

**WESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE AREA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

November 20, 2024

The Western Community College Area Board of Governors held a Regular Board meeting at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 20, 2024, at Western Nebraska Community College, Coral E. Richards Boardroom, 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 Tuesday, November 12, 2024.

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

AREA BOARD

Karen S. Anderson, Chairperson	Present
Linda A. Guzman-Gonzales.....	Present
F. Lynne Klemke.....	Present
Allan D. Kreman.....	Present
Starr Lehl.....	Present
Lori J. Liggett.....	Absent
William M. Packard.....	Present
Coral E. Richards	Present
R. J. Savely, Jr.....	Present
Marjorie A. Schmidt.....	Present
John P. Stinner, Vice Chairperson.....	Absent

Due to the high winds, Ms. Liggett was unable to maintain an internet connection; therefore, was unable to attend the meeting via Zoom.

QUORUM

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

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Chair Anderson asked for comments from the community. Pursuant to Board Policy BP-106, Chair Anderson reminded community members who wish to make comments will be limited to a five-minute presentation.

Mr. Tim Reganis addressed the Board regarding the property he owns at the front of the WNCC Conestoga Residence Hall. Mr. Reganis stated he is ready to sell the property and offered the College the first opportunity for purchase. The asking price is \$500,000 and the property will be listed for sale in January.

BOARD CHAIRPERSON COMMENTS

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

Chair Anderson announced the Board reserves the right to enter a closed session if deemed necessary for any item on the agenda per Section 84-1410 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Review Contents of Consent Calendar
 - a. Agenda
 - b. Excuse Absent Board Member(s)
 - c. Minutes
 1. October 16, 2024, Informal Meeting
 2. October 16, 2024, Regular Meeting
2. **Claims:** October 2024
 - a. WCCA Unrestricted Fund - \$2,789,117.19
 - b. WCCA Restricted Fund - \$40,767.05
 - c. WCCA Federal Fund - \$195.86
 - d. WCCA Agency Fund - \$6,015.74
 - e. WCCA Loan Fund - 0 -
 - f. WCCA Plant Fund - \$151,466.56
 - g. WCCA Auxiliary Fund - \$153,623.65
3. City Planning Commission Reports – no reports
4. Approval of Consent Calendar
5. Consideration of Items Extracted from Consent Calendar – there were no extractions

CONSENT CALENDAR

Ms. Guzman-Gonzales MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar. SECONDED by Mr. Savely. The vote was, Yes: Guzman-Gonzales, Klemke, Kreman, Lehl, Packard, Richards, Savely, Schmidt, Anderson. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Liggett, Stinner. Motion carried.

BOARD MEMBER MILEAGE AND/OR EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT

Ms. Lehl MOVED to approve the following travel expenses: Ms. Lynne Klemke for \$105.59 and Mr. Allan Kreman for \$26.13. SECONDED by Ms. Guzman-Gonzales. The vote was, Yes: Lehl, Packard, Richards, Savely, Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Anderson. No: None. Abstain: Klemke, Kreman. Absent: Liggett, Stinner. Motion carried.

BOARD MEMBER MILEAGE AND/OR EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT

Ms. Schmidt MOVED to approve the following travel expenses: Ms. Starr Lehl for \$17.55 and Mr. R. J. Savely for \$120.60. SECONDED by Ms. Klemke. The vote was, Yes: Kreman, Packard, Richards, Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Klemke, Anderson. No: None. Abstain: Lehl, Savely. Absent: Liggett, Stinner. Motion carried.

BOARD MEMBER MILEAGE AND/OR EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT

Dr. Packard MOVED to approve the following travel expense: Ms. Marjorie Schmidt for \$171.52. SECONDED by Ms. Guzman-Gonzales. The vote was, Yes: Lehl, Packard, Richards, Klemke, Kreman, Savely, Schmidt, Anderson. No: None. Abstain: Schmidt. Absent: Liggett, Stinner. None. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S PERSONNEL REPORT

Resignation(s)

- a. Mr. Kyle Keller, CollegeNOW! Director
Effective October 16, 2024
- b. Ms. Bethany Fuchs, Student Life Coordinator II
Effective November 15, 2024
- c. Ms. Lisa Gion, Human Resources Associate Director
Effective December 1, 2024
- d. Ms. Adrienne Morgan, Senior Technical Support Specialist
Effective December 8, 2024
- e. Mr. Gavin Hovseth, Senior Technical Support Specialist
Effective December 8, 2024

Appointment(s)

- a. Ms. Lisa Gion, Associate Vice President of Human Resources
Effective, December 1, 2024
- b. Ms. Adrienne Morgan, Enterprise Resources Planning Administrator (ERP)
Effective December 8, 2024
- c. Mr. Gavin Hovseth, Database Administrator
Effective December 8, 2024

Approval of President's Personnel Report

Consideration of Items Extracted from President's Personnel Report – there were no extractions.

