



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 & Public Hearing

Tuesday, July 14, 2026, 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
Chuck Holloway
Gary Reynolds
Tom Ringley

Trustees Absent

Advisory Board Representative Present

Cindy Kremers, Chair, SC in Johnson County Advisory Board

Advisory Board Representative Absent

Administration Present

Dr. Walt Tribbley, President
Craig Achord, Vice President of Administrative Services & CFO
Jennifer Crouse, Sheridan College Foundation Executive Director
Wendy Smith, Vice President of Community Engagement, Strategic Communications & PIO
Gina Kidneigh, Assistant Vice President for Finance & Controller

Others Present

Clint Langer, NWCCD Board Counsel Hector Martinez 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. Approval of Agenda

Trustee Henry moved to remove item 14a from the agenda until a future date. Trustee Holloway seconded. The motion carried.

Trustee Leibrich moved to approve the agenda as amended. Trustee Henry seconded. The motion carried.

4. Consent Agenda

– Regular Meeting Minutes – June 16, 2026

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

Trustee Ringley moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Trustee Holloway seconded. The motion carried.

5. President's Report – Dr. Walt Tribley

- a. **District Division Update** – GCCD has received formal approval to become a candidate for accreditation by the HLC. They may seek early initial accreditation. If successful, President Oberlander has stated that they could earn that designation as early as Fall 27. If successful following the traditional route, they would earn accreditation over a longer period (up to four years from now). NWCCD will receive funding for CTE education from the State. NWCCD will disperse half of those funds to GCCD to help offset cost of teaching NWCCD CTE courses in Gillette. The final agreement awaits GCCD signature.
- b. **Science Building Update** – Dr. Tribley reported that he recently toured the Science Center and noted that it is progressing nicely.
- c. **SCJC Center for Higher Education Update** – Dr. Tribley and others plan to travel to several facilities in WY and CO to tour similar facilities. It is useful in the planning process to see several examples of this type of space.
- d. **General Updates** – No other updates shared.

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

Ms. Kremers invited all to attend the JC Fair Sheep Feed event to hand out Dilly Bars and talk to the community about SCJC. She gave dates for Walk In Wednesday advising events (Aug. 5, 12, and 19). She provided a handout on SCJC community interest courses, which includes a ceramics course in Kaycee.

7. Organization Reports – There are no organization reports in May, June, July, or August.

8. Public Hearing for the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget

Chair Swanson opened the Public Hearing for the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget at 5:40 p.m. There were no public comments or questions. Chair Swanson closed the Public Hearing and reconvened the Regular Board Meeting at 5:41 p.m.

9. Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Adoption: Approval of Expenditure Authority Resolution and the Resolution to Provide Income – Action

Dr. Tribley briefly discussed the budget and pointed out that the budget is in the black with a small surplus. He reported that all full-time faculty are receiving a step, all employees earning less than \$100k will receive a 3% raise, and all employees earning more than \$100k will receive a 1% raise. The president is not receiving an increase. Employees will have the opportunity to have up to 44 free meals per semester. The budget includes funding for the science center remodel and addition. It also includes funds for the SCJC Center for Higher Education. VP Achord reiterated the information Dr. Tribley presented. He also provided a handout and summarized that the \$93,499,634 budget is balanced with a surplus of \$227,186.00, which helps offset the deficit in the housing auxiliary budget due to recent HVAC installation. The 4% cap on residential property tax is being challenged in court but the budget used the estimated tax revenue as if it were not capped at 4%. This was not fully accurate as the Governor directed the Board of Equalization to cap the increase in tax revenue at 4% per the law. The Board of Equalization agreed to certify the capped values during litigation so that the County Assessors and County Treasurers can proceed with their work. VP Achord reviewed the handout provided to the Board and pointed out page WS-1 and explained the estimated difference in the value of one mill would be approximately \$13.5k per mill between the capped estimate and the uncapped estimate. Because of the relatively small delta, the budget was not changed to reflect this difference. He continued to explain the anticipated revenue and expenses. Chair Swanson asked if the College would still have a \$227k surplus given the change to

the property tax revenue. VP Achord reported that with the addition of the vehicle tax revenue, he expects the number to be close to the original projection of \$696k per mill. He reiterated that it is still a balanced budget. VP Achord confirmed that the College is at 97% of maximum reserves allowed. Any additional funds can be set aside for strategic initiatives and capital outlay accounts as allowed by state law. For example, the funds being used for the science center and the SCJC center for higher education. Dr. Tribley reminded the Board that the College will continue to receive the state appropriation for NWCCD courses being taught in Gillette until such time that they are accredited. He also reminded the Board that the SCF agreed to pay \$3.5 million toward the SCJC center for higher education.

Chair Swanson requested a motion to approve the budget for Fiscal Year 2027. Trustee Cotton moved to approve the budget for Fiscal Year 2027. Trustee Henry seconded the motion. The motion carried.

10. Approval of Two (2) Expenditure Authority Resolutions – Action

Dr. Tribley explained the following revenue bonds and recommended the approval of two (2) Expenditure Authority Resolutions:

- a. Refunding and Improvement Lease Revenue Bonds: Mars Ag & Science Center and Whitney Center for the Arts in the amount of \$1,490,000. Obligation ends September 1, 2029.
- b. Refunding and Improvement Lease Revenue Bonds: Tech Ed Center in the amount of \$810,000. Obligation ends September 1, 2030.

Whitney benefits pays the obligated amounts for both the Mars Ag & Science Center and the Tech Ed Center. Trustee Ringley moved to approve the Two Expenditure Authority Resolutions as presented by Administration. Trustee Holloway seconded. The motion carried.

11. Public Comments – None

12. Key Monitoring Reports – None

13. Unfinished Business – None

14. New Business

- a. **Resolution 26-01 Maintain Stable Local Revenue for Sheridan College – Action**
ITEM REMOVED FROM THE AGENDA – See item 3.
- b. **Board Policy 3005: Information Security Review and Approval – Information & Action**

Dr. Tribley presented Board Policy 3005: Information Security for information and action. He explained there was no change to the content of the policy. The only change was to add the original adoption date, which was inadvertently left off when the policy was originally approved. There were no questions. Chair Swanson requested a motion to approve. Trustee Leibrich moved, and Trustee Henry seconded. The motion carried.

15. Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:


Ward Cotton
NWCCD Board of Trustees, Secretary


Tracy Swanson
NWCCD Board of Trustees, Chair