

CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Board of Governors' Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2024

Public notice of the time and place of the Central Community College Board of Governors' meeting was given in advance to the board members, college administrators and the five daily newspapers within the 25-county area. The agenda was available to the public in the college president's office and on the CCC website, www.cccneb.edu. The college adheres to the Open Meetings Act, a copy of which is available in the college president's office.

The meeting was held in the Administration Office Board Room at Central Community College, 3134 W. Highway 34, Grand Island, Nebraska.

All supplemental documents from this meeting are available at:
<https://meeting.sparqdata.com/Public/Organization/CCC>.

Chair Rita Skiles called the Jan. 18, 2024, meeting to order at 1 p.m., with eight board members present.

ROLL CALL

Aerni – absent	Keller – absent
Borden – present	Novotny – present
Buss – present	Pirnie – absent
Cowan – present	Quick – present
Davis – present	Skiles – present
Heiden – present	

POLICY ITEMS

Skiles announced the slate of officers for 2024. They are as follows:

- Tom Pirnie, Chair
- Linda Heiden, Vice Chair
- Linda Aerni, Secretary
- Roger Davis, Treasurer

MOVED BY BORDEN, SECONDED BY DAVIS to accept the slate of officers.

Aerni – absent	Keller – absent
Borden – aye	Novotny – aye
Buss – aye	Pirnie – absent
Cowan – aye	Quick – aye
Davis – aye	Skiles – aye
Heiden – aye	

UNANIMOUS “AYE” VOTE – MOTION CARRIED

Because two of the officers were unable to attend the meeting, all new officers will be installed at the February meeting.

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Dan Quick, Rita Skiles and Diane Keller (alternate for policy committee) were appointed as Nebraska Community College Association representatives and Jason Buss, Roger Davis and John Novotny were appointed as Enrollment and Financial Audit Committee members for 2024.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Skiles asked college representatives to introduce guests and staff members.

REVIEWING CLAIMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Sandra Borden will review the claims prior to the Feb. 15, 2024, board meeting in Hastings.

REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION OF CONSENT ITEMS

Skiles asked board members for items in the consent agenda they would like to move to discussion of consent/action items.

CONSENT ITEMS

Consent items included:

1. Agenda for Jan. 18, 2024.
2. Minutes of the Nov. 16, 2023, Board of Governors meeting.
3. Claims for the periods from Nov. 1 through Nov. 30, 2023, and from Dec. 1 through Dec. 31, 2023.
4. Financial reports as of Nov. 30, 2023, and Dec. 30, 2023.
5. Purchases:

Columbus Parking Lot: The College President recommends acceptance of the low acceptable bid from Heartland Concrete for \$1,635,415.27 to provide all labor and material to remodel the Columbus campus parking lots.

Furnas Architectural Bids: The College President recommends acceptance of the low percentage bid from Wilkins ADP for architectural services for the Automotive and Autobody building on the Hastings Campus.

6. Personnel: None
7. Information Security Policy: The purpose of the policy is to safeguard the privacy of visitors to CCC's computing systems, website and applications. This covers the collection, protection and disclosure of information collected automatically and voluntarily.

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8. CCC Education Association: The following letter was received:

Dear Negotiations Committee: The Central Community College Education Association requests that the Board of Governors of Central Community College take action to recognize the Central Community College Education Association as exclusive bargaining agent for the district's Full-time Faculty to begin bargaining next fall for the 2025-26 contract year. Please direct your response to the undersigned. Sincerely, Amy Stuart, CCCEA President, Central Community College Education Association

MOVED BY NOVOTNY, SECONDED BY DAVIS to approve the claims, with the exception of payments to themselves, and also to approve the other consent items.