Ms. Klemke MOVED to approve the President's Personnel Report as presented. SECONDED by Mr. Savely. The vote was, Yes: Packard, Richards, Savely, Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Klemke, Kremen, Lehl, Anderson. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Liggett, Stinner. Motion carried.

WESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE AREA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) Scholarship

Ms. Melody Baily, NPPD Account Manager joined the meeting to present a check for \$15,000 for student scholarships. This check represents a cumulative total of \$400,635 with a statewide cumulative total of \$2,015,321.

The presentation was the thirty-third consecutive year of the Nebraska open golf tournament, raising funds for community colleges across the state. Ms. Baily stated the economy grows stronger because of the community colleges and NPPD grows stronger because many times students are hired from those colleges. President Dart stated what NPPD does for this institution and the community colleges in the state is unmatched, and the College is grateful for their support.

2025-2026 Proposed Academic Year Student Charges (Tuition and Fees)

Tuition

Ms. Lynne Koski, Vice President of Administrative Services reported the 2025-2026 Academic Year Student Charges were presented at the October 2024 Board meeting for review by the Board. After meetings with various groups, a review committee, and students, the recommendation is no change in the tuition rate. The only change is the dual credit amount, which is moving to a zero rate. All other tuition rates will remain the same as in the current year.

2025-2026 Proposed Academic Year Student Charges (Tuition and Fees) (cont.)

Proposed Tuition Rates per credit hour

Resident Tuition \$109.50
Border State Tuition (CO, WY, SD) \$119.50
Non-Resident Tuition \$128.50
High School Partnership \$0

Fees

Ms. Koski reported there were no changes to per credit fees since the review by the Board at the October 16, 2024 Board meeting.

Proposed Fees per credit hour

Activity/Student Service \$3.00
Facility \$4.50
Technology \$5.50
Scholarship \$5.50
Total Resident and Non-Resident \$18.50
High School Partnership \$0

Mr. Savely MOVED to approve the 2025-2026 Tuition and Fees as presented. SECONDED by Ms. Schmidt. The vote was, Yes: Richards, Savely, Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Klemke, Kreman, Lehl, Packard, Anderson. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Liggett, Stinner. Motion carried.

Room and Board

Ms. Koski reported room rates are different per residence hall and room configuration. The total average increase is about 2% with a 2.5% increase for the meal plans. There is a change in the proposed housing fee. Previously, the annual fee was \$150. The proposal is \$100 per semester, which is a \$50 increase. The new rate includes an alternative to the coin operated laundry machines. Removal of the coin operated function will eliminate the need for students to find quarters to use the machines. Additionally, the cafeteria will be moving to a sustainable, recyclable food container for takeout meals.

Ms. Guzman-Gonzales MOVED to approve the 2025-2026 Room and Board rates as presented. SECONDED by Ms. Richards. The vote was, Yes: Savely, Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Klemke, Kreman, Lehl, Packard, Richards, Anderson. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Liggett, Stinner. Motion carried.

December Board Meeting Cancellation

Chair Anderson shared that at the recent Board Executive Committee meeting; members spoke with President Dart regarding cancelling the December Board meeting. Board members and staff have given a lot of their time over the past year, and the upcoming year will involve filling Board vacancies and budget work, so a break is well deserved. It was determined there is no business that needs attention before the January meeting, so Chair Anderson entertained a motion to cancel the December 18, 2024 Board meeting.

December Board Meeting Cancellation (cont.)

Ms. Schmidt MOVED to approve cancelling the December Board meeting. SECONDED by Ms. Klemke. The vote was, Yes: Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Klemke, Kreman, Lehl, Packard, Savely, Anderson. No: None. Abstain: Richards. Absent: Liggett, Stinner. Motion carried.

