



Board of Trustees Meeting | April 20, 2026

Minutes

Iowa Western Community College

4/20/2026 2:00 PMCDT

@ Reiver Room of the Student Center, 2700 College Rd, Council Bluffs, IA 51503

Attendance

Present:

Members: Chris Blake, Connie Hornbeck, Matt Johnson, Kirk Madsen, John Marshall MD, Kerry Newman (remote), Tom Riley, Gilbert Thomas

Guests: Eddie Holtz, Dan Kinney, Jenny Kruger, Shane Larson, Matt Mancuso, Erin McKee, Molly Noon, Kim Vrba

Absent:

Members: Randy Pash

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Board Chair, Connie Hornbeck.

2. Roll Call

Board Chair Hornbeck asked for the roll call. Roll was taken and recorded by the Board Secretary.

3. Approve Agenda

Board Chair Hornbeck asked if there were any additions to the agenda. She shared that the Board will need a closed session for personnel and a closed session for litigation.

Motion:

A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion moved by Chris Blake and motion seconded by Kirk Madsen. All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried.

4. Correct, Amend and Approve Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes from the March meetings.

4.1. Regular Meeting held March 16, 2026

Board Chair Hornbeck asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the Regular meeting held on March 16, 2026.

 [Board of Trustees Meeting March 16, 2026 Minutes.pdf](#)

Motion:

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the March 16 Regular meeting as presented.

Motion moved by Tom Riley and motion seconded by Chris Blake. All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried.

4.2. Special Meeting held March 23, 2026

Board Chair Hornbeck asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the Special meeting held on March 23, 2026.

 [Special Board Meeting March 23, 2026 Minutes.pdf](#)

Motion:

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the Special meeting as presented.

Motion moved by Kirk Madsen and motion seconded by Chris Blake. All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried.

5. Academic Program Presentations

Instructors and students from several academic programs, joined the Board meeting to share some highlights from their programs.

5.1. Culinary Arts (Presenters: Nate Steinbach, Instructor & Department Chair)

Nate Steinbach and the culinary arts students joined the meeting to provide an update on their program.

Highlights from the presentation include:

- Curriculum changes include the addition of serve safe food handler permit in the beginning of the program.
- The food truck is something that is unique to the program.
- Business classes have been incorporated into the program.
- The Friday Culinary Cafes are for the first year students to focus on serving etiquette.

Students shared their opinions of the program and why they chose Iowa Western.

The Board asked what makes our program unique from Metro Community College's Culinary Arts Program - Iowa Western focuses on production.

 [Culinary Arts.pdf](#)

5.2. Electronics & Industrial Systems (Presenters: Jack DeLong, Associate Professor & Department Chair)

Jack DeLong and the electronics and industrial systems students joined the meeting to provide an update on their program.

Highlights from the presentation include:

- In the fall of 2024, three programs, Lasers, Electronics and Robotics, merged into one.
- The biggest obstacle this program faces is educating people on what the program is and educating high school students on career opportunities in this field.

The Board asked if AI is used in the program and yes, it is being incorporated in the program. Students shared their opinion of the program and why they chose Iowa Western. Students that come to the program enjoy working on electrical things and didn't know the job possibilities that exist. Jack shared some of the career opportunities of former graduates. Jack shared that he goes to all of the high school career fairs and is really focused on outreach and marketing for the program.

 [Electronics and Industrial Systems.pdf](#)

5.3. Surgical Technology (Presenters: Toni Steward, Professor & Department Chair)

Toni Steward and the surgical technology students joined the meeting to provide an update on their program.

Highlights from the presentation include:

- New things to the program this year - updated VR headsets, new laparoscopic cameras and other equipment.
- Toni been here for 20+ years. She shared that the curriculum changes about every five years, and they just completed an accreditation cycle last year and renewed for 10 years.
- They are working on incorporating simulation into the classes.
- New instructor, Laura Zlomke, is the clinical coordinator. She tracks students clinical experiences.

