



Board of Trustees Meeting | May 18, 2026

Minutes

Iowa Western Community College

5/18/2026 2:00 PMCDT

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

Attendance

Present:

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

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. Roll call was taken by the Board Secretary with all members in attendance either in person or on Zoom.

3. Approve Agenda

Board Chair Hornbeck asked if there were any additions to the 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.

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

4. Correct, Amend and Approve Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on April 20th and the minutes from the Special Meeting held on April 28.

4.1. Correct, Amend and Approve Minutes from the Regular Meeting held April 20, 2026

Board Chair Hornbeck asked if there were any corrections to the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on April 20th. Hearing none, she asked for a motion to approve the minutes as presented.

[Board of Trustees Meeting April 20, 2026 Minutes.pdf](#)

Motion:

A motion was made to approve the minutes as presented.

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

4.2. Correct, Amend and Approve Minutes from the Special Meeting held April 28, 2026

Board Chair Hornbeck asked if there were any corrections to the minutes from the Special Meeting held on April 28. Hearing none, she asked for a motion to approve the minutes as presented.

 [Special Board Meeting April 28, 2026 Minutes.pdf](#)

Motion:

A motion was made to approve the minutes as presented.

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

5. Public Comment

There were no members of the public present for comment and nothing was submitted 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:

- Dr. Dan Kinney thanked those who attended graduation; more than 1,000 students applied for graduation this term.
- Enrollment outlook is positive. Summer and fall enrollment numbers are looking strong and housing applications are currently up about 10%.
- State legislative updates included a flat \$3.5 million SGA allocation for Iowa community colleges and concerns about the proposed property tax bill, which could reduce college funding by approximately \$500,000 by FY30 and up to \$1 million within six years. The college is working with Piper Sandler to refine projections, while discussions have begun around possible budget cuts, early retirement incentives, and impacts to the equipment levy and future programs.
- A President's Retreat is scheduled in two weeks to begin planning next year's priorities.
- Major summer projects are underway across campus, including progress on the Transportation & Logistics building with precast walls expected to arrive June 15; the sewer project has started to connect the baseball/softball concession stands to the city sewer system; bids are in for the roof replacement for Suites I; apartment renovations will focus on building five this summer; FIT lab conversions will be happening at the Page/Fremont County, Shelby County and Clarinda centers; the college is evaluating a new air handler unit for Clark Hall; and planning what work can be done in Dodge Hall before the Transportation & Logistics building is complete.

- Dr. Kinney is planning another campus tour this July and asked the Board members what they would like to see.
- The college did not advance in the Aspen Top 200 process but received useful institutional data. Dr. Kinney shared that he believes North Iowa Area Community College advanced to the next round.
- Agriculture Tech Program in Atlantic - Dr. Kinney shared that a leadership group meeting is scheduled for June 9 to gather additional information. The high school program is already prepared to launch this fall.
- Presidential evaluation - Dr. Dan Kinney is gathering data for the Trustees to use in this year's evaluation process.
- Kibbie Award - Dr. Kinney shared that Randy Pash has been selected to receive this year's Kibbie Award. The award will be presented at the Trustees Summer Conference on July 8 - 9 at Iowa Valley Community College.

 [Summer Enrollment Report Current as of May 7.pdf](#)

 [Fall Enrollment Report Current as of May 7.pdf](#)

 [Property Tax 2% Revenue Cap Impact - IWCC.pdf](#)

 [Iowa Western CC Aspen 200.pdf](#)

6.1.1. School Board Recognition Month

May is school Board Recognition Month. Dr. Kinney presented each Trustee with a certificate from IASB and thanked them for their service to Iowa Western.

6.1.2. Unbelievable Workplace Survey Results

Dr. Kinney shared the results from this year's Unbelievable Workplace Survey with the Board.

 [2026 UnBelievable Workplaces Survey Question Analysis - Full\[31\].pdf](#)

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

Tom Riley, Community Colleges for Iowa Representative, shared that their Board has not met and that there was nothing new to report.