Nebraska Community College Association Board Representative (NCCA)

Chair Anderson explained when John Stinner became a Board member, he replaced her as the representative on the NCCA Board. With the passing of Dr. Crouse, Ms. Anderson had agreed to fill in as the second NCCA Board representative. Chair Anderson stated with her upcoming departure from the Board, a new representative should be appointed, and Ms. Lehl is willing to fill that role. Chair Anderson entertained a motion to approve the appointment of Ms. Lehl as the College Board of Governors representative on the NCCA Board.

Ms. Guzman-Gonzales MOVED to approve the appointment of Ms. Lehl as the Board representative on the NCCA Board. SECONDED by Dr. Packard. The vote was, Yes: Guzman-Gonzales, Klemke, Kreman, Lehl, Packard, Richards, Savely, Schmidt, Anderson. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Liggett, Stinner. Motion carried.

2025-2026 Academic Calendar

Dr. Grant Wilson, Executive Vice President of Educational and Student Services reported the calendar committee reviewed the holidays the College either closes or classes do not meet. Additionally, they discussed the start date for January 2026. The calendar was reviewed by the Academic Council and the College Council and presented today for Board approval.

Ms. Schmidt MOVED to approve the 2025-2026 Academic Calendar as presented. SECONDED by Ms. Klemke. The vote was, Yes: Klemke, Kreman, Lehl, Packard, Richards, Savely, Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Anderson. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Liggett, Stinner. Motion carried.

Reports and Recommendations from the Board Finance and Operations Committee

Resolution to Continue Membership in the Nebraska Community College Insurance Trust (NCCIT)

The Nebraska Community College Insurance Trust operates as a governmental risk management pool and was created in 1995 by and for the Community Colleges of Nebraska under the provisions of the Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Act for member Colleges to self-insure on a group basis coverage for property, liability, errors and omissions, and workers' compensation claims. Only Nebraska Community Colleges are eligible to participate in the Trust, and all six Community College Areas in Nebraska are members and owners of the Trust.

The purpose of the Trust includes increased coverage, improved risk management, loss prevention, claims handling control, financial savings, and the protection of the public assets of the College have been contained and continue to be enhanced.

A request was made for approval by the Board of a resolution to continue membership in the insurance trust for an additional three years and the Board chair's signature on the resolution.

Reports and Recommendations from the Board Finance and Operations Committee (cont.)

Resolution to Continue Membership in the Nebraska Community College Insurance Trust

Mr. Savely MOVED to approve the resolution President's Personnel Report as presented. SECONDED by Dr. Packard. The vote was, Yes: Kreman, Lehl, Packard, Richards, Savely, Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Klemke, Anderson. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Liggett, Stinner. Motion carried.

Reports and Recommendations from the Board Finance and Operations Committee

Bid #25-EQ-03 Host Servers

Ms. Koski reported one bid was received for the Host Servers, which was Sterling Computers Corporation.

Ms. Koski stated it is the recommendation of the selection committee and the Board Finance and Operations Committee that the host server contract be awarded to Sterling Computers Corporation.

TABLULATION

Company	City/State	Total Amount
Sterling Computers Corporation	North Sioux City, SD	\$35,315.58

Mr. Savely MOVED to approve Bid #25-EQ-03 Host Servers to Sterling Computers Corporation for \$35,315.58. SECONDED by Ms. Guzman-Gonzales. The vote was, Yes: Lehl, Packard, Richards, Savely, Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Klemke, Kreman, Anderson. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Liggett, Stinner. Motion carried.

Bid #25-EQ-05 Turbo Prop Test Cell

Ms. Koski reported this item was a bid for the aviation program made possible through ARPA funding. The turbo prop is one of three items that were approved by the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education. Avotek was the only bid received.

Ms. Koski stated it is the recommendation of the selection committee and the Board Finance and Operations Committee that the turbo prop test cell be awarded to Avotek.

TABLULATION:

Company	City/State	Total Amount
Avotek	Weyers Cave, VA	\$121,047.00
Toolkit Technologies	Austin, TX	No Response
Aero Train	Flint, MI	No Response

Ms. Klemke MOVED to approve the President's Personnel Report as presented. SECONDED by Mr. Savely. The vote was, Yes: Packard, Richards, Savely, Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Klemke, Kreman, Lehl, Anderson. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Liggett, Stinner. Motion carried.

