

Sisseton Wahpeton College
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes
3/25/2025 - 5:00 PM (4:30 PM meal)

Roll Call:

Big Coulee	Mary Jo Keeble	Present
Buffalo Lake	Heather Larsen	Present
Enemy Swim	Janel Williams	Present
Lake Traverse	Jessica Redthunder	Present
Long Hollow	Francelia Quinn	Present
Old Agency	Rhonda Kampeska	Present
Heipa	Marie Renville	Present
Tribal Council Ex. Officio	Francis Crawford	Absent - Excused

Others Present: Interim President Dr. Julie Buckman, Kenyon Budack Jr., William Laroque, Melissa Marx, Samantha Crandall, Etta Jo Marks, LaJune Morgan, Crystal Renville, Kelsey Stadler, Josh Flute, Heather Flute, Ashley German

-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 5:09 PM. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was established.

Approve the Agenda

Motion #1: To approve the agenda. Made by Trustee Keeble, seconded by Trustee Redthunder, questioned by Trustee Renville. MVP 5/0. Motion Passed.

Public Comments

William LaRoque addressed the Board of Trustees and asked for an update regarding the financial forensic audit. Chairwoman Williams shared that the matter had previously been turned over to federal authorities in January and that it is still in progress at this time. William Laroque also asked about the process for selecting a new College President. In response, Chairwoman Williams stated that a search committee had already been created and that the process is currently underway. William LaRoque also stated that he did not want severance pay included for a future presidential contract.

William Laroque also raised concerns about safety at athletic events, stating that the gym is too small and that injuries had occurred during games he attended. He asked that the Board consider having a certified EMT or another properly trained individual present during games, and also suggested that some basketball or volleyball games be moved when possible for safety reasons. In response, Chairwoman Williams shared that this same concern had been brought forward previously and had already been addressed with the Athletic Director.

William Laroque then asked whether there is still a policy allowing tribal elders to take one class at no cost, and Chairwoman Williams confirmed that there is. He also shared appreciation for Trustee Keeble for helping him resolve a past issue and stated that her assistance reflected positively on the Board. He went on to share a positive experience involving nursing students he encountered during dialysis treatment and encouraged the college to continue supporting the nursing program, including exploring a possible dialysis technician or dialysis-related training option. He also asked whether elders could serve as adjunct instructors and offered to volunteer his time to teach about diabetes and dialysis.

Additional discussion followed regarding the President Search Committee. Trustee Quinn and HR Director Crystal Renville discussed the committee structure and explained that the Board had previously approved a committee made up of two board members and three college personnel. Questions were raised about how the committee was formed in the past and whether all members had been identified. Trustee Larsen and Trustee Renville also asked questions about how the process had worked previously. Chairwoman Williams clarified that the Board has the authority to determine who serves in that capacity, while administration had handled some of the internal process in the past.

Discussion Items

1. AIHEC

Interim President Dr. Julie Buckman presented updates from the recent AIHEC conference. She shared that the Board book included pictures from the conference, including lunch for the students in Fargo, the AIHEC student dinner, scholarship recognition, Student of the Year recognition, and the Coca-Cola scholarship. She also reported that SWC's AIHEC archery team placed first, and the college plans to hold an honoring for the team on April 1, 2026, in the Student Union Room. The honoring will include soup, frybread, cookies, and an effort to have an honor song performed. Dr. Buckman also shared that students submitted artwork and represented the college well throughout the event.

In response to Board questions, Dr. Buckman stated that approximately 13 to 14 students attended. She explained that student participation was open to those who signed up, and staff attendance was voluntary. SWC Recorder Kenyon Budack Jr. added that he and Dean Kelsey Stadler attended, along with staff members who primarily served as coaches.

Dean of Education Kelsey Stadler also shared a summary of student reflections from the event. She stated that students reported having a very positive experience, enjoyed meeting people from other tribal colleges, and felt that the event strengthened their identity, helped them feel welcomed, and gave them an opportunity to represent their culture. She noted that the overall experience was meaningful and positive for the students who attended.

