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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, January 8, 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: Tom Brunner, Brad Heltzel, Lynn Kendall, Curt Pochardt, Andrea Powers, Mike Roesler, and Andy Scull.

Absent with notice: Linda Rabe and Dr. Steve Willard.

WDTA leadership staff attending included: Christine Goldsmith, Tiffany Howe, Kelly Oehlerking, and Debbie Toms (via Teams).

Others present included: Missy Ginsbach, Matt Greene, Andrew Kapelewski, Noelle Simmons, and Pam Stillman-Rokusek.

#### Board Development 11:30 am

Annual Information Security Status Report (Matt Greene, IT Director)

IT Director, Matt Greene, provided a status update on the topic of IT Security.

#### Board Meeting – 12:00 pm

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Vice-Chair KENDALL called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm with a roll call to order.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

BRUNNER moved, and HELTZEL seconded to approve the January agenda. MOTION CARRIED (7-0).

3. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

KENDALL asked if any trustee had potential conflicts. None were disclosed.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

KENDALL asked if there were any public comments, none were expressed.

#### INFORMATION ITEMS

5. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Board of Technical Education Executive Director Nick Wendell shared information on the fiscal year 2026 Budget Recommendation and how it compares to fiscal year 2025.

6. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Acting President, Christine Goldsmith, presented on task and initiative updates and the [HR Report](#).

7. **FINANCE REPORT**

Christine Goldsmith presented the monthly finance report.

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8. **FOUNDATION BOARD CHAIR UPDATE**

No update provided.

9. **DISCUSSION ITEM**

a. [Review Policy to Add Ex-Officio Member\(s\)](#)

The policy draft was shared on the screen for viewing. Upon review, minor edits were suggested including adding that the invitation will come from the Board Chair under 1.b., changing from “Board President” to “Board Chair” under 1.d., and adding the language “of the Board of Trustees”, to the end of 1.e. Motion by POCHARDT, seconded by BRUNNER, to approve the policy with the identified edits. MOTION CARRIED (7-0).

b. Legislative Planning

Acting President, Christine Goldsmith, plans to attend upcoming events in Pierre. Dates for the upcoming Crackerbarrels will be distributed to board members.

10. **CONSENT AGENDA**

a. APPROVAL ITEM: [Minutes from December 18, 2024 Regular Meeting](#)

b. APPROVAL ITEM: [Bills to Pay](#)

Motion by POCHARDT and seconded by BRUNNER, to approve the Consent Agenda.  
MOTION CARRIED (7-0).

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

Vice-Chair KENDALL inquired about suggestions for agenda items for the next meeting. Two topics were proposed for inclusion in the February agenda: an enrollment update to be presented during the board development session and a discussion on the next steps for identifying potential ex-officio members.

12. **NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting is scheduled as follows: February 12, 2025 | 11:30 am | Pennington County Room

13. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board did not enter Executive Session.

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

BRUNNER moved and SCULL seconded to adjourn at 1:36 pm. MOTION CARRIED (7-0).

Respectfully Submitted,

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Board Chair

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