Reports and Recommendations from the Board Policy Committee

Policy Repeals

Ms. Reichert, Institutional Effectiveness and Planning Director, reported these policies presented for repeal are the result of recent policies that have been approved by the Board. This is a step in the efforts to clean up existing policies.

- a. 110.0200.79 (Advisory Committees for the Board)
- b. 460.0000.79 (Legal Counsel)
- c. 825.0000.13 (Standing Committees)
- d. 825.0100.79 (Appointment and Term of Office)
- e. 840.0100.79 (Retention of Legal Counsel)
- f. BP-114 (Oath of Office)

Ms. Schmidt MOVED to approve repeal of the six policies listed above. SECONDED by Mr. Savely. The vote was, Yes: Richards, Savely, Schmidt, Guzman-Gonzales, Klemke, Kreman, Lehl, Packard, Anderson. No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Liggett, Stinner. Motion carried.

INSTITUTIONAL REPORTS

2024 ACCT Leadership Congress Overview - October 23 – 26, 2024, Seattle, Washington

Mr. Savely thanked the Board for approving his attendance at the ACCT Leadership Congress.

Mr. Savely reported most of the general sessions were focused on Artificial Intelligence (AI). Generally, the leaders in AI and other community colleges are about two years ahead of WNCC. Some colleges are drafting a Board policy regarding AI, allowing faculty options on how they perceive the appropriate use of AI in their courses. The conference presenters stressed faculty should be trained in the use of AI. It is important they know how to use AI so they recognize when a student is using it, and they can support those students or stress that AI should not be used in a particular class.

Examples of partnerships were shared by a few of the colleges in attendance at the conference. A school in Illinois partners with an airline that donated an airplane for their aviation program. The airline even delivered the plane to their facility.

WNCC resembles other schools in that we have a female to male ratio of two to one. We are missing the male population that went from high school directly into the workforce. Some males are returning to school because they realize the need for additional training to advance in their jobs, but the issue is these men have jobs, and families and in many cases, children. The schools have implemented flex scheduling, not just online, but hybrid or in person, whatever works for the student. An example was a welding program offered six in the morning to midnight, Monday through Saturday. Schools that are attracting male students who did not attend college have adopted a plan of four weeks for vocational classes and six to eight weeks for academic classes, which has increased their enrollment by an average of ten to twenty percent, depending on the school.

WNCC Library Annual Report

Ms. Allison Reisig, reported over the past year, the library focused on innovation and service enhancement. Those efforts were aimed at fostering a more engaging and supportive environment for students, faculty, and the broader academic community.

A key focus has been to actively partner with admissions to engage with prospective students and provide valuable insights into library services and resources. Because the WNCC Library is open to the public, staff met with the Valley Home School Association to promote the Library so students know they can use our resources for research on their schoolwork.

A usability study was conducted on the library's website. A small group of students was given activities to do on the website and their feedback was used to improve the library's navigation to ensure students can easily find services they need with a minimum of clicks.

Modules were created in Blackboard that faculty can import directly into their class for student's use. That service is being monitored and feedback from faculty and students will provide the opportunity for improvement.

In response to student feedback, study rooms were enhanced with the installation of privacy wraps. This improvement created a more inclusive and comfortable study space for students, addressing their need for privacy and a focused study atmosphere.

Electronic item lending: including journal articles, streaming videos, and eBooks has outpaced the borrowing of physical items. Despite the shift towards digital resources, overall circulation dropped in 2022/2023 and has yet to return to previous levels. While overall circulation has dropped, physical circulation has continued to increase as more students return to using the library in person. Library website traffic and use of study rooms also remains steady.

Online academic videos have been popular. Those are streaming videos that are academic documentaries and provide background information for the students. A health science related database is available for use by students in those programs.

The library also offers several types of engagement activities. Stress management activities have been the most popular and students love the crafty take and make items they can do on their own time.

Goals for the upcoming year include automating library statistics. Dashboards have been created that contain library statistics and provide a real-time look at library circulation, visits, and engagement program highlights from the past six months. An additional goal is to make improvements on the Sidney campus.

PTK College Project

PTK sponsors, Ms. Amy Winters and Ms. Patsy Yeager introduced WNCC student and vice president of Phi Theta Kappa, Ms. Philippine Andjawa. Ms. Andjawa explained that each chapter is encouraged to complete a college project and this year, that project was regarding civic awareness. The goal was to increase voter registration on the college campus and to align the project with the WNCC Mission Statement: *To provide learning opportunities – enriching lives, invigorating communities, and changing futures.*

PTK College Project (cont.)

