

**CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
Board of Governors' Meeting Minutes  
April 18, 2024**

Public notice of the time and place of the Central Community College Board of Governors' meeting was given in advance to the board members, college administrators and the five daily newspapers within the 25-county area. The agenda was available to the public in the college president's office and on the CCC website, [www.cccneb.edu](http://www.cccneb.edu). The college adheres to the Open Meetings Act, a copy of which is available in the college president's office.

The meeting was held in the Administration Office Board Room at Central Community College, 3134 W. Highway 34, Grand Island, Nebraska.

All supplemental documents from this meeting are available at:  
<https://meeting.sparqdata.com/Public/Organization/CCC>.

Chair Tom Pirnie called the April 18, 2024, meeting to order at 1 p.m., with 11 board members present.

**ROLL CALL**

Aerni – present	Keller – present
Borden – present	Novotny – present
Buss – present	Pirnie – present
Cowan – present	Quick – present
Davis – present	Skiles – present
Heiden – present	

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Pirnie asked college representatives to introduce guests and staff members.

**REVIEWING CLAIMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

Roger Davis will review the claims prior to the May 16, 2024, board meeting in Kearney.

**REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION OF CONSENT ITEMS**

Pirnie asked board members for items in the consent agenda they would like to move to discussion of consent/action items.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

Consent items included:

1. Agenda for April 18, 2024.
2. Minutes of the March 21, 2024, Board of Governors meeting.
3. Claims for the period from March 1 through March 31, 2024.
4. Financial report as of March 31, 2024.

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5. Purchases:

**Landscaping and irrigation, Kearney:** The College President recommends accepting the bid of \$34,000.00 from Tilley Sprinklers & Landscaping to complete the turfgrass and irrigations for the college at the Kearney Center.

**Table replacement, Ord:** This project consists of replacing tables at the Ord Center to improve seating options and allow the staff to move furniture for various events without additional assistance. The current tables do not fold up or have wheels. The College President recommends accepting pricing in the amount of \$32,597.40 from Duet Resources.

**Welding Lab floor replacement, Columbus:** The College President recommends acceptance of the low acceptable bid from BD construction for \$104,000.00 to provide all labor and material to refinish the welding floor on the Columbus Campus.

**Fiber system expansion, Hastings:** The College President recommends acceptance of the low acceptable bid from Commonwealth electric for \$2,293,000.00 to provide all labor and material to expand the fiber on the Hastings Campus.

6. Personnel: None

7. 2024-25 CCC calendar: The calendar was amended to add the Juneteenth holiday.

MOVED BY COWAN, SECONDED BY SKILES to approve the claims, with the exception of payments to themselves, and also to approve the other consent items.

Aerni – aye	Keller – aye
Borden – aye	Novotny – aye
Buss – aye	Pirnie – aye
Cowan – aye	Quick – aye
Davis – aye	Skiles – aye
Heiden – aye	

UNANIMOUS “AYE” VOTE – MOTION CARRIED

**PARNERSHIP/OWNERSHIP**

**Career and Technical Sciences Report**

Dr. Nate Allen, dean of career and technical sciences, gave an overview of the division, which includes 20 programs. He introduced people to share information about two of those programs: media arts and diesel technology.

Media arts instructors Beth Kavan and Dani Schwinn highlighted the following about their program:

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- They teach graphic design, social media, broadcasting, photography, video production and media writing.
- Their students gained real-world experience doing product photography for the Bee Kind body care company, designing an informational brochure for the League of Women Voters, doing event photography for the Father Daughter Ball at Lochland Country Club and designing the annual campus report for the Hastings Campus.
- This year's annual art show was the largest many years with 30 individual pieces by 15 graphic design and photography majors.
- Media arts student Lauren Matthies of Hastings talked about helping with the arts show, which in turn helped her prepare for her own exhibition. She attended Doane University for two years before coming to CCC, which she said has much more hands-on learning.