6.3. Institutional Information

6.3.1. Program Vitality Review (Presenters: Camie McBee, Dean of Effectiveness, Social Sciences, Communication & Business)

Camie McBee, Dean of Effectiveness, Social Science, Communication & Business, joined the meeting to present the Trustees with an update on the newly implemented Program Vitality Review.

She provided an overview of each step in the process and how the data was gathered. This review was done for all academic programs, both CTE and A&S. Each academic program was evaluated in the following areas: Job demand, growth, size, efficiency and financial.

The college is looking into CredLens, a national hub for verified non-degree credential data, that is provided through our Higher Learning Commission membership. This could help enhance the Program Vitality Review.

A question was asked on the process and if programs given the opportunity to make changes. The answer is yes, they are given the opportunity to make changes before they are at risk.

 [Program Vitality for Board.pptx](#)

6.3.2. Additional Discussion on Council Bluffs Community School District STEM High School

The Board of Trustees continued their discussion on the Council Bluffs Community School District STEM School and the proposal to have it on the campus of Iowa Western.

Highlights from the discussion include:

Land Agreement Structure

- The Board discussed whether the college would sell or lease land for the STEM school.
- Legal guidance indicated that the college cannot sell the land and would instead need to pursue a long-term lease arrangement.
- Trustees emphasized the need to determine:
 - Appropriate lease pricing
 - Protection of the college's investment in land preparation
 - Legal provisions if the project fails or the school closes

Alignment with Iowa Western's Mission

- Trustees discussed whether the STEM school aligns with Iowa Western's institutional mission.
- General consensus was that the project could fit the college's mission, particularly because of:
 - Educational opportunities
 - Workforce development
 - Potential partnerships and future collaboration opportunities

Campus Location and Land Use Concerns

- A rendering of the north campus was shared showing potential building locations.
- Significant concerns were raised about:
 - Losing highly visible land along the highway
 - Reducing the college's future growth opportunities
 - Maintaining Iowa Western's visibility and branding from the interstate/highway corridor
- Lots 3 and 4 were originally proposed by the school district and their architect, HDR.
- Trustees noted:
 - Combining Lots 3 and 4 into one building/parking area would reduce highway visibility
 - Using those lots could eliminate approximately 40% of future growth space on the north campus
- The Board discussed alternative sites and appeared to lean toward making Lots 5 and 6 the preferred options instead.
- Additional questions included:
 - What is the minimum amount of land the STEM school actually needs?
 - How many parking spaces are required?

- The city would ultimately determine parking requirements

Infrastructure and Operational Responsibilities

The Board identified several operational issues that would need clarification, including:

- Snow removal
- Lawn maintenance
- Utilities
- Shared infrastructure responsibilities

Legal and Contractual Protections

Trustees emphasized the need for strong legal safeguards, including:

- What happens to the facility if the STEM school closes?
- Whether Iowa Western would have:
 - Buyback provisions
 - Reversion rights
 - Inspection rights to ensure proper maintenance
- Restrictions ensuring the building remains a STEM school facility only
 - The district would not be allowed to repurpose it into another type of school
- Attorneys would need to draft and review all agreements

Traffic and Safety Concerns

The Board discussed operational and safety issues related to the proposed location:

- The area would see heavy equipment traffic because of the nearby Transportation & Logistics building
- Concerns were raised about:
 - High school students driving in the area
 - Traffic flow and access points
- Possible alternate access routes were discussed, including connecting through the backside of campus near the football field and maintenance shed.
- The city reportedly would not allow direct access from Highway 6.

Liability and Risk Management

- Discussion included possible liability concerns related to having high school students located on the college campus.
- Trustees referenced conversations with HUB regarding insurance and liability exposure.
- The Board also stressed the importance of:
 - Developing an exit strategy
 - Preserving the college's ability to step away from the project if circumstances change

Leadership Transition Concerns

- Trustees acknowledged that the school district is entering a period of leadership transition:
 - An interim superintendent will serve before a permanent superintendent is hired.
- Some concern was expressed about whether future district leadership could alter support for the project.
- Despite the transition, the Council Bluffs Community School District's Board was said to remain supportive of moving forward.