- Support the College's mission to foster an inclusive and supportive learning environment.
- Address critical student needs with a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) workshop, conduct a drive for the campus food pantry and schedule a mental health awareness day.
- Enhance voter registration awareness and encourage civic engagement.
- Academic resources such as writing labs and counseling services ensure that all students at WNCC have access to the tools they need to thrive.
- The project strengthens WNCC's connection to all campuses and the broader community, advancing the College's goals and priorities.

The planning process began with meetings with the College president, weekly meetings with the project team, collaboration with Student Life and faculty, and collaboration with CAPWN and the Scotts Bluff county election office. The next step was regarding knowledge, skills and abilities needed to execute the project vision.

Executing the Vision

- Conduct research
- Acquire supplies
- Plan the week
- Encourage Involvement
- Reach out to collaborators
- Organize volunteers
- Create and print marketing materials
- Spread the word

Qualitative Outcomes

- Community members commented that no one had done anything like this in all the years they have been volunteers.
- Men's basketball team said President Dart is doing a great job and they had no issues at WNCC

Quantitative Outcomes

- Six students completed the transportation quiz
- Eight students gave feedback on their education journey
- Sixty-six students participated in events
- Four students registered to vote
- Two students updated voting information

Relationship with College Administration

- Gather perspectives of the president
- Be student focused
- Students are happy about the school efforts
- Planning was more difficult than anticipated

Student Report

There was no student report.

Faculty Report

Mr. Russell Pontarolo, Welding Technology instructor attended a Manufacturing and Welding Conference in Orlando, FL, October 15th -17th. He found the conference very worthwhile. The event brought in 50,000 plus industry attendees from all over the world. Mr. Pontarolo attended many sessions on Welding Technology involving Technology Advancements, Welding Career Opportunities and Welding Inspection, Training and Teaching. He gained insight into new developments and feels confident WNCC Welding Technology will be poised to continue top level instruction to students well into the future.

Ms. Howton reported on November 6th, she and student Tasha Ramirez presented at the Annual Social Work Conference. Their presentation was titled Strength in Numbers, the Role of Peer Support and Addiction Recovery. Ms. Ramirez is currently working at Cirrus Hours as a community support worker and earning her hours to be a fully licensed drug and alcohol counselor.

The Performing Arts faculty, Dr. Nathaniel Johnson, Dr. Patrick Newell, and Ms. Violette Briggs accompanied twenty-six students on the annual Fall Performing Arts tour. Over three days, performances took place at Alliance High School, Chadron High School, Crawford High School, Sioux County School system, Scottsbluff High School, and Gering Junior High and High School. The performances featured scenes and monologues from theatre students, a tap dance routine from students in the tap class, selections sung by Varsity Vocalise, and a rousing performance by Cougar Rock. Faculty gave workshops, and everyone, including a team from admissions, worked to recruit students to WNCC. The highlight of the tour was when students from Gering kept asking for "one more song;" after the second encore, they were asked to perform for us—and they did!

Wednesday, October 30th, WNCC was the host for the PANCO (Class D) Choral Clinic. Sixty-five students were on campus for the day, which ended with a public performance by the WNCC Collegiate Chorale, several of the school's individual choirs, and a final concert of all sixty-five students. Dr. Newell conducted the clinic, and Ms. Tami Lippstreu served as accompanist. The concert took place in the Judy Chaloupka Theater. The Collegiate Chorale performed first, then the college students stayed to enjoy the high school students' performance.

Bill Loring, Information Technology instructor shared that several WNCC faculty members are taking AI for Higher Ed: Elevating Universities with AI from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Topics include: Learning and Exploring with Generative AI, Reframing Your Approach in an AI World, Preparing Students and Employees to be Responsible Users of AI, Evaluating and Creating Objectives for AI, and Approaching Assessment and Resources with AI.

Surgical Technology Program Director, Ms. Marcene Elwell, shared that Surgical Technology student, Jordyn Brann, was recognized at the Regional West Foundation Board meeting for receiving the James Massey, MD, FACS Surgical Technology Scholarship this year. Jordyn will be meeting with recruiters, have lunch with the Board, and then be recognized for earning the scholarship during their meeting!

