board Counsel Hector Martinez Mary Sandy Roger Davis
Kevin Koile

Recorder

Andrea Morgan

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call – Regular Meeting**
Chair Swanson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. There was a quorum.
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Agenda Additions/Deletions**
Chair Swanson requested a motion to approve the agenda. Trustee Henry moved, and Trustee Leibrich seconded. The motion carried.
- 4. Consent Agenda**
 - Regular Meeting Minutes – August 19, 2025
 - August 2025 Financials
 - August 2025 Check Register
 - Employee Hires and Exits

Chair Swanson requested a motion to approve the consent agenda. Trustee Ringley moved, and Trustee Cotton seconded. The motion carried.

5. President's Report – Dr. Walt Tribley

- a. **District Division Update** – GCCD expects to have their first accreditation review by the HLC soon.
- b. **Science Building Update** – At the most recent State Building Commission meeting, the SC science building project was approved and will now move on to the Governor for consideration. The cost for the state is approximately \$15M. SC hopes to provide valuable science-equipped space for its students and community.
- c. **General Updates** – SC is hosting the Chamber Business After Hours on October 15 at 5pm in the Tech Center. Dr. Laurel Ballard was named the new executive director of the WCCC. Dr. Tribley will address the community at his annual President's Partners' luncheon on October 17 at 11:30am in the Whitney Atrium. Dr. Tribley thanked the team in charge of conducting safety presentations related to the new concealed carry legislation. Events being considered for safety and security before being allowed on campus, as SC promotes a "de-escalation" culture. Trustee Leibrich asked that SC consider doing a forum and tour of the current science center for legislators.

6. Johnson County Advisory Board Report – Cindy Kremers, Chair

Ms. Kremers discussed community interest classes being offered: yoga, golf, and watercolors. The SCJC advisory board will be touring the SC campus on 9/24, and she invited trustees to join.

7. Organization Reports

- a. **Faculty Senate (FS)** – Ms. Sandy reported on faculty in-service, professional development funds available for faculty. FS continues to make communication and inclusion of adjunct faculty a priority focus.
- b. **Student Government Association** – No report given.

8. Public Comments – There were no public comments.

9. Key Monitoring Reports

- a. **Enrollment Report** – AVP Briggs gave an enrollment report focused on a first look at fall 2025 semester enrollment, enrollment reporting across the state, and a lookback at academic year 2024-2025. He provided meeting participants with a handout of the slides used in the presentation.
- b. **Housing Report** – IVP Olsen reported that housing occupancy is up by 65 students for a total of 314 students in the residence halls. SC welcomed 193 new students to Sheridan College this semester. SC looks forward to growing these numbers moving forward.

10. Unfinished Business – None

11. New Business

- a. **Consideration of Allen Thompson as Sheridan College Foundation Board Member** – Action
Dr. Tribley and Chair Swanson recommended Mr. Thompson for SCF board member. Trustee Henry moved that the board approve Mr. Thompson for the SCF board. Trustee Reynolds seconded. The motion carried.
- b. **Executive Session** – Dr. Tribley requested that Ms. Morgan and Mr. Achord remain in the room for the executive session. Ms. Morgan was asked to take minutes for the executive session. Trustee Leibrich moved that the Board enter executive session. Trustee Cotton seconded. The motion carried. The Board entered into Executive Session to discuss real estate as outlined in W.S. Statute 16-4-405 (a)(vii). TIME: 6:21 p.m. The board took a short recess.

Trustee Henry moved and Trustee Leibrich seconded that the board adjourn the Executive Session and reconvene the Regular Board Meeting. The motion carried. TIME: 6:49 p.m.

c. Summary of Potential Land Purchase – Information

Dr. Tribley described the details of the agreement proposed for the purchase of property adjacent to the AgriPark. The property includes 36 acres to the west of the AgriPark and 11 acres to the east. The Board made a full price offer to John E. Rice & Sons for the property. Dr. Tribley urged the Board to approve the purchase agreement for \$2.1 million with the understanding that there is a period of time for due diligence prior to closing on the property.

d. Public Comment Related to Potential Land Purchase – Information

There were no public comments.

e. Consideration of Action Resulting from Executive Session – Action

Chair Swanson requested a motion to approve. Trustee Henry moved, and Trustee Reynolds seconded. Chair Swanson asked if there were any further discussion or questions. There were none. The motion carried.

f. Adjourn – Chair Swanson adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted:


Ward Cotton
NWCCD Board of Trustees, Secretary


Tracy Swanson
NWCCD Board of Trustees, Chair