

**WESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE AREA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 25, 2023**

The Western Community College Area Board of Governors held a Regular Board meeting at 1:01 p.m. on Wednesday, January 25, 2023 in the Coral E. Richards Boardroom at Western Nebraska Community College, Scottsbluff Campus, located at 1601 East 27th Street, in the City of Scottsbluff, in the County of Scotts Bluff, in the State of Nebraska, as per the publicized notice in the Star-Herald on Thursday, January 19, 2023.

A current agenda was available in the Board Secretary's office on the Scottsbluff Campus at the time of the publicized notice.

OATH OF OFFICE, RE-ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

The Oath of Office was administered at the January 25, 2023, 10:30 a.m. Informal Board meeting.

ROLL CALL

AREA BOARD

Karen S. Anderson, Vice Chairperson	Present
Margaret R. Crouse (via Zoom)	Present
Linda A. Guzman-Gonzales	Present
F. Lynne Klemke, Chairperson	Present
Allan D. Kreman	Present
Kimberly A. Marcy (via Zoom)	Present
William M. Packard	Present
M. Thomas Perkins	Present
Coral E. Richards	Present
R. J. Savely, Jr (via Zoom)	Present
Richard G. Stickney	Absent

Mr. Stickney notified the Board secretary that because of personal health, he had planned to join the meeting via Zoom, but due to technical difficulties, was unable to connect.

QUORUM

Chair Klemke declared a quorum was present for the transaction of business.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Chair Klemke asked for comments from the community. Pursuant to Board Policy BP-101, Chair Klemke reminded community members who wish to make comments that each speaker will be limited to a five-minute presentation. There were no public comments.

BOARD CHAIRPERSON COMMENTS

Chair Klemke announced that for public information there is a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act available on the table at the back of the room.

Chair Klemke announced that the Board reserves the right to enter into closed session if deemed necessary for any item on the agenda per §84-1410 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes.

RE-ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD (2023)

Chair Klemke announced that the next order of business is the re-organization of the Board of Governors for the 2023 year.

Chair Klemke called for nominations for Chairperson of the Western Community College Area Board of Governors for the 2023 year. Board members were reminded that nominations do not require a second.

Ms. Richards nominated Ms. Lynne Klemke for Chairperson of the Western Community College Area Board of Governors for the 2023 year. There were no further nominations.

Ms. Richards MOVED nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast for Ms. Lynne Klemke as Chairperson of the Western Community College Area Board of Governors for the 2023 year. SECONDED by Dr. Perkins. The vote was Yes: Anderson, Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Perkins, Richards, Savely. No: None. Abstain: Klemke, Absent: Stickney. Motion carried.

Chair Klemke called for nominations for Vice Chairperson of the Western Community College Area Board of Governors for the 2023 year. Board members were reminded that nominations do not require a second.

Ms. Richards nominated Ms. Karen Anderson for Vice Chairperson of the Western Community College Area Board of Governors for the 2023 year. There were no further nominations.

Ms. Richards MOVED nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast for Ms. Karen Anderson as Vice Chairperson of the Western Community College Area Board of Governors for the 2023 year. SECONDED by Dr. Perkins. The vote was Yes: Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Perkins, Richards, Savely, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: Anderson. Absent: Stickney. Motion carried.

Chair Klemke entertained a motion for approval of the appointment of Ms. Susan Verbeck as Secretary of the Western Community College Area Board of Governors for the 2023 year. Ms. Anderson so MOVED. SECONDED by Ms. Guzman-Gonzales. The vote was, Yes: Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Perkins, Richards, Savely, Anderson, Crouse, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Stickney. Motion carried.

