



Our Mission

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

NORTHERN WYOMING COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT - BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Minutes

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, February 16, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

Zoom

Trustees Present

Debra Wendtland, Chair
Gary Koltiska, Vice Chair
Shelley Wilson Kinnison, Treasurer
Norleen Healy, Secretary
Erin Kilbride
Robert Leibrich
Tracy Swanson

Trustees Absent

Advisory Board Representatives Present

Cindy Kremers, Chair, Johnson County Advisory Board
Brian Worthen, Chair, Gillette College Advisory Board

Advisory Board Representatives Absent

Administration Present

Dr. Walt Tribbley, President
Janell Oberlander, Vice President of Gillette College
Craig Achord, Vice President of Administrative Services & CFO
Jennifer Crouse, Sheridan College Foundation Executive Director & Vice President for Student Affairs
Estella Castillo-Garrison, Vice President of Academic Affairs
Heidi Gross, Gillette College Foundation Executive Director
Wendy Smith, Associate Vice President for Strategic Communication & Public Relations
Gina Kidneigh, Assistant Vice President for Finance and Controller

Others Present

Clint Langer, NWCCD Board Counsel
Derrick Kimble, GC Student Senate President

Pat Blair
Kent Andersen

Recorder

Andrea Morgan

1. Call to Order and Roll Call – Regular Meeting

NWCCD Board Chair, Debra Wendtland called the regular meeting of the NWCCD Board of Trustees to order at 6:29 p.m. There was a quorum.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Wendtland asked Trustee Koltiska to lead participants in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Agenda Additions/Deletions

Chair Wendtland asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. Hearing none, the agenda was accepted as presented.

4. Consent Agenda

Regular Meeting Minutes – January 19, 2021

January 2021 Financials

January 2021 Check Register

Employee Hires and Exits

Chair Wendtland requested a motion to accept the consent agenda. Trustee Swanson moved and Trustee Kilbride seconded the motion. No further discussion. The motion carried.

5. President's Report – Dr. Walt Tribley

a. General Updates

Chair Wendtland congratulated Trustee Kilbride for receiving the 2020 Sheridan County Chamber of Commerce Spirit of Sheridan Award of Excellence. Dr. Tribley welcomed Craig Achord as the new vice president of administrative services & CFO. He also welcomed Clint Langer of Davis & Cannon, LLP as the new attorney for the NWCCD Board of Trustees. Dr. Tribley gave a COVID-19 update, which included the low number of positive cases present in the District and that NWCCD has maintained its level of restrictions despite the recent relaxing of the Governor's orders for the state. NWCCD awaits its turn to be eligible for vaccines, predicted to be available in March. The District has granted many variances for groups to utilize campus facilities with protocols in place.

Dr. Tribley explained that at the next Board meeting, he would likely ask the Board to consider ending the state of financial exigency previously declared in June 2020. He read a prepared statement regarding financial exigency and explained that the District remains in a state of heightened financial concern. Administration will provide information to the Board related to the District's financial position.

b. Legislative Update

The Wyoming community college presidents are monitoring bills in the legislature related to education. Dr. Tribley referenced the WACCT legislative talking points, which he will speak to in his meetings and travel across the state.

c. District Division Update

Dr. Tribley reported on Senate File 0083, the bill in the legislature related to the potential District division. Dr. Tribley expressed concerns about the bill including the clause related to the employment transfer of Gillette College employees to the newly formed district and that there are no provisions that would hold harmless Sheridan college or any of the other community colleges in the state. He expressed the need to work together to find common ground. There was further discussion related to potential Step 3 cuts to state funding and state funding as it relates to the number of community colleges in the system.

6. Gillette College Advisory Board Report – Brian Worthen, Chair

Mr. Worthen reported that local legislators meet with the GC Advisory Board on February 17 to discuss the WACCT talking points. VP Oberlander will soon submit local funding applications. The Loren Larson Memorial Shoot-Out raised \$35k for the GC Booster Club.

VP Oberlander announced new Area 59 director, Ellen Peterson. Ms. Peterson secured an \$80k grant for middle school girls' STEM education sponsored by Verizon. Campbell County commissioners generously paid for veterans to use the facility. On March 6, GC will host a middle school robotics competition. Also on March 6, Post 307 will instate officers.

