



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, February 17, 2026, 5:30 p.m.

Sheridan College – Whitney Center for the Arts – Room 235

Trustees Present

Tracy Swanson, Chair
Elaine Henry, Vice Chair
Bob Leibrich, Treasurer
Chuck Holloway
Tom Ringley

Trustees Absent

Ward Cotton, Secretary
Gary Reynolds

Advisory Board Representative Present

Advisory Board Representative Absent

Cindy Kremers, Chair SCJC Advisory Board

Administration Present

Dr. Walt Tribley, President
Craig Achord, Vice President of Administrative Services & CFO
Jennifer Crouse, Sheridan College Foundation Executive Director
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

Clint Langer, NWCCD Board Counsel Hector Martinez Kevin Koile Mary Sandy Kaira Stomprud

Recorder

Andrea Morgan

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call – Regular Meeting**
Chair Swanson called the meeting to order at 5:30pm. There was a quorum.
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Approval of Agenda**
Dr. Tribley requested that item 5 be removed from the agenda with the intent of having a report prepared for the April board meeting. Trustee Henry moved to remove item 5 from the agenda. Trustee Ringley seconded. The motion carried. Chair Swanson called for a vote to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried.
- 4. Consent Agenda**
 - Regular Meeting Minutes – January 20, 2026

- January 2026 Financial Report
- January 2026 Check Register
- Employee Hires and Exits

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

5. **Strategic Plan Spotlight** – Removed from the agenda (see item 3).

6. **President’s Report** – Dr. Walt Tribley

- a. **District Division Update** – SF0115 was never introduced to the Senate. We anticipate that GCCD will likely receive accreditation on a faster timeline faster than originally thought. This becomes important in considering item 12.a. Board Policy 4070: Retirement Policy. The Joint Appropriations Committee (JAC) proposed \$7.5M in funding for the community colleges for CTE funding. Chairman Bear made it clear he is concerned that those dollars would not be available to his college, GCCD. The presidents gathered and agreed on a different funding mechanism to distribute those funds through an MOU between NWCCD and GCCD. Dr. Tribley shared data with the Board to show dollar amounts based on this proposed funding. It is an agreement for one biennium. We would split the funding 50/50 with GC, even though SC has more CTE enrollments. At this point this is an idea that the presidents agree can work should we need to disburse funds for CTE outside the funding allocation model. There is another effort to fund GCCD, which includes monies for health insurance, retirement benefits, and shared databases. This would be a separate line item and would not affect the other colleges. We have been told it would be funding allocated to GCCD that does not come from the other colleges.
- b. **Science Building Update** – The vote in the House to amend the Capital Construction bill to add funding for the SC science building failed by one vote. There will be another effort to add the funding back to the bill. Dr. Tribley asked Ms. Morgan to send the Board information on the project should they wish to reach out to legislators.
- c. **General Updates** – Coach Harris was the emcee for a legislative event to support moving the professional rodeo hall of fame from Colorado Springs, CO to Cheyenne, WY. While serving as emcee, Coach Harris mentioned the SC rodeo program several times. Dr. Tribley pointed out several handouts for The Board including a spring semester schedule of events and a message received from a citizen concerned about the lack of athletics at SC.

7. **Johnson County Advisory Board Report** – Cindy Kremers, Chair

Dr. Tribley reported on behalf of Ms. Kremers. Dr. Tribley created the steering committee for the SCJC Center for Higher Education and invited them to participate in interviews for the architect and the construction manager at risk for the project. Dr. Tribley reported being in communication with the SCF on the project.

Sheridan College Foundation Report – Jen Crouse, Executive Director

Ms. Crouse reported that the Rodeo Banquet on March 7 is sold out. The announcement for this year’s distinguished alum will be made in the next few weeks. The SCF is busy planning the Golf for Knowledge Tournament, its biggest annual fundraising event for SCJC.

8. **Organization Reports**

a. **Faculty Senate (FS)** – Mary Sandy

FS meets tomorrow for its first meeting of the semester to review the Faculty Handbook with the goal to update it with any necessary changes since its last review.

b. **Student Government Association (SGA)** – Kaira Stomprud

SC students elected an opportunity officer. She is an RA and a political science major. At tomorrow’s SGA meeting, they will vote on the initiative proposed to provide gaming equipment in the first year residence halls.

9. **Public Comments** – There were no public comments.

10. **Key Monitoring Reports**

- a. **Student Complaint Log Summary Report** – IVP Olsen reported that there were 15 complaints reported this year, which was up from 10 reported last year. He defined a complaint as those that are reported in writing when other attempts to resolve the complaint are unsuccessful.
- b. **Student Success Report** – AVP Briggs defined successful completion of a course as a grade of A, B, C, or S. It's a broad measure of student success, but it shows we are making progress in supporting the successful completion of coursework.

11. **Unfinished Business – ACCT National Legislative Summit (NLS) – Information**

Trustee Ringley described the ACCT NLS and one of the key issues discussed was Workforce Pell Grants and the taxing of Pell grant funds. He asked to know more about financial support available for SC students. Chair Swanson discussed the dissolution of the US Department of Education and that its functions will be handled by other departments.

12. **New Business**

a. **Policy Review – Information & Action**

i. **Board Policy 4070: Retirement Policy – Information & Action**

Dr. Tribley presented Board Policy 4070: Retirement Policy for information and action. He asked for Board approval. He discussed the accelerated timeline for GCCD's accreditation as well as the need to offer an early retirement incentive before the faculty receive their next contract. Trustee Leibrich asked about faculty who choose to retire in December, as is the option in the policy, and if that would cause any issues for the College. Dr. Tribley explained that exceptions to the early retirement policy would be considered. Trustee Holloway asked what percentage of the employees would be eligible for the early retirement incentive. It was quickly calculated that it's slightly less than half of the full-time employees. Trustee Henry asked about the response the last time it was offered. VP Smith responded there were 22 ERIP employees and 4 employees that were part of a reduction in force, making it 26 total. Trustee Henry moved to approve the policy, and Trustee Holloway seconded. The motion carried.

13. **Adjourn** – Chair Swanson reminded the Board that there is a joint board meeting with SCSD #2 next Monday, 2/23. He adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Ward Cotton
NWCCD Board of Trustees, Secretary



Tracy Swanson
NWCCD Board of Trustees, Chair