2. HLC Annual Conference

Interim President Dr. Julie Buckman then gave a report on the HLC Annual Conference. She shared that several workshop sessions focused on financial aid, Pell Grants, federal policy changes, accreditation, student outcomes, and institutional sustainability. She noted that some policy discussions included possible changes to Pell Grant disbursement timelines, potential limits on certain loans, and broader federal changes that may impact colleges and students in the near future. She also noted that there was significant discussion about the role of marketing, alumni support, donors, and public visibility in helping institutions remain sustainable. Other topics included AI in higher education, the value of liberal arts, mission statements, conflict resolution, and the importance of clear student outcomes.

Dr. Buckman shared that the college is also looking into Canvas as a possible learning platform and is continuing to study how other institutions approach assessment and accreditation. She referenced sessions from Diné College and others that focused on different levels of assessment and more intentional student support systems. She explained that SWC is planning to involve faculty and staff in mock site visits and campus-wide preparation efforts ahead of the next accreditation review.

In response to questions from the Board, Dr. Buckman clarified that the loan discussion she referenced involved limits of \$20,000 and \$60,000 lifetime maximums, though she also reminded the Board that SWC itself does not offer loans. She also stated that if Pell disbursements move later in the semester, the college may need to use other funding sources first before Pell is applied.

Chairwoman Williams also shared her experience from the HLC conference and stated that this was her first time attending in that capacity. She said it was helpful to hear directly from HLC commissioners about how the accreditation process works and what areas they review. She explained that HLC looks at whether a college's mission, goals, policies, and assessments are aligned and whether the institution is actually following its own processes. She also stated that it was reassuring to hear that HLC does not come in and tell institutions how to operate, but instead evaluates whether each college is meeting its own standards and the required criteria. She further shared that it was helpful to hear from other tribal colleges that had also experienced monitoring or governance concerns and had successfully worked through them.

Trustee Redthunder reported that one of the valuable parts of the conference was meeting representatives from other tribal colleges and hearing how they handled challenges similar to those faced at SWC. She stated that she attended sessions where there were many ideas related to assessment, tribal communities, and program development, and that she plans to share notes that may help the college moving forward. Dean Kelsey Stadler stated that meetings are already being scheduled to begin implementing ideas brought back from the conference. Dean of Indigenous Health Heather Flute shared that she attended sessions focused on assessment, AI, and what other colleges are doing. Dean of CTE Josh Flute reported that several sessions focused on indigenizing assessment and curriculum, and he noted

a broader trend across tribal colleges of female enrollment being much higher than male enrollment, which he said was also evident at SWC and at AIHEC.

Consent Agenda

President's Report & Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs

Interim President Dr. Julie Buckman presented the President's Report and VPASA update. She reported that spring enrollment remains at 217 students, including 141 SWO members, 31 students from other tribes, 2 lineal descendants, and 32 non-tribal students. District counts were also shared, including 13 from Long Hollow, 27 from Old Agency, 15 from Heipa, and several students listed as unknown.

Dr. Buckman shared that the fundraising committee has begun discussing future support from alumni and donors, and that the college has decided to host Founders Day in August, although planning is still underway and details have not yet been finalized. She also noted that the college is working on graduation star quilts and stoles. Additional discussion from leadership circles and conference participation highlighted the growing need for public relations and marketing support, especially as colleges respond to changes in higher education and student recruitment.

Dr. Buckman also reported that the college held its first CTE advisory meeting, which included discussion of CDL and plumbing programs, and a second meeting is planned for the end of March to continue work related to curriculum and program development. She also met with tribal attorneys regarding the paralegal certificate program, and it was discussed that one attorney may teach in the fall. She stated that summer and fall enrollment opened on the 19th and that a few additional classes were added to meet student needs. She also met with several students during the month to address academic matters, and noted that the college hired two part-time employees.