Aerni – absent	Keller – absent
Borden – aye	Novotny – aye
Buss – aye	Pirnie – absent
Cowan – aye	Quick – aye
Davis – aye	Skiles – aye
Heiden – aye	

UNANIMOUS “AYE” VOTE – MOTION CARRIED

PARNERSHIP/OWNERSHIP

Campus President Dr. Marcie Kemnitz opened the Grand Island Campus annual report by highlighting the newly opened Grand Central Café, a remodel that nearly doubled the size of the former snack bar. A Business Before Hours is planned in the morning of Feb. 29 to introduce the Grand Island community to the new café.

She also talked about the Grand Island J.E.T.T. grant project, which involves CCC, the City of Grand Island and Grand Island Public Schools. Its goal to is connect Grand Island to jobs, education and technical training by expanding the community's limited transportation options to improve economic mobility.

She then introduced welding instructors Brandon Piersol and Mike Snell who shared the following information regarding early college students enrolled in the welding program:

- Forty-one early college students are enrolled in the welding program this year. They come from area schools that include Giltner, Grand Island Senior High, Northwest, Palmer, Centura and Heartland Lutheran.
- The students can take hands-on college welding courses while earning their high school diploma. They also can earn an associate of applied science degree along with two welding certificates and a production and manual certificate.
- Students are offered multiple ways to continue their education at CCC, such as the Transition scholarship. Fifteen former early college students are enrolled at CCC in the welding program.

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- Students can participate in an apprenticeship program through local welding and fabrication shops. Currently, four students are working as apprentices at CNH and five former students have transitioned from their apprenticeships into full-time employment with CNH, Chief, AGI and Standard Iron.

Also addressing the board was Andrei Contreras Ramos, senior at Grand Island Senior High School, who thanked the board for giving him and other early college students the opportunity to use the welding lab to improve their skills. He said he currently works as an apprentice at Case New Holland and will be returning to CCC to complete his welding degree.

In addition to early college students, the instructors teach dozens of adult and traditional age students.

DISCUSSION OF CONSENT/ACTION ITEMS

Naming Rights Proposal for Automotive Careers Training Center

Traci Skalberg, executive director of the CCC Foundation, said the foundation will be conducting a major gifts campaign in support of a new Automotive Careers Training Center at CCC-Hastings and a scholarship/programmatic endowment for the automotive and auto body programs. In preparation for this campaign, she asked the board to approve the naming rights schedule.

MOVED BY DAVIS, SECONDED BY NOVOTNY to approve the naming rights proposal for the Automotive Careers Training Center.

Aerni – absent	Keller – absent
Borden – aye	Novotny – aye
Buss – aye	Pirnie – absent
Cowan – aye	Quick – aye
Davis – aye	Skiles – aye
Heiden – aye	

UNANIMOUS “AYE” VOTE – MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS

Student Success Report

Dr. Candace Walton reported on CCC's performance as compared to its Nebraska peers. She highlighted:

- While the state-wide trend shows a decrease in enrollment, CCC's drop was smaller than the average of its peers.

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- The age distribution of students in Nebraska's community colleges has changed significantly. More younger students are enrolling, while fewer older students are attending.
- Full-time enrollments have dropped in Nebraska's postsecondary education sectors, but part-time enrollments have risen to compensate.
- As the enrollment of older students has decreased, so has the number of awards they have received. On the other hand, students under 25 years of age have seen an increase in the number of awards they have earned.
- CCC stands out among community colleges for its high number of academic awards every year. It surpasses other colleges in this measure, showing that we are on the right track to offer what students want from their community college.