Students shared their opinion of the program and why they chose Iowa Western. They expressed a concern with no longer having a clinical instructor available on site. This was the first year without the position. Dr. Kinney shared that he will look into the concern.

 [Surgical Technology.pdf](#)

6. Recognition of National Championship Athletic Teams

The Board of Trustees welcomed the athletic teams and individual student athletes that won national titles in the spring. Teams include: Women's Indoor Track, Shot Gun Sports and Dance. Individual athletes include: Men's Swimming, Men's and Women's Wrestling. Board Chair Hornbeck expressed how tremendously prideful the board is in these teams and student athletes.

7. Public Comment

There was no one present from the public for comment and nothing was submitted in writing.

8. Monitoring Information About College Operations

8.1. President's Report (Presenters: Dr. Dan Kinney, President)

Dr. Kinney, President of the College, reported on the following:

- Legislative Session - Matt Eide, the Community Colleges for Iowa lobbyist, has done a great job summarizing what is happening during the session. The biggest item is property tax. The Governor was with the house, but Dr. Kinney just heard that she might be switching to the senate. The Governor wants to cut 260E and she is trying to get support, but the House and Senate seem to support community colleges on 260E, plus businesses like it. The house and senate are still so far apart on the property tax bill and overtime starts tomorrow.
- Enrollment - summer and fall enrollment reports are attached.
- Housing - Dr. Kinney shared that we are 8% above where we were last year.

- Construction is going well. They are laying block for brick walls and mid-June they will bring in the pre-cast walls.
 - Centers - All will require some structural work and by the end of this month should be sending things out for bid.
 - Suites I will be getting a new roof and Apartment #5 is being renovated.
- Council Bluffs STEM School Update - Dr. Kinney and Dr. Marshall met with Jared Tripp, Bob Scholtz, and Dr. Murillo. They will be coming to campus April 28 at 1pm to present to the Iowa Western Board and administration on the STEM School.
- Appropriations - We are looking at a 1.5% increase this year.

 [Summer Enrollment Report 04-13-2026.pdf](#)

 [Fall Enrollment Report 04-13-2026.pdf](#)

 [Recruiting Funnel Update April.pdf](#)

8.2. Community Colleges for Iowa Report (Presenters: Tom Riley, Community Colleges for Iowa Representative)

Tom shared that the Community Colleges for Iowa Board has a meeting scheduled for Friday. They will be voting on the 2028 Summer Trustees Conference.

9. Consent Agenda

Board Chair Hornbeck asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion:

A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion moved by John Marshall MD and motion seconded by Matt Johnson. All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried.

9.1. Personnel Report (Presenters: Eddie Holtz, Vice President of Finance & Operations)

Eddie Holtz, Vice President of Finance & Operations, presented the Board with the Personnel Report.

New hires include: Tamara Elgan, Executive Assistant to the Vice President of Academic Affairs; Dawn Hoberg, Continuing Education Administrative Assistant; Isabella McVay, Assistant Cheer Coach.

Employees leaving include: Chandelle Scheer, Continuing Education Administrative Assistant; Donald Wright, Electrical Instructor; Samantha Darnall, Assistant Cheer Coach; Emily O'Rourke, Director of TRiO.

 [April Personnel Report 2026.pdf](#)

9.2. Presentation of Bills for Payment

Board Chair Hornbeck asked if there were and questions relating to the bills included in the packet. There were no questions this month.

 [Approval Of The Board.pdf](#)

 [4.10.26 Board Report.pdf](#)

 [4.10.26 P-Card Report.pdf](#)

 [4.10.26 Virtual Cards.pdf](#)

 [Voided Check Report.pdf](#)

9.3. Financial Report (Presenters: Eddie Holtz, Vice President of Finance & Operations)

Eddie Holtz, Vice President of Finance and Operations, presented the Board with the Financial Statements ending March 31, 2026. He shared that everything continues to be in good shape this year.

Gilbert shared that he would like to see what the other community colleges are doing for tuition increases this year.

 [Financial Statements.pdf](#)

9.4. Curriculum (Presenters: Dr. Jenny Kruger, Vice President of Academic Affairs)

Dr. Kruger, Vice President of Academic Affairs, presented the Board with his months curriculum changes.

