

## Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

July 9, 2025 | 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, July 9 2025, at 11:30 am, in person 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, and Dr. Steve Willard. Absent with Notice: Andy Scull. WDTC leadership staff attending included: Dr. Kendra Ericson, Tiffany Howe, Kelly Oehlerking, Kathi Maxson, and Debbie Toms. Others present included: Thomas Capers (Ex Officio), Missy Ginsbach, Matt Greene, Andrew Kapelewski, Diana Newman, Jonathan McCoy (Ex Officio), Julie Penney, Noelle Simmons, and Pam Stillman-Rokusek.

### Board Development 11:30 AM

Nick Wendell, Executive Director of the Board of Technical Education, provided an update on the shared governance workgroup and the next steps.

### Board Meeting 12:00 PM

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**  
ROESLER moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by RABE. MOTION CARRIED (6-0).
3. **OATH OF OFFICE**  
Judge Heidi Linngren administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed board members Easton and Rieckman, and reappointed board member Roesler.
4. **WELCOME NEW WDTC PRESIDENT, DR. KENDRA ERICSON**  
Chairman WILLARD introduced Dr. Kendra Ericson as the WDTC President as of July 1, 2025.
5. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**  
Chairman WILLARD asked if any trustee had potential conflicts. None were disclosed.
6. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**  
No public comments were made.
7. **ELECTION OF BOARD CHAIR**  
POCHARDT nominated WILLARD for Board Chair. EASTON moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for WILLARD. Seconded by RIECKMAN. MOTION CARRIED (8-0).
8. **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR**  
POCHARDT nominated ROESLER for Vice Chair. Motion by EASTON to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for ROESLER. Seconded by RIECKMAN. MOTION CARRIED (8-0).

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### INFORMATION ITEMS

9. **PRESIDENT REPORT**

President Ericson provided an overview of her 100-day plan and welcomed suggestions of invitees for the July 30 reception with the SD Board of Technical Education.

10. **ENROLLMENT UPDATE**

Debbie Toms, Vice President for Data Strategy and Enrollment Management, provided updates on enrollment to include this past year and the outlook for Fall 2025.

11. **EX OFFICIO MEMBER UPDATES**

- a. Foundation Board Chair
  - i. Changes in committee work for the foundation board.
  - ii. Reminder – Gala on October 23.
  - iii. On campus housing next steps.
- b. Faculty Rep, Thomas
  - i. Thank you to Dr. Willard for serving as Acting President and welcome to Dr. Ericson.
  - ii. Successful mid-term compliance review with ASE.
  - iii. Making progress with a new potential industry partner.

The Board identified the need for a meeting in August to discuss on-campus student housing. EASTON moved to schedule a special meeting on August 21, 2025 at 11:30 AM. Seconded by POWERS. MOTION CARRIED (8-0).

12. **FINANCE REPORT**

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

Kathi Maxson presented the monthly financial report and shared the personnel disclosure.

13. **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 June 11, 2025 Meeting](#)
- b. [Bills to Pay](#)

Motion by ROESLER to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by RIECKMAN. MOTION CARRIED (8-0).

14. **AGENDA ITEM SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING**

On-campus student housing will be covered at the Special Meeting on August 21.

Chairman WILLARD provided an update on the board member appointment process and recent discussions.

15. **NEXT MEETING DATE**

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Next Regular Meeting Date: September 10, 2025 | 11:30 AM | Pennington County Room

Special Meeting Added: August 21, 2025 | 11:30 AM | Pennington County Room

a. Upcoming Meeting/Event Reminders:

- i. The August 2025 regular meeting is cancelled.
- ii. Evening Social with Board of Tech Ed - July 30, 2025, 6 PM, Minerva's Lincoln Room
- iii. Joint Meeting with Board of Tech Ed - July 31, 2025, 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM, WDTC Event Center
- iv. Joint Committee on Appropriations Visit to WDTC - September 17, 2025, 10 AM - 12 PM

16. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

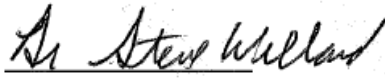
ROESLER moved, seconded by POCHARDT to go into Executive Session at 2:06 PM, per SDCL 1-25 2(3) Consulting with legal counsel or reviewing communications from legal counsel about proposed or pending litigation or contractual matters. MOTION CARRIED (8-0).

EASTON left the meeting at 2:31 PM. KENDALL left the meeting at 2:39 PM.

The Executive Session concluded at 3:08 PM.

17. **ADJOURNMENT**

POWERS moved and ROESLER seconded to adjourn at 3:08 PM. MOTION CARRIED (6-0).

  
Board Chair