Chair Klemke entertained a motion for approval of the appointment of Ms. Lynne Koski as Treasurer of the Western Community College Area Board of Governors for the 2023 year. Dr. Perkins so MOVED. SECONDED by Ms. Guzman Gonzales. The vote was, Yes: Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Perkins, Richards, Savely, Anderson, Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Stickney. Motion carried.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Chair Klemke reviewed the contents of the Consent Calendar, which include the following items:

1. Review Contents of Consent Calendar
 - a. Agenda
 - b. Excuse Absent Board Member(s)
 - c. Minutes
 - i. Special Meeting, December 7, 2022 (am)
 - ii. Special Meeting, December 7, 2022 (pm)
2. **Claims: November, 2022**
 - a. WCCA Unrestricted Fund - \$2,053,478.32
 - b. WCCA Restricted Fund - \$6,340.26
 - c. WCCA Federal Fund - \$1,666.00

- d. WCCA Agency Fund - \$2,871.13
- e. WCCA Loan Fund - 0 -
- f. WCCA Plant Fund - \$138,883.08
- g. WCCA Auxiliary Fund - \$89,201.60

3. **Claims: December, 2022**

- a. WCCA Unrestricted Fund - \$2,956,938.68
- b. WCCA Restricted Fund - \$19,157.97
- c. WCCA Federal Fund - \$6,853.21
- d. WCCA Agency Fund - \$1,773.42
- e. WCCA Loan Fund - 0 -
- f. WCCA Plant Fund - \$454,681.96
- g. WCCA Auxiliary Fund - \$171,570.34
- h. City Planning Commission Reports
 - i. City of Gering (Tax Increment Financing Request)

Approval of Consent Calendar

Consideration of Items Extracted from Consent Calendar

Chair Klemke inquired if there were any items on the Consent Calendar which any Board member wished to have extracted for separate consideration. There were no extractions.

Chair Klemke entertained a motion for approval of the Consent Calendar.

Dr. Perkins MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. SECONDED by Ms. Guzman-Gonzales. The vote was, Yes: Marcy, Packard, Perkins, Richards, Savely, Stickney, Anderson, Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Stickney. Motion carried.

Board Member Mileage and/or Expense Reimbursement (November and December) Ms. Guzman-Gonzales MOVED to approve the following travel expense: Ms. Karen Anderson for \$391.25 and Dr. Margaret Crouse for \$247.50. SECONDED by Dr. Perkins. The vote was, Yes: Packard, Perkins, Richards, Savely, Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Marcy, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: Anderson, Crouse. Absent: Stickney. Motion carried.

Board Member Mileage and/or Expense Reimbursement (November and December) Ms. Anderson MOVED to approve the following travel expense: Ms. Lynne Klemke for \$197.50 and Mr. Allan Kreman for \$50.00. SECONDED by Dr. Perkins. The vote was, Yes: Perkins, Richards, Savely, Anderson, Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Marcy, Packard. No: None. Abstain: Klemke, Kreman. Absent: Stickney. Motion carried.

Board Member Mileage and/or Expense Reimbursement (November and December) Ms. Guzman-Gonzales MOVED to approve the following travel expense: Mr. R. J. Savely for \$112.50 and Mr. Richard Stickney for \$66.25. SECONDED by Dr. Perkins. The vote was, Yes: Richards, Anderson, Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Perkins, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: Savely. Absent: Stickney. Motion carried.

Review Contents of Bid Consent Calendar

There were no bids.

Review Contents of Personnel Consent Calendar

Resignation(s):

1. Ms. Jovana Ramirez, Admissions Counselor in Student Services
Effective December 29, 2022

Appointment(s):

1. There were no appointments.

Approval of Personnel Consent Calendar

Consideration of Items Extracted from Personnel Consent Calendar

There were no extractions.

Dr. Perkins MOVED to approve the Personnel Consent Calendar as presented. SECONDED by Ms. Anderson. The vote was, Yes: Savely, Anderson, Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Perkins, Richards, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Stickney. Motion carried.

WESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE AREA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Date and Time for September Meetings (date change)

Public Hearing on Proposed WCCA Budgets (1:00 p.m.)

