

## Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

April 8, 2026 | Western Dakota Technical College | Pennington County Room

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Western Dakota Technical College prepares students to be highly-skilled professionals through accessible, career-focused programs to improve their lives, while adapting to community workforce needs and positively impacting our economy.

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The Western Dakota Tech Board of Trustees met on Wednesday, April 8, 2026, at 11:30 a.m., at the Western Dakota Tech campus in the Pennington County Room. The meeting was also available virtually via Teams. The board trustees in attendance included: Kirk Easton, Lynn Kendall, Curt Pochardt, Andrea Powers, Linda Rabe, Jeff Rieckman, Mike Roesler, Andy Scull (virtual), and Dr. Steve Willard. WDTC leadership staff attending included: Dr. Kendra Ericson, Tiffany Howe, Kathi Maxson, Kelly Oehlerking, and Debbie Toms (virtual). Others present included: Jill Elder, Missy Ginsbach, Andrew Kapelewski, Matt Kingrey, Jonathan McCoy (Ex Officio), Thomas Capers (Ex Officio), Christine Stephenson (RCAS Representative), and Noelle Simmons.

### Board Development 11:30 a.m.

Catapult Stakeholders Group Initiative – Fawn Wilde, Director of Western Statewide CTE Consortium

Fawn Wilde presented on the status of the Catapult Stakeholders Group Initiative.

### Board Meeting 12:00 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman WILLARD called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM with a call to order and roll call.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Item #9 *Chiller Updates* moved to agenda item #5. RIECKMAN moved to approve the agenda, seconded by EASTON. Motion Carried 9-0 via roll call vote.

3. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Chairman WILLARD asked if any trustee had potential conflicts. None were disclosed.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments were made.

5. **CHILLER UPDATES**

Matt Kingrey, Director of Facilities, shared an update on the chiller study and options to move forward with needed repairs. Differences between the options were shared and Bob Grimsrud from Johnson Controls joined to help answer questions.

6. **APPROVAL ITEM: CONSENT AGENDA**

*Board Members are reminded to ask for additional information as part of their preparation for the board meeting and before the meeting starts.*

a. [Minutes from March 11, 2026 Meeting](#)

b. [Bills to Pay](#)

c. Policies

I. New: 6005 – [Digital Content Accessibility](#)

II. New: 6005.Procedure.01 – [Digital Content Accessibility](#)

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Motion to approve the Consent Agenda by SCULL, seconded by POWERS. Motion Carried 9-0 via roll call vote.

7. **EX OFFICIO MEMBER UPDATES**

- a. Foundation – Foundation Board Chair, Jonathan McCoy, shared the [monthly update](#) from the Foundation and Dr. Ericson highlighted Build Dakota Scholarships and Muth Electric.
- b. Faculty Representative – Thomas Capers reported that students and faculty are headed to Mitchell for the Skills USA competition.
- c. RCAS Representative – Christine Stephenson reported that RCAS is moving forward with a bond to be on the ballot in November and shared what the bond includes.
- d. Student Representative – Absent.

8. **FINANCE REPORT**

- a. [Personnel Disclosure per SDCL 6-1-10](#)

Kathi presented the monthly financial report. The monthly personnel disclosure was shared.

9. **APPROVAL ITEM: WDTC FINANCIAL AUDIT**

Kathi Maxson shared that the audit was completed and had two findings.

Motion to approve by RIECKMAN, seconded by ROESLER. Motion Carried 9-0 via roll call vote.

10. **PRESIDENT REPORT**

President Ericson provided updates on initiatives in progress due to SWOT feedback, updated WDTC organizational chart, compensation analysis, and fee information.

The 2026-27 Board meeting schedule was revisited, with the plan to continue with the existing schedule of monthly meetings the second Wednesday of the month. There is not a meeting scheduled for November 2026 as the second Wednesday is a holiday.

SCULL left the meeting at 1:35 p.m.

- a. Informational - [Proposed Fiscal Year 27 Budget](#)

The proposed FY27 budget was presented with an opportunity for board members to share feedback and ask questions.

- b. APPROVAL ITEM: Gunsmithing – APA Purchase Agreement

Motion by POWERS, seconded by KENDALL, to approve Dr. Ericson and Dr. Willard signing the APA agreement once legal counsel review has been completed. Motion Carried 8-0.

11. **APPROVAL ITEM: CHILLER PROPOSAL**

Motion by EASTON, seconded by ROESLER, to approve further research for option #3 with the option for centralization. Motion Carried 8-0.

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12. **APPROVAL ITEM: BID RECOMMENDATION – CAMPUS MASTER PLAN RFP BID SUMMARY**  
Motion by KENDALL, seconded by RABE, to approve up to \$75,000 to contract with either vendor as determined by staff. Motion Carried 8-0.
  
13. **AGENDA ITEM SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING**
  - a. Satellite Campuses/Community Updates
  - b. FY27 Budget
  - c. Board Member Nomination from the Vetting Committee
  
14. **NEXT MEETING DATE**  
May 13, 2026 | 11:30 AM | Pennington County Room
  
15. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**  
The Board did not enter Executive Session.  
  
A recess was taken from 2:15 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
  
KENDALL left the meeting at 2:20 p.m.
  
16. **MEET & GREET AND DISCUSSION WITH WDT FOUNDATION BOARD**  
Foundation Board members Jordan Cook, Jonathan McCoy, Daryl Mecham, Keith Robbenolt, and Dave Viall met with the WDTC Board of Trustees. Information was shared on the Foundation's vision, and discussion occurred on fundraising efforts, alumni engagement, staffing levels, and available resources. Opportunities for cross-collaboration, cooperation, and shared goals were also discussed.
  
17. **ADJOURNMENT**  
EASTON moved, seconded by RIECKMAN to adjourn at 4:03 p.m. Motion Carried 7-0.

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Board Chair