Next Steps Identified

The Board generally agreed the project was worth continuing to explore. Planned next steps included:

- Informing the school district that Lots 5 and 6 are the preferred sites
- Facilitating discussions between HDR and HGM
- Involving attorneys to begin drafting agreements
- Clarifying legal issues involving property transfer and project failure scenarios
- Potentially scheduling a special Board meeting for further discussion

Trustees appeared cautiously supportive of the STEM school concept.

However, they emphasized:

- Protecting Iowa Western's long-term interests
- Preserving campus growth opportunities
- Ensuring legal and financial safeguards are in place
- Moving carefully but efficiently through the process

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.

Motion moved by Matt Johnson and motion seconded by Randy Pash. All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried.

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

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

New hires include: Derrick Johnson, Alumni & Community Relations Coordinator; Ronald Jordan, Maintenance; Lonnie Ritchison, Maintenance.

Employees leaving include: Jeffrey Hanke, Maintenance; Emma Murray, Admissions Advisor/Recruiter

Eddie shared the first version of the Employee Profile. This is information that the Trustees have requested. Included in the report is the following information about employees: location, status, race, highest degree, ethnicity, gender, veteran status, disability, years of service, year-to-date turnover, year-to-date job postings, applicants and applicants per job, and current training data.

Chris Blake shared her feedback and some suggested items she would like to see added to the report. Those items include: retirement eligibility, benefit utilization, retention rate after 1 year or 6 month by department, time to fill vacant positions, vacancy rate and what areas are we struggling to fill positions in.



[May Personnel Report 2026.pdf](#)



[HR Spring 2026 Employee Demographics \(3\).pdf](#)

7.2. Presentation of Bills for Payment

Dr. Marshall asked about a charge for an interpretation fee. He asked what the hourly fee was. Kim Vrba shared that the college has one interpreter on staff or we use a service or independent contractors when needed. The fee is typically \$75/hour. It can be very hard to

find interpreters, and depending on the length of the course it may require two interpreters. It was asked how much we have spent this semester. Kim shared that she can get that information.

Other charges discussed include the purchase of an Infinity massage chair for in the wellness center through a grant and a charge to the American Heart Association for CPR training.

 [Approval of the Board.pdf](#)

 [5.18.26 Board Report.pdf](#)

 [FNB April 2026 Board Report.pdf](#)

 [5.18.26 Virtual Cards.pdf](#)

 [Voided Check Report.pdf](#)

7.3. Financial Report (Presenters: Eddie Holtz, Vice President of Finance)

Eddie Holtz, Vice President of Finance & Operations, presented the Trustees with the financial summary ending April 30, 2023. He shared that the enrollment growth has helped this year and the college will finish in a favorable situation.

 [May 2026 Financials.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 one curriculum change. AGV-104 veterinary Technology Anatomy & Physiology was reinstated to match program requirements.

 [May 2026 Currirulum for BOT Meeting 5.7.26.pdf](#)

8. Action Items

8.1. Approval of Board Policy Chapter 2 Updates

Dr. Kinney shared that Cabinet reviewed Chapter 2 of the Board Policy Manual for any recommended changes. The biggest change was the addition of "of the College" or "of the Board" when referring to the President, to eliminate any confusion on which President the policy is referring to.

Board Chair Hornbeck asked if there were any questions or comments from the Board.

Hearing none, she asked for a motion to approve the updates to Chapter 2 of the Board Policy Manual as presented.

 [Board Policy - 2026 Review - Chapter 2.pdf](#)

 [Iowa Western Community College Board Policy Review Process.pdf](#)

Motion:

A motion was made to approve the updates to Chapter 2 of the Board Policy Manual as presented.

Motion moved by Randy Pash and motion seconded by Matt Johnson. All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried.