Johnson County Advisory Board Report – Cindy Kremers, Chair

Ms. Kremers reported that even with cuts to programs due to budget constraints, SCJC Spring 21 enrollment is still close to previous years' enrollment. SCJC raised \$110 and collected 13 bags of canned goods to benefit the Bread of Life food pantry. The Johnson County superintendent resigned. Tom Spence retired from the SCJC Advisory Board after 18 years. SCJC will host a golf tournament at the end of May to raise money for scholarships. Ms. Kremers thanked Wendy Ostlind and Whitney Benefits for their support in purchasing a new dryer for the CNA program.

Trustee Koltiska requested more information about the Rope for Knowledge fundraiser. Ms. Kremers explained that the Rope for Knowledge fundraiser would be replaced by the golf tournament this year.

Gillette College Foundation Report – Heidi Gross, Executive Director

Gillette College Foundation will receive \$84k of CARES Act funding. The GCF annual spring fundraiser will be on April 10. The theme is Casino Royale with many faculty volunteers participating as dealers. The proceeds will fund the operating budget.

7. Organization Reports

a. Faculty Senate – Michael Carver, President

Faculty Senate plans to update the sabbatical process. They will also consider recommending additional certificate programs in the area of visual and performing arts. The Zoom rooms installed are working well, and president Carver thanked CTLE for being instrumental in helping faculty to utilize this new technology.

b. Student Senate – Derrick Kimble, President

Mr. Kimble reported that Post 307, formerly the Student Veterans Association, is now the first American Legion post on a college campus in Wyoming and the second on a college campus in the nation. The Student Senate presented Post 307 with a signed card and artwork to celebrate this historic achievement. On February 22, GC Student Senate will host a food drive to support the Hope Cupboard. The Senate continues to work toward its safety goal by promoting masks and a new safety alert app. The Senate hopes to begin five new committees to engage with the community while pursuing interests, goals, and dreams. The executive team is focusing on a class gift, student fee allocations, elections in April, and identifying their legacy.

8. Public Comments – Dr. Tribley gave instructions for those who wished to make a comment. There were none.

9. Key Monitoring Reports

a. Complaint Log Report

Dr. Tribley briefly explained the process by which NWCCD collects and reports on complaints. Chair Wendtland further explained that the report demonstrates that NWCCD monitors and

addresses complaints. Dr. Tribley noted that complaints are down from 2018. There were no further comments or questions about the report.

10. Unfinished Business – None

11. New Business

a. 2021-2022 Academic Calendar – Information

Dr. Tribley provided the Board with information regarding the 2021-2022 academic calendar, which was previously approved by the Board on May 16, 2019. Dr. Tribley explained that NWCCD would move forward with this schedule barring any significant changes in the number of COVID-19 cases in the District. Chair Wendtland requested information about the format of graduation. Dr. Tribley stated that he would make the decision to hold a virtual or in-person graduation on April 1.

b. New Certificate in Visual Arts – Action

Administration provided the Board with information regarding a proposed certificate in visual arts and recommended Board approval. Trustee Healy requested information about the courses in the proposed certificate program. Dr. Castillo-Garrison clarified that there would be no new courses added to the catalog, rather this certificate is the first year of courses with an added internship. Chair Wendtland requested a motion to approve the new certificate in visual arts as proposed by administration. Trustee Leibrich moved and Trustee Healy seconded the motion. Chair Wendtland called the question, and the motion carried.

c. Approval of CVC Advisory Board Members – Action

Ms. Crouse provided the Board with information regarding new Center for a Vital Community (CVC) Advisory Board members, Jeff Garrelts and Jim Barth. Jeff Garrelts will fill the unexpired term of Joanne Garnett until 2022 and Jim Barth from 2020 to 2023.

Chair Wendtland requested a motion. Trustee Kilbride moved and Trustee Healy seconded the motion to approve new CVC Advisory Board Members Jeff Garrelts and Jim Barth. Chair Wendtland called the question. The motion carried.

12. Adjourn

Trustee Koltiska requested information about the rodeo banquets. Dr. Tribley provided the dates for the events. The Trustees expressed interest in meeting in-person for the next Board meeting, if possible. The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Date & Time of Next Meeting with SCSD#2: February 22, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Date & Time of Next Regular Board Meeting: March 16, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. Location TBD.

Respectfully Submitted:



Norleen Healy
NWCCD Board of Trustees, Secretary



Debra Wendtland
NWCCD Board of Trustees, Chair