Regular Meeting (at the conclusion of the Budget Hearing and no earlier than 1:30 p.m.)

Chair Klemke reported that in September, budget items are usually presented, but last year, there was a complication with the scheduling of joint public hearings. Counties, community colleges, school districts, and cities were required to participate in public hearings, if property tax requests increased by more than the allowable growth percentage. Currently, there is not enough information available regarding the possibility of joint public hearings this September, so no action will be taken for this item at this point in time.

Faculty Negotiated Agreement

Amendment to 2022-2023 Faculty Agreement to include revised Grievance Procedure

Mr. Kelly referenced the two agreements presented for Board approval. The first is a modification of the 2022-2023 negotiated agreement to include revisions to the Grievance Procedure. Mr. Kelly reported that due to a recent experience, they learned that a couple procedural steps need to be added to the procedure, along with some additional fine tuning.

Dr. Perkins MOVED to approve the Amendment to 2022-2023 Faculty Agreement to include the revised Grievance Procedure. SECONDED by Ms. Guzman-Gonzales. The vote was, Yes: Anderson, Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Perkins, Richards, Savely, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Stickney. Motion carried.

2023-2026 Faculty Negotiated Agreement

Mr. Kelly reported that meetings with the Faculty Association (NWCEA) began in September 2022. The group agreed on a three-year contract, September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2026; however, there is a one-year agreement regarding compensation, which will increase 4%. It was agreed that the three items related to compensation will be negotiated this fall.

Mr. Kelly asked Ms. Ault, Human Resources Director, to speak to the compensation piece. Ms. Ault explained that there are three pieces to total compensation. The first piece is actual wages and the second is benefits. Insurance will go up just a little under 7% and that percentage will be included in the total compensation of 4%.

2023-2026 Faculty Negotiated Agreement (cont.)

The faculty agreed to what is called an employer non-elective retirement contribution, previously called early retirement money. There is an early retirement amount as well so that total compensation is 3%. The total of all three pieces is 4%.

Mr. Kelly mentioned that Ms. Koski, VP of Administrative Services has been crunching numbers to figure where the College is in the array of the other Nebraska community colleges, with the exception of Metro. Ms. Koski explained that information is gathered from the other community colleges to identify what their increases may be if they have already negotiated that, if they have a multi-year agreement. Based on best estimates at this point, WNCC would be about 101% of the mid-point of that array. Mr. Kelly added that state statute requires the College to be within 98 to 102% of the mid-point of all the community college's compensation. WNCC has traditionally been closer to 102% as increases were considered. At the end of the previous year contract, WNCC was at 108%, thus the reason for a one-year contract with only a 2% increase last year. This year's contract is a 4% increase, so the College should end up at the 101% median, which is a good place to be. Because the committee could not agree on a larger increase, it was determined that the compensation piece would be in place for one year, then re-negotiated.

The second issue was the amount of the contribution to the early retirement program. Historically, the amount has been \$125,000, but currently, the faculty decided on the addition of \$41,000 to the early retirement program. When calculating the 4% total compensation, the insurance increase and early retirement figures would be calculated, then the remaining dollars would be added to wages.

The third issue had to do with changes to the Sabbatical Leave Policy. Discussion included the application and approval process, committee assignments, and compensation during the leave period. Mr. Kelly addressed the compensation issue stating that the cost to the College could result in around \$150,000 for the year. Agreement was not reached on that issue, so that item will be re-negotiated in the fall.

Additional changes include an increase in overload pay and extra duty pay, no changes to insurance except for the premium, technical changes to student enrollment incentive, community service days were reduced, technical changes to course development provisions, change in the right to negotiate the contract if the State Legislature changes its support of the College, and changes to salary movement procedures and the approval process.

