



Board of Trustees Meeting | August 18, 2025

Minutes

Iowa Western Community College

8/18/2025 2:00 AMCDT

@ Cass County Center, 705 Walnut Street, Atlantic, IA 50022

Attendance

Present:

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

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

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. The roll call was taken by the Board Secretary.

3. Approve Agenda

Board Chair Hornbeck asked if there were any additions or deletions to the meeting agenda. Hearing none, she asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion:

A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented.

All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried.

4. Correct, Amend and Approve Minutes from the Regular Meeting held July 21, 2025

Board Chair Hornbeck asked if there were any corrections or amendments to the minutes from the July 21 meetings. Hearing none, she asked for a motion to approve the minutes as presented.

 [Board of Trustees Meeting July 21, 2025 Minutes.pdf](#)

Motion:

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the July 21 Board of Trustees meeting as presented.

All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried.

5. Public Comment

There were no members from the public present and nothing received in writing.

6. Monitoring Information About College Operations

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

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

- The campus tour following the July Board meeting went well.
- The NC3 Conference went well. We had four or five staff attend and one that will become a master trainer in a year.
- Shelby County emergency had reached out about utilizing space at the center when tornados hit last year. We now we have a formal MOU in place and are looking at doing this at other center locaitons too.
- Enrollment - 3% higher than the attached report. 6.2% increase today.
- Housing at 88% capacity now - still have some that have not checked in.
- Today was the first day of classes. Campus is busy.
- Cabinet made the decision to pull away from EAB research, and will be switching to Hanover. They will do five to six special projects for us.
- 2022 was the last time we did an economic impact study and will be doing another one this year.
- Language on the ballot caused confusion last year. Dr. Kinney is working with each county auditor to craft the language for the ballot. We are also working with Victory Enterprise on materials for the Bond Referendum and working with the trustees to find what groups to speak to promoting the Bond this year.
- Dr. Kinney shared the palm card with the Trustees for feedback and is working on making the recommended edits.
- Dr. Kinney is working on an elevator speech for the Trustees when talking with community about the Bond
- Dr. Kinney shared that Booster Club passes are coming, tickets to the Arts Center shows are available and the Employee Appreciation Picnic & 25th Anniversary Concert is coming up on August 23.

 [Fall Daily Enrollment - Aug 13 2025.pdf](#)

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

Tom shared that his first meeting on the Community Colleges for Iowa Board will be August 28. He met with Emily Shields, Executive Director of the Community Colleges for Iowa, before the meeting today to prepare for his first meeting at the state level.

Emily joined the meeting and shared an update on some things happening at the state:

- The Board did an RFP for a contract lobbyist and are anticipating a decision this month.
- Kat has taken a job at the Department of Education and they are looking for her replacement.
- Iowans for Skilled Workforce fundraising is happening now,
- The Quorum platform is available to join and stay updated on legislative happenings. They are looking to boost participation to people outside the colleges who are champions for community college work.
- The Bachelor degree study continues and they are looking to have a recommendation this fall,
- The Iowa DOGE Committee had been looking at workforce program recommendations.
- Upcoming Events - ACCT National Conference in October, Convention & Tradeshow in Des Moines in December, Student Leadership Summit and Day on the Hill in March.
- Renovations happening at the building now.

6.3. Other Reports

6.3.1. Cass County Center Update (Presenters: Cindy Wetterlind, Cass County Center Director)

See slideshow.

7. 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.

All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried.

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

Eddie Holtz, Vice President of Finance & Operations, presented the Trustees with this month's Personnel Report.

New Hires include: Walter Bangert, Construction Instructor; Matthew Malcom, Assistant Coach of Men's Wrestling; Nickolaus Cruikshank, Nursing Instructor; William Watson, HVAC Instructor; Justin Haynes, Automotive Instructor; Katie Griffith, Nursing Instructor; Tyler Trauger, Welding Instructor.

Employees Leaving Include: David Daniels, Admissions Advisor/Recruiter; Jeffery Bolen, Assistant Baseball Coach; Josh Sullivan, Coordinator of Academic Support.

 [Personnel Report Aug 2025.pdf](#)

7.2. Presentation of Bills for Payment

Chris Blake and Matt Johnson reviewed the financial statements. There were no questions or concerns with the bills.

7.3. Annual Year-End Financial Report (Presenters: Eddie Holtz, Vice President of Finance & Operations)

Eddie Holtz, Vice President of Finance & Operations, shared the annual year-end financial report with an in depth review of the auxiliary operations.

The Board had a discussion on the percent increase in budget over the last five years. The audit committee also met with Denman & Company prior to today's meeting.

 [Financials August 2025.pdf](#)

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

Dr. Jenny Kruger, Vice President of Academic Affairs, presented the Trustees with this month's changes to curriculum.

There were several deactivations of courses no longer required in programs. This is the formal process to remove them from the catalog. Also presented was a modification to a program outcome for Surgical Technology, this was a recommendation from the most recent accreditation visit.

 [August Curriculum.pdf](#)

8. Action Items

8.1. Approval of Last Dollar Scholarship Regional Program Changes for 2026-2027

The Trustees were presented with the recommended list of Last Dollar Scholarship Regional Programs for approval.

Some of the programs were removed from the list at the state level for the 2026-2027 school year, therefore the College would like to add them to our regional list.

There was a discussion on why some programs were removed by the state, for instance Dental Hygiene as it is in high demand need in several regions.

 [Last Dollar Scholarship Regional Recommendations for 2026-2027.pdf](#)

Motion:

A motion was made to approve the Last Dollar Scholarship Regional Program List for 2026-2027 as presented.

All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried.

8.2. Approval of High School Concurrent Enrollment Contracts

The Trustees were presented with the two outstanding high school concurrent enrollment contracts for Essex and the Iowa Connections Academy.

Motion:

A motion was made to approve the high school concurrent enrollment contracts for Essex and the Iowa Connections Academy as presented.

All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried.

8.3. Select Voting Delegate for the ACCT Leadership Congress

Tom Riley is willing to serve in this role at the ACCT Leadership Congress again this year.

8.4. Approval of Presidential Goals

Dr. Kinney shared his goals with the Trustees prior to the meeting. He took feedback from his evaluation and worked them into his goals for the upcoming year.

The Trustees had a discussion on employee evaluation tools. A question was asked about formal evaluations for staff and if they have measurable goals.

The group discussed the Unbelievable Workplace survey that we have done in the past and if we will do it again. Other tools were shared.

The National Community College Benchmarking Project will be new this year for data collection.

Chris shared that she would like to see concrete data/KPI's for the goals under Communication & Partnerships.

Motion:

A motion was made to approve Dr. Kinney's goals as presented.

All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried.

9. Future Agenda Items

Next month's meeting will be in Clarinda. Dr. Kinney will share all details for the ACCT Leadership Congress.

10. Adjournment

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

Motion:

A motion was made to adjourn.

All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 3:28pm.