Brian Croft, English instructor recently self-published a book of poems many years in the making. Art instructor, Yelena Khanevskaya did a lot of the artwork and illustrations for the book. The book can be purchased on Amazon.

Nebraska Community College Association - 2024 NCCA Annual Meeting Overview

Ms. Anderson, Ms. Klemke, Mr. Kreman, Ms. Lehl, Ms. Liggett, Dr. Packard, and Ms. Schmidt attended the 2024 NCCA annual meeting in Norfolk, Nebraska.

The keynote speaker mentioned manufacturing jobs are a way for people to improve their standard of living and that Nebraska, surprisingly, is one of the best states in the nation for manufacturing, because manufacturing jobs have not gone to other countries, and many other states have.

Conversation was initiated regarding the fact that people are not having children, and this has become a nationwide trend, which means the population is due to stabilize for a while. Many Colorado people have moved to the Panhandle region, but they are older, and most are retired, so they are not interested in joining the workforce. Our area has a lot to offer, so perhaps we need to do a better job of promoting ourselves.

Board members connected with a few economic developers who were also on college boards. Those connections are important to the colleges and their communities. Retention was also addressed. How do we keep clients, community members and students in the state? Many facets of the declining population continue to be monitored.

Ms. Lehl and Ms. Anderson toured the Norfolk campus, and stated the facilities were phenomenal. The Norfolk college conducted a five-year fundraising campaign to raise twenty-three million dollars. They have a working farm, where students work on the farm, which helps them earn some income. An animal health area provides twenty-four seven care for patients. They also had HVAC systems, including geothermal and refrigeration systems like those in convenience and grocery stores. It was a very impressive campus.

Western Nebraska Community College Foundation

Ms. Reisig, Foundation Executive Director, shared the day before, an event was scheduled at the College to celebrate the success of the Monument Marathon. This year, the Marathon was about breaking records. Over \$78,000 was raised, which was a huge increase from last year. In addition to the number of runners, also considered was the revenue brought in and the number of sponsorships. Additional factors included in the revenue were the sale of Marathon branded items at the Expo, which also included a vendor fee. In past years, the budget amount skyrocketed, this year that number decreased by \$10,000 and sponsorships hit a record \$125,000.

Of the runners participating in the Monument Marathon, approximately sixty-eight percent had never run the race and about the same number came from outside Scotts Bluff county. Sixty percent brought other people along, sixty percent stayed more than one night, and many brought multiple friends and family and stayed several days. Those factors allow us to apply for more funding to acquire more sponsorships.

Big goals have been set for the next couple of years. In July, a three-year contract with a new marketing company was signed and they are aware the target is 750 runners before the end of the contract. Discussions have begun regarding marketing strategies and how to continue to grow the event and build relationships in the community with the Foundation and the College and continue to provide resources for our students.

Western Nebraska Community College Foundation (cont.)

Ms. Reisig reported she worked with the College marketing department to create a brochure about the current health science renovation. The brochure is not just for fund-raising, but also a partnership brochure. Ms. Reisig and President Dart have been traveling around the Panhandle to share information about the renovation and have participated in five meetings thus far. Even though no funding has been secured, the meetings were positive, and conversations were promising. Some participants at these meetings were WNCC alumni and shared that the College is vital to their workforce. Many of the healthcare staff they met with attended WNCC. These visits will also assist in learning what the communities we serve need and to be responsive.

President Comments

President Dart congratulated the Foundation staff and those who assisted with the Monument Marathon. The Marathon is primarily a Foundation event, but they gather volunteers and as a college, we have many people who already play a part, but it takes a substantial number of volunteers to ensure the event is a success.

President Dart reiterated that he and Ms. Reisig have been visiting area healthcare providers to visit about fund-raising opportunities. Of the twelve people they met with, ten were WNCC alums. It has been great to have those conversations and hear what they are doing, what they need now, what they anticipate they will need in the future, and how we can partner together.

The men's soccer team returned yesterday from the national tournament, which was the first time ever they were at a national tournament. They played well, but did not make it into the semifinals that start tomorrow. They represented the College extremely well and we are proud of them.

President Dart will be in Lincoln Thursday through Saturday. Meetings regarding dual credit have been scheduled with the Governor. Additional meetings include preparation for the upcoming Legislative session. With the significant turnover and senators unfamiliar with what state revenue looks like, there are a lot of unknowns going into this Legislative session.