 [April 2026 Currirulum for BOT Meeting 4.1.26.pdf](#)

10. Action Items

10.1. Public Hearing for the Approval of the FY27 Published Budget

Board Chair Hornbeck asked for a motion to enter into a Public Hearing for the approval of the FY27 Published Budget.

A motion was made by Kirk Madsen, seconded by Chris Blake to enter into a Public Hearing at 3:41pm.

There were no comments received from the public.

Board Chair Hornbeck asked for a motion to enter back into Regular Session.

A motion was made by Matt Johnson, seconded by Tom Riley to enter into Regular Session at 3:42pm.

 [Iowa Western Public Hearing FY27 Budget.pdf](#)

10.2. Approval of FY27 Published Budget

The FY27 Published Budget was presented to the Board.

Board Chair Hornbeck asked for a motion to approve the FY27 Published Budget as presented.

Motion:

A motion was made to approve the FY27 Published Budget as presented.

Motion moved by John Marshall MD and motion seconded by Chris Blake. All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried.

10.3. Approval of 2028-2029 Academic Calendar

The Board reviewed the proposed Academic Calendar for the 2028/2029 school year. There were no questions or concerns.

Board Chair Hornbeck asked for a motion to approve the calendar as presented.

Motion:

A motion was made to approve the 2028/2029 Academic Calendar as presented.

Motion moved by Kirk Madsen and motion seconded by Matt Johnson. All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried.

- 10.4. Executive Session on Personnel: A closed session may be necessary to discuss personnel.

Board Chair Hornbeck asked for a motion to go into a closed session on personnel.

Motion:

A motion was made to enter into a closes session on personnel.

Motion moved by Matt Johnson and motion seconded by Chris Blake. All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried. The Board entered into a closed session at 3:45pm.

Motion:

A motion was made to enter into Regular session.

Motion moved by Matt Johnson and motion seconded by Chris Blake. All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried. The Board entered into Regular session at 3:51pm.

- 10.5. Receipt and Filing of Termination Recommendation

The Board was presented with a faculty contract non-renewal for Mario Ostiguin.

Board Chair Hornbeck asked for a motion to approve the contract non-renewal as presented.

Motion:

A motion was made to approve the contract non-renewal for Mario Ostiguin as presented.

Motion moved by John Marshall MD and motion seconded by Tom Riley. All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried.

- 10.6. Receipt and Filing of Termination Recommendation

The Board was presented with a faculty contract non-renewal for Walter Bangert.

Board Chair Hornbeck asked for a motion to approve the contract non-renewal as presented.

Motion:

A motion was made to approve the contract non-renewal for Walter Bangert as presented.

Motion moved by Tom Riley and motion seconded by John Marshall MD. All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried.

10.7. Approval of Faculty Reduction in Force

The Board was presented with a faculty reduction in force for Carol Young. Board Chair Hornbeck asked for a motion to approve the reduction in force as presented.

Motion:

A motion was made to approve the reduction in force of Carol Young as presented.

Motion moved by Kirk Madsen and motion seconded by Chris Blake. All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried.

11. Executive Session

11.1. Possible Closed Session on Litigation: A closed session may be necessary to discuss litigation.

Board Chair Hornbeck asked for a motion to enter into a closed session to discuss litigation.

Motion:

A motion was made to enter into a closed session to discuss litigation.

Motion moved by John Marshall MD and motion seconded by Matt Johnson. All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried. The Board entered into a closed session at 3:53pm.

Motion:

A motion was made to enter into regular session.

Motion moved by Matt Johnson and motion seconded by Chris Blake. All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried. The Board entered into Regular session at 4:06pm.

12. Future Agenda Items

The Board really enjoyed the program presentations that were shared today, they are looking forward to future updates.

13. Adjournment

Board Chair Hornbeck asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion:

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Motion moved by Matt Johnson and motion seconded by Kirk Madsen. All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 4:15pm.