Trustee Quinn asked how the meeting with attorneys regarding the paralegal program had gone. Dr. Buckman responded that the meeting went well and that the attorneys seemed supportive of the way the program is being structured. She stated that the program is being planned as a one-year certificate, not a degree, and that the intention is for students to receive practical and real-life experience as part of the coursework. Trustee Renville and Trustee Larsen asked follow-up questions to confirm that the program would not be a degree program.

NACTEP Grant and Nursing Program Discussion

Chairwoman Williams provided clarification regarding the current status of the NACTEP grant. She explained that the grant is scheduled to end on September 30, 2026, and that even if a continuation application was submitted previously, the college is not expected to receive that funding under the current national situation. She noted that this has broader effects across the country and impacts programs such as CTE, Nursing, Plumbing, Building Trades, and CDL.

Board of Trustees Approved on April 21, 2026 Regular Meeting: Motion #4

Nursing Director Melissa Marx shared that the college is actively looking for other opportunities, including possible support through Great Plains Tribal Health, and that the college is trying to pursue every possible option. She also stated that there have been discussions with leadership and federal contacts to see whether any type of extension or solution is possible given the larger issues affecting NACTEP. Chairwoman Williams added that tribal consultation remains important so leaders can continue to explain why the grant is needed not only at SWC, but across the country.

Nursing Director Marx also shared good news regarding a former LPN student who had previously struggled to pass boards but recently passed after creating a dedicated study plan and putting in additional work. She then responded to questions about nursing program numbers and explained that the figures were intended to show the broad reach and impact that CNAs, LPNs, and nurses can have within the community. Discussion also included the idea of students possibly helping elders in the future through community-based work, although she clarified that students are not currently going into homes for services at this time. She did note that the program is working with Sara Dakota and community health representatives to potentially expand opportunities.

Additional discussion followed regarding age requirements, clinical experiences, and student success on licensing exams. Nursing Director Marx stated that some nursing-related courses may begin at age 16, and that the college is also looking at additional in-class preparation and clinical support so that students can continue working toward passing their boards even after completing the program. She also confirmed that the college has renewed its contract with IHS and continues to work with outside partners on recruitment and externship opportunities.

Vice President of Administrative Services Report

- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – What I wanted to share was when I went to HLC I went to the financial end of the conference and workshops. I found out the government is going to implement the way we draw down on the grants. Currently we do not have to submit documentation for it, and it's coming down the pipeline where they need it in there prior to drawing down the funds. They let us know about that. I also talked about the indirect costs and that's 15%. That's not just us, it's all the other colleges. And keeping current on our audits, and once our audits are current, and the process of how to process higher end costs for grants, and they gave us information on that. They gave us the names of other people when we get that going. I was talking about NACTEP. The last one was in AiHEC in Bismarck and they talked about giving us some extra funding that they got.
 - Interim President Dr. Julie Buckman – The Scott funding.
 - VPAS Gretta Lavergne – Most of the funding they get, they tell us exactly how to spend it. And I think that might help us with the NACTEP funding. So, that might

be something that could help us in the future. I met with Molay O'Brian and she is the VP of congressional relations. She has been helping with Title 3 Part A and Part F. Help me to figure out what I need to do, report, and she has been a real help to me. I am happy I met her. I met her when I went to the NSF TCUP Conference. And that's when I met with her, and she let me know all of the things we still need to do. I didn't get the emails, because they were going to Jennifer. And she is sending me the information about all of the grants. I let her know that I just have the budgets, and I asked if I could get those, and she did email me all of the grants that we do have. So, now I have all of the different binders they have the budgets and how we can spend it and all of that. I am very happy to have met her. I just talked with Missy today about drawing down November and December's supplement grant. I just talked about the TCUP, and supplement grant that needs to get done. That's from all of the conference and information that was helpful for me.