Diesel technology instructors Justin Curtis and Raece Paulson highlighted the following about their program:

- All five instructors, which also include Randy Manning, Jeff Bexten and Josh Leth, are CCC alumni who have worked in industry.
- Diesel technology is in high demand. In the past year, 388 open diesel jobs were posted on CCC's online job board. Right now, there are 58 job postings.
- This year's Diesel Days drew 144 high school students and 35 companies from Nebraska and all the surrounding states.
- Companies are investing in CCC's diesel students through formal sponsorships, reimbursement sponsorships and sign-on bonuses. They also provide the college with software access and equipment such as engines and transmissions.
- Diesel technology student Logan of Grand Island is sponsored by Titan, where he started working after high school. He said that's when he started realizing what he was getting into but thinks he'll do great in the profession. To pay back Titan's sponsorship, he signed on to work for three years at the company following his graduation from CCC.

## **DISCUSSION OF CONSENT/ACTION ITEMS**

No items were presented.

## **REPORTS**

### **Student Success Report**

Fran Davis, institutional research coordinator, presented the following information about the 2023 employer survey:

- The survey is sent via SurveyMonkey to employers who have hired CCC graduates or who signed up for CCC's job board in the last two years. Of the 1,063 invitations sent, 454 responded for a 23.1% response rate.

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- Survey respondents rated 19 professional skills as well as program-specific technical skills.
- Those who have hired a CCC graduate in the last two years rated their skill level as 17% advanced, 49% proficient, 26% progressing and 8% beginning. Those who haven't hired a CCC graduate in the last two years rated the listed skills as 53% very important, 38% important, 8% somewhat important and 1% not important. By comparing these two sets of responses, CCC can determine if it's on target in teaching the general skill sets most needed by employers.
- The survey showed that 95% of employers were very satisfied/satisfied with the overall preparation of CCC graduates and with their own experience on a CCC Program Advisory Committee. Employers who weren't on an advisory board were asked if they wanted to join one, with 81% responding "yes." The survey also showed that 98% of employers would consider hiring CCC graduates in the future.
- Survey results are used in Assessment of Student Learning (ASL) plans, annual program reviews, Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education seven-year program reviews, Graduate Outcome Report and the National Community College Benchmarking Project.

**Dr. Gotschall's Report**

Dr. Gotschall reported the following updates from area vice presidents:

- Counseling Services had nine new intakes in March and 96 kept appointments. Counselors saw a decrease of four crisis sessions in March compared to 14 sessions completed in February 2024.
- There continues to be significant delays and errors in student aid processing at the federal level. CCC is updating and adjusting award notices and keeping in regular contact with students and parents. Records have been received from over 1,200 students, but errors and omissions are being identified and corrected at both local and federal levels.
- Since January 2024, Disability Services has had 104 student appointments, of which 56 are new students to our services.
- In March, Career and Employment Services added 22 new employers and 139 job listings. Additionally, 36 students registered on the platform, with 10 students uploading their resumes. The online job board boasts 2,311 employers, 812 students, and 1616 alumni registered.
- ACTIONS Day on March 20 brought over 600 high school students to the Hastings Campus.
- March outreach efforts for veteran students yielded positive results. One hundred twenty-six students who haven't registered or graduated since the 2003 spring term were identified and contacted. We got close to 5% of these students registered for either summer or fall.
- May 1 will be the ribbon-cutting day for the Pirnie Inclusive Playground at Ryder Park in Grand Island.