In conclusion, Mr. Kelly stated that negotiations were very amicable and recommended approval of the 2023-2026 Faculty Negotiated Agreement

Ms. Richards MOVED to approve the 2023-2026 Faculty Negotiated Agreement. SECONDED by Ms. Anderson. The vote was, Yes: Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Perkins, Richards, Savely, Anderson, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Stickney. Motion carried.

Re-Envisioning WNCC: 2023-2027 Strategic Plan

Chair Klemke reported that this morning at the Informal meeting, President Marrin and Special Projects Director, Ms. Reichert, shared an overview of the Re-Envisioning WNCC – 2023-2027 Strategic Plan. President Marrin mentioned that a lot of work went into drafting this plan and he thanked all who were involved. An enormous amount of information was collected during the development process and that information has been posted and can be accessed for review.

Re-Envisioning WNCC: 2023-2027 Strategic Plan (cont.)

At the December College Council meeting, which is the shared governance council that oversees the strategic plan, it was unanimously recommended that the strategic plan be presented to the Board for approval. Chair Klemke entertained a motion for approval of the Re-Envisioning WNCC: 2023-2027 Strategic Plan.

Ms. Guzman-Gonzales MOVED to approve the 2023-2027 Strategic Plan. SECONDED by Ms. Anderson. The vote was, Yes: Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Perkins, Richards, Savely, Anderson, Crouse, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Stickney. Motion carried.

Reports and Recommendations from the Audit Committee

June 30, 2022 & 2021 Audited Annual Reports - FINANCIAL

Mr. David Koehler, Accounting Services Director, referenced the Independent Auditor's Report included with the meeting information. The report states that the opinion of the auditors is that the financial statements referred to present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the business-type activities and the discretely presented component unit of Western Community College Area, as of June 30, 2022 and 2021, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows thereof for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Mr. Koehler addressed the Statements of Net Position, which is basically the College balance sheet and is comparable to prior years. Total assets decreased about a million dollars, but liabilities decreased two million dollars. The Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position reflect an increase in net position of \$620,000 compared to a \$744,000 increase last year (amounts rounded). The Statement of Cash Flows explains how the College spends or receives cash. The cash used in operating activities increased by 5.2 million dollars, but cash provided by non-capital financing activities increased by 1.6 million dollars. Cash provided by capital financing activities increased by \$934,000 and cash used in investing activities was \$74,000, compared to cash provided of \$350,000 in the prior year. Overall, cash had a net decrease this year of \$983,000 compared to last year's net cash increase of just over 2 million dollars.

The property valuation for Western Community College Area as reported by the County Assessor in late August 2021 for use in property tax revenue for June 30, 2022 was \$13,753,057,510. The General Fund property tax rate for June 30, 2022 was 7.9275 cents per \$100 valuation. In comparison, the property valuation for Western Community College Area as reported by the County Assessor in late August 2020 for use in property tax revenue for June 30, 2021, was \$13,271,652,901. The General Fund property tax rate for June 30, 2021 was 8.0310 cents per \$100 valuation.

Mr. Koehler referenced the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards for the year ended June 30, 2022. This is a schedule of the federal funds that were spent by the College. A total of 5.5 million dollars was received, which really helps the budget. About half of that 5.5 million dollars, 2.8 million dollars was from student financial aid clusters, which assists the students. The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund which is also titled the COVID-19 Relief Fund was another 1.6 million dollars, so in total, 5.5 million dollars in Federal Funds was received by the College.

In conclusion, Mr. Koehler shared that the independent auditors report on internal control and financial reporting and compliance states that they did not note any deficiencies in the College's internal control, which is good, and there were no findings or questioned costs.

Chair Klemke congratulated Mr. Koehler on a clean audit and thanked those involved for their time and good work.

Mr. Savely MOVED to accept the June 30, 2022 and 2021 Audited Annual Report - Financial. SECONDED by Mr. Kreman. The vote was, Yes: Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Perkins, Richards, Savely, Anderson, Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Stickney. Motion carried.

