

Sisseton Wahpeton College  
Regular Meeting  
Classrooms 1 and 2.  
Board of Trustees Minutes  
9/17/2024

Meeting called to order at 5:05 PM.

**Roll Call:**

Big Coulee	Marijo Keeble	Present-late
Buffalo Lake	Heather Larsen	Present
Enemy Swim	Janell Williams	Present
Lake Traverse	Jessica Redthunder	Present
Long Hollow	Izola Flyinghorse	Present-late
Old Agency	Rhonda Kampeska	Present-late
Heipa	Marie Renville	Present
Tribal Council Ex. Officio	Gypsy Wanna	Absent
Student Council	None	Absent

Other Present: President Dr. Erica C. Holmes (zoom), VPSS Vince Owen, VPAA , CFO Jennifer Pelzel, Grants Writer Lee Ann Tallbear, Facilities Manager David Redthunder, CDL Instructor Victor Singingeagle and Sisseton Wahpeton College Recorder Lauren E. Owen.

Opening Prayer given by Marie Renville.

Chairwoman Williams called the meeting to order at 5:08 PM.

Roll call was taken and a quorum was established.

**Motion 1:** Motion made by Trustee Redthunder to approve agenda. Second by Trustee Renville. Question by Trustee Flyinghorse. Motion voted passed.

Chairwoman Williams opened the floor for public comment and there were none.  
Reading of the Mission Statement.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**CDL Program:**

Professor Singingeagle gave an update on the CDL program and limited the class size to 5 students due to space limitations in the semi's for training purposes. He mentioned that the program is in need of a brand new semi and is willing to assist in grant writing to purchase one as it is needed for vehicle maintenance warranties. It would cost approximately \$180,000.00 for a new one as questions were asked.

**Board of Trustees Chairwoman Williams Reported:**

Chairwoman Williams did not have anything to report.

She asked if the board had any questions and there were none.

**Board of Trustee Self Assessment:**

Board of Trustees Approved October 10, 2024: Motion # 3.

It was discussed that assessment software will be looked into for purchase for the board. Once this is in place, it will be provided online in April or May and reviewed at the board's summer retreat.

Copies were distributed.

**Board of Trustees Conflict of Interest:**

There were no questions at this time regarding this.

**Accreditation/Focus Visit:**

An agenda will be in place shortly with times and locations.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**College Reports:**

**President Report:**

- Several HLC meetings were held as the college continues to prepare for the upcoming focused visit on September 23-24.
- President Holmes continues to work with HKG on the new building construction.
- A new 15 passenger van was purchased for Athletic use.
- The Community Outreach day was successful with 81 participants. This was the culminating event to
- Student Welcome Week. Native art activities were included along with department introductions.
- The Provost from Northern State University visited SWC. Opportunities for new academic partnerships
- were discussed.
- The college provided space for the Isnati Ceremony. The staff thanked the college for the hospitality
- and accommodations.
- President Holmes has been working with the Chief Financial Officer to bring up to date the USDA Grant
- drawdowns for years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023 that are delinquent.
- She will be on travel later this week but will return Saturday.

**Grant Writer Report:**

- She has spent a lot of time going over all grants.
- She will develop internal controls and templates within the next 6 months.
- She is catching up on grant drawdowns.
- The NSF grant is over due they are having issues changing the PI as it keeps defaulting back to the old PI and it should not be. The President and Grant Writer are working with NSF to keep the new PI in place instead of the old one. They have had to do this over the phone with screenshots.

**CFO Report:**

- We were contacted by USDA about more funds being available for SWC, so I worked
- with Dr. Julie and Student Services in submitting for more items for the Student Services
- and Financial Aid areas including Tables, chairs, trophy case, etc.
- Did a drawdown request for USDA Rural Development for two grants:
  - 2019 for \$85,763.58

- ○ 2020 for \$58,253.42
- My Senior Business Specialist, and Business Specialist have both started and are learning the ropes! We are working on getting things done and teaching them their duties so they can shine!
- Got a Manager-in-Training for the Café, Robbie, who is energetic and is enjoying it.
  - ○ We also have a Federal work Study student helping in the Café and is doing
- exceptionally and is catching on quickly!
  - ○ We also hosted the Pancake Feed during the first week of classes!
- I did a deposit on 8/30/2024
  - ○ General Fund: \$71,570.60
  - ○ Café: \$ 5,182.15
  - ○ Bookstore: \$ 894.62
  - ○ Financial Aid: \$44,619.72
- Received and IT is assisting Student Services in handing out the New Computers to the New Students.
- Got the updated Catalog on the website, along with Board of Trustee information and the minutes
- Purchased a new 2024 Ford Truck, T350
- Derrick Lawrence resigned from IT Director, and Kendall Miller is the Interim IT Director as well resuming his previous position.

**HR Report:**

- Submitted a report.

**VPAA Report:**

- met with students to add/drop for their Fall classes.
- HLC has videos for the Liaison that I have been listening to too.
- Still working on the Plumbing and Electrician programs to present to the curriculum committee.
- Lining up the advisory board meeting for Plumbing, Electrician's will follow.
- Worked with faculty in regard to their Spring schedules
- The course schedule for Spring 2025 is in process
- The CDL program has been placed on the schedule
- Antora Energy sent us a MOU and this is in process
- Started the classroom observations with faculty
- Worked with students for various reasons
- Worked on the USDA grant.
- Had a zoom meeting with HLC in regard to our upcoming visit
- Fall semester 2024
- 212 students pre-drop, 199 students post-drop for fall. Of the 199 students we have, 145 are full time, 54 are part time. 146 are SWO members, 35 other tribes, and 10 are non-tribal. There are 18 students from Big Coulee, 18 from Buffalo Lake, 18 from Enemy Swim, 25 from Lake Traverse, 14 from Long Hollow, 33 from Old Agency, 16 from Veblen/Heipa, and 4 are unknown.

**VPSS Report:**

- He is the new PI for the Native Arts Grant and things are going smoothly with this grant and criteria is being met with expenditures for events for the students and community.
- The Lang Grant and Extension Offices are doing well in cleaning spaces to better utilize equipment and supplies as well as continuing to host workshops.
- Financial Aid will be hosting a mini workshop this evening on Financial Aid.
- Title IX is utilized as needed on campus.
  - A brief discussion was held on the processes.

**ACTION ITEMS**

*Action Item: Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting for September 20 2024.*

**Motion 2:** Motion made by Trustee Redthunder to approve the September 20, 2024 Regular Meeting minutes. Second by Trustee Kampeska. Question by Trustee Keeble. Motion voted passed. 7/0

*Action Item: Consent Agenda.*

**Motion 3:** Motion made by Trustee Redthunder to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Trustee Larsen. Question by Trustee Flyinghorse. Motion voted passed. 7/0

**DISTRICT CONCERNS:**

Big Coulee District:

→ None.

Buffalo Lake District:

→ None.

Enemy Swim District:

→ None.

Old Agency District:

→ None.

Long Hollow District:

→ None.

Lake Traverse District:

→ The district would like to see the college offer more specialist nursing meeting the needs of the people such as dialysis nurses.

Heipa District:

→ None.

**Motion 4:** Motion made by Trustee Renville to go into Executive Session. Second by Trustee Kampeska. Question by Trustee Redthunder (6:34 PM).

(No Motion made to come out of Executive Session-Came out at 7:21 PM)

**Motion 5:** Motion made by Trustee Redthunder to adjourn (7:21 PM). Second by Trustee Keeble. Motion voted passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lauren E. Owen  
Recorder

Board of Trustees Approved October 10, 2024: Motion # 3.