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- The Occupational Therapy Assistant program has 14 students attending our state association conference in Kearney on April 6, the most attendees from any OT or OTA program. Instructor Libby Paro will present at the conference.
- Automotive instructor Nick Kelley was awarded the Dale Parnell Faculty Excellence Award at the American Association of Community Colleges conference in Louisville, Ky.
- CCC's paramedicine program received reaccreditation letter, good until 2029.
- On March 9, 2024, paramedicine adjunct faculty member Denell Rhinehart was awarded the Nebraska Emergency Medical Services Association (NEMSA) Chuck Woll Memorial Instructor of the Year. She is now being nominated for the National Association of EMT's (NAEMT) EMS Educator of the Year.
- Vanessa Crookshank, adjunct dental hygiene instructor, spoke on artificial intelligence at the International Dental Hygiene Educator's Forum, "Building Digital Literacy: The Foundation for Utilizing Artificial Intelligence in Education." She also spoke on artificial intelligence at the American Dental Education Association Conference in New Orleans.
- The Central Community College Dental Hygiene program completed its first restorative workshop with six registered dental hygienists from the community. They will sit for their clinical boards on March 22 here at Central Community College, the first educational institution in Nebraska to hold this workshop.
- A grant has been submitted in cooperation with Columbus Community Hospital to update its health simulator and an agreement will be updated on expectations for use by students and employees.
- CCC is working closely with St. Francis Medical Center in Grand Island regarding nursing clinicals and additional students there since Creighton University has discontinued its academic program at the center.
- The 2024-25 fall first-year nursing cohort will have 40 students in Grand Island, 30 students in Kearney and 23 students in Columbus.
- Business faculty completed an employer survey to help guide our program revision. The results from 50 participants will be discussed by our Laddering and Awards subcommittee. We will have recommended changes to awards by May 16.
- Biology faculty have collaborated to create an exam for "Credit by Exam" for BIOS 1010. Some students have requested this to fulfill their prerequisite for A&P I. They have created administration and scoring rules as well.
- Math faculty are hosting a webinar in April to promote the Math Success Lab utilizing same software shared with the board last month.
- Beginning this summer, instructors Brandon Bender and Michelle Konen will collaborate on writing a new personal development AI (Artificial Intelligence) course.
- Adult Education staff partnered with Burlington English to hold a teacher in-service on March 7, and it was a big hit. We reviewed the "why" behind the changes that were made to CASAS testing this year, prepped for additional changes next year, and explored how we can better help our students identify and obtain their goals.
- Athletic Director Mary Young will be attending the NJCAA Convention in Charlotte, N.C., in April as the NCJAA Senior Women's Administrator to the Board of Regents

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with responsibilities to female sports committees. She won a 2023-24 George E. Kilian Award of Excellence!

- All offices in the Grand Island entrepreneurship center have been leased out effective April 1. First Partnering for Area Entrepreneurship is an action plan to grow area entrepreneurship. The first meeting has 15 attendees (SBA, SourceLink NE, Grow GI, VR, RPN EXT, GI Chamber, GIEDC, NE Ext., NE Enterprise Fund, Hall Co. EXT, Valid). Smaller groups will meet quarterly, and work on the local Entrepreneurship Action Plan and other identified areas of growth. The Grand Island Chamber will include us in their media press release in April. The center is included in a downtown development tour for April. Upcoming NE Tech collaborative to visit Grand Island., panel discussion, podcast at the center.
- Over 80 adults from the Columbus area signed up for a CCC-sponsored tour to Grand Island area businesses on April 10 and 11. Great excitement of these local shared events.
- The Media Arts (MART) exhibit, "Small Towns, Big Ideas," was held on March 3 and drew a record-breaking crowd to see the over 30 pieces by 15 talented students.
- Selection of the third cohort of Scott Scholars started on March 4. Interviews for the third cohort selection occurred on March 11 and 12. Twenty-six Scott scholars were selected for the next cohort.
- The Hastings Information Technology & Systems (INFO) Advisory Committee met on March 5 via WebEx.
- Automotive Days on March 27 on the Hastings Campus provided the opportunity for 88 high school students, 12 vendors from industry and current CCC AUTO students to explore program and career opportunities that lie ahead.
- Agriculture, diesel technology and heavy equipment operator faculty, Alison Feeney and Brian Hoffman hosted a CCC booth at the Nebraska State FFA Convention on April 3 and 4.
- The Nebraska SkillsUSA State Leadership Conference and Competitions was held April 11-13. CCC's Grand Island and Hastings campuses hosted select competitions in addition to the competitions held in Grand Island at Fonner Park. CCC had close to 85 students registered to participate and complete.
- The criminal justice program is celebrating a \$750,000.00 donation from the Hornady in honor of the company's 75th anniversary. A dedication ceremony for naming of the Hornady Crime House is being held on Thursday, April 18, featuring the unveiling of new signage. Michael David, program director, and the CCC Foundation staff have been collaborating to organize the event.
- The Columbus welding program has completed three more stoves for the Salma Stove project, bringing the total number to five. These stoves have been picked up and are expected to ship out sometime in April.
- Agriculture instructors Wade Hilker and Chase Janssen led students on tours of agriculture industries and to the Oklahoma Youth Expo March 19-22. Students toured SEK Genetics and Cloning Facility in Galesburg, Kan.; Express Ranches in Yukon, Okla.; and Sunglo Feeds and Manufacturing in El Reno, Okla.