- Chairwoman Williams – Where are we at with the audit?
 - VPAS Gretta Lavergne – We did complete all of the credit card expenditures, I am going to meet with Harshwalt and I am going to be meeting with them on Friday, and that's a single audit.
 - VPAS Gretta Lavergne – that would be 23-24. They will start it on the next one.
 - Chairwoman Williams – Did we do an RFP for audits?
 - VPAS Gretta Lavergne – For what?
 - Chairwoman Williams – For the past ones.
 - VPAS Gretta Lavergne – I don't know if Dr. Erica did that, because she was taking part of that when she was here.
- Chairwoman Williams – Did the board want to see the contract. Did we make a decision on who is going to do the next single audit?
 - Trustee Quinn – Did we see the bids for that?
 - Trustee Quinn – Who is this Haschwalt?
 - VPAS Gretta Lavergne – It's an accounting firm that Leeann TallBear. She met a guy I don't know what his name was. It starts with an R. Between her DR. Erica and him. I don't know if they had an RFP.
 - VPAS Gretta Lavergne – They are doing a full audit of everything. I guess the last one didn't do some of the grants, so now they are doing the grants and everything.

- Chairwoman Williams – I think it was B. Marks that did it previously. As far as Harshwalt this board had approved to do a single audit, as well as McKenzie to do the forensic audit.
- Trustee Quinn – Who is doing the credit cards reconciliations to ensure that it's getting done.
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – They are working on it.
- Trustee Quinn – Who is they.
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – The contract with O'Connor, now Aprio. They are putting the expenditures into DocuShare and they are putting it into the Jenzabar system, and there are a few that we had to look at and find. Other than that, we have all of the credit cards, and now we have a system of how to do it when they ask to use the credit cards and they do the credit card requests. It's given to Richelle right away, so she scans it in right away, so they have it ready for the next audit. And we have that ready for whoever is ready to do the next audit.
- Trustee Quinn – Why did you go to a different payroll system than Jenzabar. You wouldn't have so much trouble within on system, instead of bringing in different accounting to have to interact with that?
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – Bills.com we have not implemented that yet, but that's our next goal, and that's with AP. We want it to become paperless. Everything gets lost and that's why we are having a hard time with this audit, with what the auditors need.
- Trustee Quinn – Why are you not with Jenzabar?
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – payroll is
- Trustee Quinn – Why not Jenzabar.
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – It's done the really old way. Everyone clocks in and we pull that report, and it's all completely hands on and that's why we went with Bamboo. We get the report and we stick it into Jenzabar. And with Bamboo they can clock in and out, so once they get here.
- Trustee Redthunder – Is it cost effective? It sounds like Jenzabar has the capability to do a lot of the work? Is it cost effective to have a lot less entities. Reconciliation, Payroll, is this even, how much is this costing? It seems like this cost a lot. I don't know if money is tight or what not. I think as a board member we should finding ways to save money, instead of having multiple people looking at financials. I am not a financial expert. Fran knows more about financials, I think this is costing too much.
- Trustee Quinn – especially if you're having trouble interacting.
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – No, they're fine.
- Trustee Quinn – Payroll was late, retirement was off.

- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – Not Bamboo. Our staff didn't put the correct amount in, and it's working correctly now. It took a couple payrolls to get it done correctly.
- Trustee Redthunder – Which staff do those again?
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – HR and Richelle.
- Trustee Redthunder – Crystal you do the retirement?
- HR Director Crystal Renville – Once payroll does it I move it over and upload it to Principal.
- Trustee Quinn – But you do not put it into Jenzabar?
- Trustee Quinn – On your net position draft. You are still in the negative, and that unrestricted is still off again. You are a dollar off, but why is your net way over on the side. It should have been included in this.
- Trustee Quinn – You still would have been off, but you just stuck it over on that side.
- Trustee Quinn – I brought the government and governing college book, and they balance. And on some of your income statements for the \$13 million you do bring it over to your balance sheet. You do not bring it over for nothing.
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – Jessica West does some of this for me. We have not set up a few areas. One is the uh the assets, some of the assets and depreciation. There is a lot of stuff not being utilized in Jenzabar. Slowly Her, I, and Jasmine are implementing this stuff, and when they do what they need to do. Richelle and Jasmine start to do that, these will be more accurate. There is a lot of stuff are not in here.
- Trustee Quinn – You do not have Land, investments, interest, or anything like that in there.
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – Once all of that is done this will be more accurate, this is going to be just a draft Gretta. And this is what Dr. Erica wanted me to give you guys. We couldn't give you an accurate one, because Jenzabar was never set up like that. I don't think they ever gave you this type of report, but that's what Dr. Erica wanted, and that is what we did. It's just going to be a draft for now, because it is not everything we need to put into Jenzabar.
- Trustee Quinn – On your cash restricted endowment you have \$1million you have the same thing down in the net position and the same dollar mount which would be a credit, so you just O'd the whole thing out. Why have it in your assets and liabilities? You cannot do that.
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – I will talk to her about it and ask her about it. What you just talked about.
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – If you guys want I can have her explain it step by step for you guys.

- Trustee Quinn – What is SBITAs you have that in assets and liabilities.
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – I will ask her and have her explain part of it. She does the books part of it.
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – I work with all of the departments and she does the CPA.
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – She is under contract though.
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – Once this is all done we will hire a CPA hybrid for that.
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – I oversee different departments.
- Trustee Quinn – Why are you able to oversee all of these financials?
- Trustee Quinn – I think that’s a waste of money. On your expenses. What is your fiscal year.
 - VPAS Gretta Lavergne – July 1 to June 30th.
 - Trustee Quinn – So what are membership dues?
 - VPAS Gretta Lavergne – HLC, some of Jenzabar is in there, and there are different types of memberships that we have to have, and that’s what that is.
 - Trustee Quinn – Miscellaneous for \$25k even?
 - Trustee Quinn – On that one too, we have total operating expenses of \$5.8 million, but underneath it you have \$8.5 million off to the side. Why? What is that?
 - SWC Recorder Kenyon Budack Jr. – Sorry, the formatting is a bit wonky, because I have to put it together to make the book.
 - Trustee Quinn – Can’t you guys do it in excel?
 - SWC Recorder Kenyon Budack Jr. – Just separately given to you outside of the book?
 - Trustee Quinn – Yes.
 - VPAS Gretta Lavergne – We can do that.

- Trustee Quinn – On her report it said it wasn’t accurate.
 - Nursing Director Melissa Marx – December and January, and it’s yeah. These expenditures have happened, but they have not been drawn down for the NACTEP Grant.

- Trustee Larsen – Who is the data entry for Jenzabar?
 - VPAS Gretta Lavergne – Kristen and Jessica are teaching them, and doing training with that, so they know how to do some of the journal entries and things like that. So once about a month or two after they finish, they should be up to par.

We are going to do procedures on when to enter them, and I think Richelle will do reconciliation with bank statements too.

- Trustee Larsen – how long was this Jessica lady been here?
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – Since March of last year.
- Trustee Larsen – So that wasn't a priority to get it into Jenzabar?
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – This next one that we are going to do an audit, because she has done all of that and put it into Jenzabar, and what she is doing is training them, what we did was student accounts, and we really needed to get that taken care of, and they did the student accounts, and now they are able to do the checks for students right from Jenzabar. One report to AP. Slowly we are steadying up all of these areas, the next part is financial aid.
- Trustee Larsen – How long does her contract go?
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – It's a year.
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – It's the end of the year.
- Chairwoman Williams – This board and body does approve the contracts. So, with the proper planning we will not be having special meetings to approve contracts, so they will have to be planned. Okay? We are looking at an expired contract for this Jessica.
- Trustee Larsen – My question would be we met her once on Zoom. Is there any kind of reporting that she is doing? What is all being done. I would like to have a copy of that.
- Trustee Redthunder – I would like to have a copy of that as well.
- Trustee Larsen – I haven't seen that contract, I had no idea what was going on. I was not ready for that. That was not a good proper introduction with there, to have her in attendance if that is what you will call it.
- Trustee Larsen – Will she come in on site?
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – We would have to ask her.
- Trustee Larsen – It's hard because all of our questions are to the expired contract at the end of next week. Things should not be in limbo with Jenzabar. Why was that not completed within a year. Was that not written in contract?
 - VPAS Gretta Lavergne – The financial parts of it, she was able to help with student accounts and that area with financial aid. And the other areas that we work on, and actually she was doing a lot of cleanup. She was helping us with clean up.
 - Chairwoman Williams – Is there a different contract?
 - VPAS Gretta Lavergne – The APRIO people bought her out, the first one we did was with O'Connor consulting, and now it's APRIO.
 - Trustee Larsen – But it's the same staff?

- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – Yes, it’s those 3 staff members.
- Trustee Larsen – If they want another year of contract I would like to hear what they have done and to get some kind of report, this should have not been approved without seeing it, and not even knowing it was happening. We assumed the staff here was doing this work, and now you have a firm hired and the work is still not complete, those are huge red flags.
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – Her and Kristen did a lot of work and she has been giving me different reports, and we have found some different stuff that she will have to bring to you that will have to be addressed.
- Trustee Redthunder – How long was that known?
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – A couple weeks now.
- Trustee Larsen – I think a couple of their billing is hourly and they have a small chart, and in this contract, they have showing March to June I don’t see words in here, and a chart projected with hourly what they are assuming what it was to do the work, so now I am wondering what has been paid for them. I am concerned because it’s high for a couple months. I want to know everything.
 - VPAS Gretta Lavergne – I can give you a report over everything.
 - Trustee Quinn – Do you have a W-9 with them?
 - VPAS Gretta Lavergne – Yes.
 - Trustee Quinn – Give use a copy of that too.
- Trustee Larsen – Another thing you said was hiring another hybrid CPA.
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – With BIE, because I was talking with Jessica. Once they get it all set up and ready to go, we would not need a full-time CPA, so that person could be a hybrid worker, and they go in and do the books and do their report. Ultimately everything we do is put in separate transactions and Richelle and Jasmine will be doing all of that. The other person will be running the report. That is something we figured out was funding for part-time CPA. We do have the funding for it, we have not hired them yet.
- Trustee Larsen – That funding is here already?
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – Yes.
- Trustee Larsen – So why haven’t you done it yet?
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – We were working on it recently.
- Trustee Larsen – And it’s only part-time?
- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – Jessica thinks it will only be needed part-time.
- Trustee Larsen – Am I just not getting it. This does not add up

- VPAS Gretta Lavergne – When they came in and stuff started not matching up. When I started running reports, I couldn't pull anything out of the system, because there were two fiscal years put in there. One was October to November, and another was July to June. And she said you are not going to get an accurate report with that. And we got rid of October to November. And we figured out there wasn't depreciation and assets, I am not sure how they did it before, because we didn't have that in there. And we are putting all of that information in there now. And Jenzabar should be able to do all of that, and this is just a draft and not what you guys should be getting other reports besides this, so once we talked about that and sharing what she has found and started looking over payroll. She was helping us look at the picture of what was put in there and to fix Jenzabar. She does do a monthly report about this or that. I can ask her for a report on everything and get that to you.
 - Trustee Larsen – I think roadblocks and finding issues and previous issues and having to deal with those headaches and it stops the other work. I understand that, but we need to know that's happening, and what is happening.
 - Trustee Quinn – I thought we had requested on some stuff for this meeting.
- Trustee Quinn – I would like all of the 10-99s. The garbage man was not in there, and he should have received a 10-99. If you receive all of the 10-99s you should realize what's out there.
 - Chairwoman Williams – Please bring a copy of all of the 10-99s.
- Trustee Redthunder – There was issues with Jenzabar. I am curious why it's underutilized.
 - Trustee Keeble – How many years are we tied up with that.
 - Trustee Larsen – We should have Kendall come and let us know. I know he knows.
- Trustee Quinn – Your total HR was 86. It does not add up to 86.
 - HR Director Crystal Renville – I just saw it was off.
 - Trustee Quinn – Don't you guys verify your numbers?
 - Trustee Quinn – I see you guys have a lead safety officer, college counsellor, adjunct.
 - HR Director Crystal Renville – In the Sota and TERO. That college website, Courier sometime for the higher up positions. The president was posted in there.