Dr. Gotschall's Report

Dr. Gotschall reported the following:

- Spring 2024 has gotten off to a cold a snowy start, with classes starting this week and free drop/add continuing for another full week. Fall semester entered up in enrollment so planning on that continuing for this coming semester as well.
- Met with State Chamber President and Nebraska Economic Development director regarding a new state initiative that involves creating regional workforce groups following the community college boundaries.
- Signed agreement with SOL Systems LLC for 2021 and 2022 RECs for a total of \$21,251.
- The Northeast Community College President, NCCA director and I met with the governor and his staff a couple weeks ago to share our commitment to work toward workforce development and expanded educational offerings. Answered questions regarding scheduling of programs and positive impact of dual credit programming, seeking his support for additional funding once ARPA funds expire in 2026.
- Several NCCA president's meetings regarding legislative changes we seek and response to other bills introduced this session.
- Attended webinar from the White House regarding multiple federal grant and funding programs for community colleges centering on advanced manufacturing. Have shared with grants office as we continue to be successful in such opportunities.
- Continue active participation in Heartland United Way in executive, finance, nomination and full board meetings. My six-year term ends in March 2024.
- Attended the Columbus Fieldhouse ribbon cutting. This over \$40 million investment is a great addition to the region and should provide opportunities for CCC in availability to athletic and wellness offerings.
- CCC teams are beginning to plan for the completion of our 10-year Higher Learning Commission portfolio that will be finalized in 2024 prior to our site visit in March 2025.
- Two faculty members and I will be attending the AACC Workforce Development Institute in New Orleans in support of two of our current grants – All Within My Hands/Metallica Scholars grant and the Microsoft Cyberskills for All grant.

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- Participated in the Nebraska Virtual Manufacturing Roundtable and a webinar from AACC regarding federal legislative priorities.
- Nursing Dean, Dr. Pam Bales reported the 2023 NCLEX pass rates for our nursing students. The 40 LPN students had a 100% pass rate versus 87% national and 94% Nebraska pass rates. The 41 ADN students had a 91% pass rate versus 89% national and 95% Nebraska pass rates.
- Criminal Justice Program Director Michael David reports that in 2023, several law enforcement agencies used the Crime House for training in crime scene mapping, forensics and K-9. The agencies gave great feedback and stated how much they appreciated having this resource available to them.

President's Report, December 2023

- Mid-term commencement was attended by 100 students from across the service area, making it the largest attendance since the ceremony was started three years ago. Over 411 degrees and diplomas were earned by 372 graduates this semester.
- We have received tentative state aid allocation amounts using the new funding stream taking effect for 2024-2025. As expected, the planned increase should allow us to address some pending and future needs while lessening our reliance on annual cash reserves.
- Last week, a small group from CCC was invited to Holdrege to look at a downtown facility that has become available. We will follow-up with additional discussions with potential Holdrege partners in January prior to bringing any formal requests to the board.
- CCC's iMec program has been selected as one of 10 finalists for a national Bellwether Award. Representatives will present our program at a national meeting in February 2024.
- CCC was recognized as a Top 150 community college in the nation by the Aspen Institute which allows us to apply for a \$1 million prize to be announced in 2024.
- The CCC Foundation has been successful in getting several automotive and autobody business leaders to agree to be on a fundraising committee for our new facility in Hastings. Important work will continue throughout 2024.
- Greatly enjoyed the first CCC Madrigal Feast held in Columbus with sold out crowds both Friday and Saturday nights and a large attendance on Sunday.
- Attended the GI Chamber Legislative Kickoff session where the governor made several positive comments regarding CCC and the work community colleges do for students and area workforce needs.
- A couple weeks ago, he was notified that he was nominated for a seat on the American Association of Community College (AACC) Board. Six presidents will be elected in February from the 11 nominations.

The following reports were also submitted for board review:

- Enrollment Report
- Grants Report
- Purchasing Report

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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Skiles said there was no need for an executive session and requested a motion to adjourn.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY DAVIS, SECONDED BY NOVOTNY to adjourn.

Aerni – absent	Keller – absent
Borden – aye	Novotny – aye
Buss – aye	Pirnie – absent
Cowan – aye	Quick – aye
Davis – aye	Skiles – aye
Heiden – aye	

UNANIMOUS “AYE” VOTE – MOTION CARRIED

Skiles declared the meeting adjourned at 1:59 p.m.