Reports and Recommendations from the Audit Committee

June 30, 2022 & 2021 Audited Annual Reports - FTE

(Minutes from September 14, 2022 Regular Board meeting presented by Dr. Dustin Eicke)

Dr. Eicke reported that this summer, a data pull was conducted and shared with auditors. The opinion of the auditors is that the enrollment statements present fairly, in all material respects, the reimbursable full-time equivalent student enrollment and reimbursable educational units consisting of only courses listed on the Master Course List of Western Community College area as of June 30, 2022 and 2021, in accordance with the Nebraska Community College State Aid Enrollment Audit Guidelines.

Three-Year Average Values		
The following three-year average values are included in the audited statements for use in state aid computations.		
Years Ending June 30	Reimbursable Full-Time Equivalent Student Enrollment	Reimbursable Education Units
2022	1,265.66	1,668.16
2021	1,009.57	1,350.65
2022	987.48	1,206.48
Three-Year Average	1,087.57	1,408.43
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021		
Years Ending June 30, 2021	Reimbursable Full-Time Equivalent Student Enrollment	Reimbursable Education Units
2019	1,448.55	1,949.99
2020	1,265.66	1,668.16
2021	1,009.57	1,350.65
Three-Year Average	1,241.26	1,656.27

Mr. Savely MOVED to accept the June 30, 2022 and 2021 Audited Annual Report - FTE. SECONDED by Ms. Richards. The vote was, Yes: Marcy, Packard, Perkins, Richards, Savely, Anderson, Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Stickney. Motion carried.

Reports and Recommendations from the Board Policy Committee

Mr. Savely asked Ms. Reichert, Special Projects Director to speak to the three policies presented as Second and Final Read. Ms. Reichert reported that all three policies are coming through the Administrative Services Council. It had been a number of years since the policies were reviewed so these were basic updates. Policies were approved individually.

Second and Final Read: BP-201 Operating Name of Institution Board Policy

Mr. Savely MOVED to approve BP-201 Operating Name of Institution Board Policy. SECONDED by Dr. Perkins. The vote was, Yes: Packard, Perkins, Richards, Savely, Anderson, Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Marcy, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Stickney. Motion carried.

Second and Final Read: BP-202 Fiscal Year Board Policy

Ms. Anderson MOVED to approve BP-202 Fiscal Year Board Policy. SECONDED by Ms. Guzman-Gonzales. The vote was, Yes: Perkins, Richards, Savely, Anderson, Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Stickney. Motion carried.

Second and Final Read: BP-307 Employees Bondable Board Policy

Mr. Savely MOVED to approve BP-307 Employees Bondable Board Policy. SECONDED by Ms. Marcy. The vote was, Yes: Richards, Savely, Anderson, Crouse, Guzman-Gonzales, Kreman, Marcy, Packard, Perkins, Klemke. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Stickney. Motion carried.

Reports and Recommendations from the Executive Committee – Klemke

Chair Klemke asked Interim President Marrin to share information about the upcoming Legislative Session. Mr. Marrin reported that this is a 90-day session with approximately 806 bills, which includes 44 that should be monitored, particularly LB 783. This bill, introduced by Senator Dave Murman, would remove the community college's ability to levy property taxes by fiscal year 2026-27. Funding would be distributed by the state at a 3.5% increase over each previous year's allotment. This is a concern in regard to the authority of the Board because it is important that local control continues.

Last year a bill was put in place that changes provisions relating to an income tax credit for community college taxes paid. Introduction of LB 689 would make that happen 100% sooner. Both bills are out there, but really had nothing to do with Board authority to levy taxes or local control. The concern is that decisions from Omaha or Lincoln would be dictating the operations of this community college.

INSTITUTIONAL REPORTS

PTK Presentation

Ms. Winters introduced WNCC students, Ms. Maya Wilson and Mr. Binny Canales, members of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK). Ms. Winters reported that the students joined today's meeting to present their college project and their honors and action research project. Ms. Winters mentioned that the students did amazing work and put in countless hours on both projects.

