

Sisseton Wahpeton College
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes

6/17/2025 - 5:00 PM (4:30 PM meal)

Meeting called to order at 5:08 PM Roll

Call:

Big Coulee	MaryJo Keeble	Present
Buffalo Lake	Heather Larsen	Present
Enemy Swim	Janell Williams	Present
Lake Traverse	Jessica Redthunder	Present
Long Hollow	Vincent Owen	Present
Old Agency	Rhonda Kampeska	Present
Heipa	Marie Renville	Present
Tribal Council Ex. Officio	Francis Crawford	Present
Student Council	Emily Johnson	Absent

Others Present: Dr. Julie Buckman, President Dr. Erica C. Holmes via zoom

-If you attended and your name is not documented, your name was not legible on the sign-in sheet.

Chairwoman Williams called the meeting to order at 5:08 PM. Roll call was taken and a quorum was established.

Motion to approve the agenda. Motion passed.

The mission statement was read.

Sisseton Wahpeton College provides extensive, relevant and varied educational programs and opportunities for the intellectual, cultural, and personal growth of all its community. The college values its role as an educational leader, embracing change and responding to the complex needs of those it serves.

President Holmes explained the Open Education Project. This is a project where faculty can adopt online resources in lieu of textbooks. This would save students a lot of money because textbooks are very expensive and the buyback cost is low. The information was presented to faculty for their consideration.

The Board requested additional security cameras be placed in the administration building. The Board also requested staff to look into external hosting of the security cameras.

Dr. Buckman stated that the district enrollment data had been emailed to the Board ahead of the meeting.

Dr. Holmes went over the legislative affairs which included the threat of some grants being cut by the Trump administration. The College awaits the outcome of several executive orders which presents threats to TCUs by cutting grants, including some SWC funding.

Dr. Holmes informed the Board that the consent agenda reports were in the Board packet and asked if the Board had any questions about the reports. The Board asked questions and the staff responded to their questions.

ACTION ITEMS

- a. Motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on May 20, 2025. Motion passed
- b. Motion to approve minutes from Special Meeting May 28, 2025. Motion passed. 1 not voting.
- c. Motion to approve minutes from Study Session June 11, 2025. Motion passed. 1 not voting.
- d. Motion by Long Hollow not to shelve the Nursing program. Second by Heipa. 1 not voting, 3 opposed, motion failed. Trustee Larsen pointed out a concern and conflict with the motion, as another trustee said that they were doing what their district told them to do. Chairwoman Williams reminded the Board of what was said about undue influence in the meeting that was held with HLC.

DISTRICT CONCERNS

- a. Big Coulee District
- b. Buffalo Lake District- two basketball players did not get scholarship
- c. Enemy Swim District
- d. Heipa/Veblen District – made a motion not to shelve any programs stating her district instructed her.
- e. Lake Traverse District – parent had a question about a student who did not receive higher education funds
- f. Long Hollow District – stated his district made a motion not to remove the Nursing program so he made a motion as directed by his district.
- g. Old Agency District

A motion was made at 7:28 by Lake Traverse to move to closed session. Seconded by Old Agency.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted:

Dr. Erica Holmes