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- Eron Baker, hospitality management and culinary arts director, met with eight area schools last month, serving various arrangements from gourmet lunches and Friday Fish n Chips to Baja Blast Rolled Ice Cream.
- The electrical technology certificate program in Kearney continues to grow under the leadership of adjunct instructor Jeff Mashek. The program recently purchased tool kits to aid in the hands-on learning of students. It also has been building strong connections with industry.

Diana Watson, CCC international studies coordinator, gave a short report on an upcoming trip coordinated by the statewide consortium of community colleges that promotes international education. From CCC, faculty member Dr. Susan McDowall and 12 students will be traveling to Italy, which will include visiting Milan and Florence, learning how to make parmesan cheese in Parma and taking a historical walking tour in Bologna, among many other things. Future trips are being planned to Ireland for criminal justice students, and to Costa Rica trip for TRiO students.

The following reports were also submitted for board review:

- Enrollment Report
- Grants Report
- Purchasing Report

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Pirnie requested an executive session to discuss personnel and legal issues at 2:18 p.m.

MOVED BY KELLER, SECONDED BY DAVIS that the Board of Governors recess the regular meeting in order to go into executive session to discuss personnel and legal issues.

Aerni – aye	Keller – aye
Borden – aye	Novotny – aye
Buss – aye	Pirnie – aye
Cowan – aye	Quick – aye
Davis – aye	Skiles – aye
Heiden – aye	

UNANIMOUS “AYE” VOTE – MOTION CARRIED

Pirnie proposed a recess at 2:30 p.m. for completion of a report.

MOVED BY SKILES, SECONDED BY AERNI that the Board of Governors recess the executive meeting for report completion.

Aerni – aye	Keller – aye
Borden – aye	Novotny – aye
Buss – aye	Pirnie – aye

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Cowan – aye	Quick – aye
Davis – aye	Skiles – aye
Heiden – aye	

UNANIMOUS “AYE” VOTE – MOTION CARRIED

Pirnie asked to reconvene the executive session at 3:10 p.m.

MOVED BY NOVOTNY, SECONDED BY COWAN that the executive meeting reconvene.

Aerni – aye	Keller – aye
Borden – aye	Novotny – aye
Buss – aye	Pirnie – aye
Cowan – aye	Quick – aye
Davis – aye	Skiles – aye
Heiden – aye	

UNANIMOUS “AYE” VOTE – MOTION CARRIED

Pirnie reconvened the regular session of the Board of Governors meeting at 3:24 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED BY DAVIS, SECONDED BY QUICK to adjourn.

Aerni – aye	Keller – aye
Borden – aye	Novotny – aye
Buss – aye	Pirnie – aye
Cowan – aye	Quick – aye
Davis – aye	Skiles – aye
Heiden – aye	

UNANIMOUS “AYE” VOTE – MOTION CARRIED

Pirnie declared the meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.