Ms. Wilson, PTK President, reported that she would be sharing information about two projects. The first project works with college administration to tie in with the WNCC mission, "WNCC assures learning opportunities for all – enriching lives, invigorating communities, creating futures". Ms. Wilson stated that this was a collaborative effort and thanked those who helped bring the project together.

Inspiration for this project came from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln's Big Red Resilience, and Well-being. Anyone can go to their website and look at resources under the top ten dimensions of well-being, where information is provided regarding events, either in the community or at their school, and how to get help or who to talk to about specific needs. The ten dimensions of well-being are: career, creative, cultural, emotional, environmental, financial, intellectual, physical, social, and spiritual.

At the start of the project, three dimensions out of ten were chosen for this particular project. The naming of the project was the result of a student survey, and the result was "We Ncourage Cougar Connections". The students also voted on which of the ten dimensions was most important to them. Top choices were: career, financial, and emotional. The plan is to continue with the project until all ten dimensions are addressed.

Ms. Wilson shared that all three dimensions are listed on the WNCC web page. A self-assessment is available that helps individuals evaluate themselves and recommends a dimension. The dimensions are listed and each contains links for additional information.

Ms. Wilson reported that their second project is the Honors and Action Project. This is a research-based project that also deals with collaboration and results in action-oriented service.

The project started with the topic, *The Art and Science of Play*. With the assistance of a guidebook that contained information about the art and science of play, the theme "play it forward" evolved.

PTK Presentation (cont.)

This particular topic addresses technology and advancement and how it incorporates play. There is already existing technology for people with impairments such as motor issues, hearing or visual impairments to play games, but there is still a need for the development of additional technology because it is not always accessible. Project participants conducted research, collaborated with some WNCC staff, as well as PTK headquarters and then moved onto the action part of the project.

Bluffs Middle School invited them to participate in their honors gala event that had over 800 students, faculty, staff, and family members in attendance. At the event, the PTK students shared various technology purchased via a grant. The technology demonstrated use of brain waves to play mind games. Ms. Wilson shared a video of students playing the games and noted that the games were extremely popular and entertaining.

Chair Klemke thanked Ms. Wilson and Mr. Canales for sharing information about their projects.

Student Report

There was no student report.

Faculty Report

Ms. Winters shared that this is week two of the semester and the first week was very busy. Faculty was busy with student schedule changes, class drops and adds, student bills, as well as other minor issues.

Faculty will be looking at a lot of new features and policies. Dr. Wilson is conducting a review of some of the policies in his department and perhaps separating them into different procedures so that information is where it should be. Finalization of the Faculty Load Policy continues as well. Work on the fall and spring schedules will begin in the near future, so everyone is busy.

Mr. King mentioned that due to unforeseen circumstances, the student representative on the Presidential Search Advisory Committee will need to be replaced. Ms. Ault will move forward with finding a replacement.

Nebraska Community College Association

Ms. Karen Anderson shared that Dr. Margaret Crouse has been named the new Vice Chairperson for NCCA. Dr. Courtney Wittstruck, the NCCA Executive Director is entering her second year with the Nebraska Community College Association and at the recent meeting, the group spent over two hours discussing Legislation, particularly LB783. Interim President Marrin stated that this bill has come up before, so it is important that the community colleges closely monitor this Legislative Session. Interim President Marrin and Dr. Crouse encouraged attendance at the February 22nd Legislative Day in Lincoln. Dr. Crouse stated that it will be interesting to watch what is being done with the budget, because it is going to have a big impact if it passes the way it is written.

Western Nebraska Community College Foundation

Ms. Jennifer Reisig, Foundation Executive Director, reported that she had just one update to share. The Foundation always conducts a year-end fundraising. This year \$287,155 was raised, which exceeded any previous record. Of that, \$253,750 was in scholarships, and \$33,405 was a greatest need fund.