8.2. Approval of High School Concurrent Enrollment Contracts

The Board was presented with the concurrent enrollment contracts for the following school districts: Council Bluffs Community School District, Clarinda School District, Exira-EHK, Glenwood, Harlan, ISD, Lewis Central, Missouri Valley, Riverside, Treynor, Underwood and West Harrison.

The following language was added, "Should legislation allow for the School District to bill students for dropped or failed courses, such billing will be between the School District and the student, not IWCC."

Board Chair Hornbeck asked for a motion to approve the concurrent enrollment contracts as presented.

Motion:

A motion was made to approve the High School Concurrent Enrollment Contracts as presented.

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

8.3. Approval of 28E Agreement to Share Athletic Facilities with Lewis Central Community School District

Dr. Kinney presented the Trustees with an updated 28E Agreement to share athletic facilities with Lewis Central Community School District. Updates to the agreement include Iowa Western's use of their swimming pool with the addition of swimming and Lewis Central's use of our softball and baseball fields.

If renovations are needed the college and school district will share the expense.

Board Chair Hornbeck asked for a motion to approve the 28E Agreement as presented.

 [LewisCentralIWCCFacilities28EAgreement \(1\).pdf](#)

Motion:

A motion was made to approve the 28E Agreement as presented.

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

8.4. Approval of Tuition Rates

Dr. Kinney shared that he received a question about our out-of-state tuition and why is it so close to our in-state tuition. Dr. Kinney shared a few reasons with the Trustees: boarder state schools tend to have some them so close to attract students from other states (i.e. Omaha, NE) and we often have reciprocity agreements with counties in Nebraska; students can establish residency in 90 days.

He shared that this if the Board is interested in changing our out-of-state tuition model it is something the college can look into it for next year, but it is too late to change for this upcoming year.

There was discussion on why Iowa Western is where we are with tuition in comparison to the other community colleges in Iowa. Eddie shared where Iowa Western ranks in tuition, state general aid and property tax revenue.

Dr. Kinney shared that the Administration would recommend a \$7 per credit hour increase in tuition.
Board Chair Hornbeck asked for a motion to approve the tuition increase of \$7 per credit hour.

 [Tuition, SGA, Property Tax Review FY27.pdf](#)

 [FY27 FORECASTING Internal 4-30-26.pdf](#)

Motion:

A motion was made to approve a \$7 per credit hour increase in tuition as presented.

Motion moved by Matt Johnson and motion seconded by Randy Pash. All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried.

8.5. Approval of Salary Increase for Faculty

Dr. Kinney shared that the Administration would recommend a 3% salary increase for faculty.
Board Chair Hornbeck asked for a motion to approve the salary increase as presented.

Motion:

A motion was made to approve a 3% salary increase for faculty.

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

8.6. Approval of Salary Increase for Staff

Dr. Kinney shared that the Administration would recommend a 3% salary increase for staff.
Board Chair Hornbeck asked for a motion to approve the salary increase as presented.

Motion:

A motion was made to approve a 3% salary increase for staff.

Motion moved by Randy Pash and motion seconded by Chris Blake. All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried.

8.7. Approval of Bid for Suites I Roof Replacement

Eddie shared that the college had originally estimated \$500,000 for the Suites I roof replacement. The winning bid from Ridged Edge Exteriors came in at \$258,397.
Board Chair Hornbeck asked for a motion to approve the bid as presented.
Marshall/Pash

Motion:

A motion was made to approve the bid as presented.

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

9. Future Agenda Items

There is the potential for a special meeting for further discussion on the STEM school.
Dr. Kinney will share materials for his evaluation and Erin will share the form for Trustees to complete.
The June meeting will be in Harlan, with the self-evaluation sub-committee meeting prior to the meeting at 12:30pm.

10. Adjournment

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

Motion:

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Motion moved by John Marshall MD and motion seconded by Randy Pash. All aye votes were recorded. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 4:14pm.