Action Items

Approve the agenda

Motion #1: To approve the agenda. Made by Trustee Keeble, seconded by Trustee Redthunder, questioned by Trustee Renville. MVP 5/0. Motion Passed.

Approve the February 17, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion #2: to approve the February 17, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes by Trustee Redthunder, seconded by Trustee Renville, questioned by Trustee Larsen. MVP 7/0. Motion Passed.

- Discussion was held regarding notice of the meeting and prior scheduling adjustments. It was noted that prior HLC travel and spring break created the need to reschedule. Chairwoman Williams also raised the idea of developing a form or process to show that internal review has been completed before items come to the Board.

Nursing Policy

The Board reviewed the proposed Nursing Policy 400-21. Chairwoman Williams asked whether the policy had followed the internal review process, and Interim President Dr. Julie Buckman confirmed that it had. Trustee Larsen asked whether changes had been made, and Nursing Director Melissa Marx explained that only a few wording changes had been made near the last few pages and that the comments from internal review had been collected.

Further discussion focused on whether students would have access to the policy and how it would apply in clinical settings. Nursing Director Marx explained that students go through onboarding processes at clinical sites and are expected to follow those site requirements. She stated that many nursing programs keep policy language general because expectations can vary by semester and by clinical agency. Trustee Quinn asked who would conduct background checks. Nursing Director Marx stated that the nursing program uses Pre-Check for CNA and LPN students. HR Director Crystal Renville stated that the college uses CheckR for employee criminal background checks.

Motion #3: To approve the new Nursing Policy 400-21. Made by Trustee Larsen, seconded by Trustee Redthunder, questioned by Trustee Quinn. MVP 7/0. **Motion Passed.**

District Concerns

- Big Coulee
 - Trustee Keeble reported no district concerns.
- Buffalo Lake

- Trustee Larsen reported that there were student complaint issues related to financial aid, and stated that she would follow up in person.
- Enemy Swim
 - Chairwoman Williams stated that her last report to the district was on the forensic audit and that she plans to provide a report on accreditation next month.
- Heipa
 - No concerns were reported.
- Lake Traverse
 - Trustee Redthunder reported that she had two complaints from district members that would need to be brought into executive session.
- Long Hollow
 - Trustee Quinn stated that one of her concerns was the same as the earlier student concern and that another involved food from the café being sent weekly to the dorms. This led to discussion about how weekend food is being provided to dorm students. Interim President Dr. Julie Buckman explained that students receive weekend food because they cannot access the café at that time, and that during the week students use a meal plan through student accounts. Additional discussion followed regarding whether unrestricted funds, endowment-related sources, emergency aid, or the food pantry might help support students on weekends. Dr. Buckman stated that the food pantry is only able to be stocked once each semester and is limited.

Old Agency

- Trustee Kampeska reported no concerns.
- Trustee Renville also asked when graduation would be held, and Interim President Dr. Julie Buckman stated that graduation will be in May.

Closed Executive Session

Motion #4: To go into closed executive session. Made by Trustee Redthunder, seconded by Trustee Renville, questioned by Trustee Quinn. MVP 7/0. **Motion Passed.**

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

SWC Recorder *Kenyon Budack Jr.*

Board of Trustees Approved on April 21, 2026 Regular Meeting: Motion #4