Ms. Reisig shared information about one of the scholarships that came in during that time. Dr. Gerhard Schmuck was a 1942 graduate of Gering High School and a 1947 graduate of Scottsbluff Junior College. He went on to receive his MD from UNMC and began his medical practice in Gering, but spent most of his career in Clinton, Iowa. After retirement, he and his wife Ruth, moved to Denver. Dr. Schmuck passed away in 2003.

Western Nebraska Community College Foundation (cont.)

Recently, a friend shared a copy of the Foundation's year end letter with Mrs. Schmuck. After reading the letter, Mrs. Schmuck contacted the Foundation Office and shared that she was touched by a nursing student's story that was included in the letter and stated that she wanted to forward a gift by the end of the year and set up a scholarship for Health Science majors. So that scholarship will be established in her husband's memory, \$191,000 will be endowed with the goal to begin awarding in the fall of 2024. \$9,000 will be used to immediately give scholarships to students in the next three semesters until the endowment begins awarding.

Mrs. Schmuck is ninety-five years old and makes an annual trip to Gering, so an in-person meeting is anticipated. Ms. Reisig mentioned that gift is where the majority of the year-end fund raiser came in.

Chair Klemke congratulated Ms. Reisig on a successful year.

President Comments

Interim President Marrin reported that over the year, a lot of work went into implementation of shared governance. Even though things have gone well for the most part, it is time to do an assessment. Ms. Geri Anderson and Ms. Kimberly Reichert will initiate the assessment. The councils and committees will give a report at College Council at the end of the semester.

Additionally, at the end of the semester, a report will be prepared that will give us an idea where we are with the assessment, what needs improved, and how to make it better in that continuous improvement model we have gone through.

An Information Technology review was led by Ms. Koski and Campus Works. Recommendations will be shared that will be forwarded through the budget. This will involve some hard work and costs will be involved, but it will get us to a much better place than we are today.

Along with the Strategic Plan that was approved today, we are in a planning frenzy because that impacts the academic master plan as well as the student services plan. All of those need to be built again, not just for busy work. We need to look at what we are doing, what is our direction, what is the cost, and what are the outcomes we are trying to achieve. All of those will fold in nicely with the strategic plan. Beyond the action items, tactics will be discussed. Those will involve other plans that need to be strong and based on reality.

Board Member Comments

Chair Klemke reported that dates have been identified to interview potential candidates for the Presidency finalists. A calendar was shared with the Board and members were asked to add the dates to their calendars. On the date candidates are interviewed, Board members are encouraged to attend the meetings in person. An hour and a half will be scheduled for each candidate interview.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

1. NCCA First Quarter Meeting
Friday, January 20, 2023
Lincoln, NE or via Zoom
2. National Legislative Summit
February 5-8, 2023
Marriott Marquis, Washington, D.C.

Upcoming Meetings and Events (cont.)

3. 2023 Governance Leadership Institute
March 22-24, 2023
New Orleans, Louisiana
4. 2023 HLC Annual Conference
March 25-28, 2023
Hyatt Regency, Chicago, IL
5. 2023 AACC Annual Conference
April 1-4, 2023
Denver, Colorado
6. NCCA Second Quarter Meeting
Monday, May 1, 2023
Lincoln, NE or via Zoom
7. NCCA Third Quarter Meeting
Monday, August 7, 2023
Lincoln, NE
8. ACCT Leadership Congress
October 9-12, 2023
Aria Resort and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada
9. NCCA Fourth Quarter Meeting and Annual Conference
Sunday, November 5 and Monday, November 6, 2023
North Platte, NE

Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday, February 15, 2023, 1:00 p.m., Coral E. Richards Boardroom, Scottsbluff Campus, 1601 East 27th Street, Scottsbluff, NE

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 2:33 p.m.

F. Lynne Klemke, Chairperson

Susan L. Verbeck, Secretary