While in Lincoln, President Dart will have an opportunity to watch the WNCC Cougar Rock Band perform at the Nebraska Music Educators Association Conference.

President Dart recognized the people who will not be around the Boardroom table much longer, which is about fifty years of experience between four people: Karen Anderson, Lynne Klemke, Kathy Ault, and Phil Kelly.

Board Member Comments

Chair Anderson announced she will be moving to Lincoln in mid-December; therefore, will be submitting her resignation.

Phil Kelly, College attorney shared information regarding a new state law that requires entities to advise anybody who wants to contract with the College that they must comply with the Foreign Adversary Contracting Prohibition Act.

Board Member Comments (cont.)

The purpose of the act is the Legislature finds that dealing with commercial entities organized under the laws of a foreign adversary or with a principal place of business within a foreign adversary tend to carry increased political risk and threaten state security and the privacy of residents. In response to the risk, the Act prohibits public entities, including a political subdivision and any entity acting on behalf of the political subdivision, from entering contracts with companies organized under the laws of or controlled by the government of a foreign adversary for technology related products or services for performance of the contract. The Act requires the political subdivision to obtain a certification from any company providing technology related products or services to certify they are not a scrutinized company, organized under the laws of, or controlled by a foreign adversary.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

All Performing Arts Program / Very Valley Christmas

December 7 and 8, 2024
7:30 p.m. Saturday / 2:00 p.m. Sunday
Judy Chaloupka Theater
Tickets are free

January 26, 2025 | Faculty Recital

Judy Chaloupka Theater
2:00 p.m. Performance
Tickets: Free

2025 Community College National Legislative Summit

February 9-12, 2025
Marriott Marquis, Washington DC

February 21–23, 2025 | Theatre Arts | *Wolfchild: The Correction of Joseph*

Judy Chaloupka Theater
7:30 p.m. Friday & Saturday | 2:00 p.m. Sunday
\$10 General Admission | \$5 Seniors, Students & Military | \$3 Groups of 10+
Box Office: Wed & Thurs, 3/19 & 3/20: 12:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Fri, 3/21: 12:00 - 7:30 p.m.; Sat, 3/22: 3:00 - 7:30 p.m.; Sun, 3/23: 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

2025 Governance Leadership Institute

March 16-18, 2025
Windward Community College, Oahu, Hawaii

March 28 and 29, 2025 | Vocal Music | *Spring Gala*

Gering Civic Center
6:00 p.m. Social Time | 6:30 p.m. Performance
Tickets: \$35 | Ticket sales close on March 21
Box Office: Wed & Thurs, 3/19 & 3/20: 12:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Fri, 3/21: 12:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings and Events (cont.)

April 27, 2025 | Instrumental Music | Spring Band Concert

Judy Chaloupka Theater

3:00 p.m. Performance

\$10 General Admission | \$8 Seniors | Free - WNCC Students & Staff

Box Office: Fri, 4/25: 12:00 - 4 p.m.; Sat & Sun, 4/26 & 4/27: 12:00 -3:00 p.m.

May 1–3, 2025 | Theatre Arts | Naked Mole Rat Gets Dressed: The Rock Experience

Judy Chaloupka Theater

10:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. Thursday & Friday | 5:00 p.m. Saturday

\$10 General Admission | \$5 Seniors, Students & Military | \$3 Groups of 10+

Box Office: Thurs 5/1 & Fri 5/2: 9:00 - 10:00 a.m., 12:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Sat, 5/3: 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

May 3, 2025 | Instrumental Music | Honors Recital

First Presbyterian Church 3:00 p.m. Performance

Tickets: Free

May 4, 2025 | Instrumental Music | Jump, Jive & Swing

Hampton Inn & Suites

5:15 p.m. Cocktails & Live Music | 6:00 p.m. Dinner & Dancing

Tickets: \$30 | Ticket sales closed at noon on April 26

Box Office: Wed & Thurs, 4/23 & 4/24: 12:00 - 5:00 p.m.;

Fri, 4/25: 12:00 - 4:00 p.m.; Sat, 4/26: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

2025 ACCT Leadership Congress

October 22-25, 2025, New Orleans Marriott & Sheraton, New Orleans, Louisiana

Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday, January 15, 2025, 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 2:47 p.m.

Karen S. Anderson, Chairperson

Susan L. Verbeck, Secretary