

**Waukesha County Technical College
District Board Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2024 - 5:00 PM
Richard T. Anderson Education Center, C051/057**

Present:

Courtney Bauer, Vice Chairperson
Ryan Clark, Secretary/Treasurer
Rob Ewing, Board Member
Thomas Michalski, Board Member
Jim Zaiser, Board Member
Michael Cady, Board Member
Jamie Stahulak, Board Member (attending virtually)
Stephanie Reisner, Board Member

Absent

Brian Baumgartner, Chairperson

Also Present:

Richard Barnhouse

22 guests

REGULAR MEETING

I. Call to Order – Courtney Bauer 5:00 pm

II. Public/Staff Remarks*

A. None

III. Delegates to be Heard

A. Student Government Association – Pierson Barnes

- Mr. Barnes shared the results of Halloween Spirit Week including flannels and cider event, painting pumpkins event, Halloween festive wear day, WCTC spirit wear day, and concluding with Halloween movie night.
- SGA hosted Energy Hour during the last week of the term at the Pewaukee campus and Waukesha Campus.
- Tomorrow (11/13) SGA is hosting Thankful Lunch at Waukesha Campus and next week (11/19) at the Pewaukee campus. This is free for students and \$10 for staff.
- SGA will have a table at the Open House on Thursday (11/14) to share information with perspective students attending.
- December 7, SGA will host the annual Children’s Holiday Party. This is open to students, staff, and the community.

IV. President’s Report – Dr. Richard G. Barnhouse

- A. Dr. Barnhouse welcomed everyone to the November WCTC District Board meeting.
- B. Dr. Barnhouse presented at a conference in Denver last month on the partnerships created in Waukesha County with WCBA and local businesses to create a talent pipeline.
- C. Dr. Barnhouse presented at a conference at UW- River Falls last month on “Leveraging AI to Support Business and Workforce Prosperity.”
- D. The first class graduated from the gAlpha program from the AI Lab. gBeta will begin in February.
- E. Dr. Barnhouse attended the HERA Faculty AI institute at Northwestern Mutual Data Science Center earlier this month. Dr. Barnhouse thanked Associate Dean Alli Jerger and Faculty Member Dr. Matt Green for their participation.

- F. Last week the college dedicated the room and naming rights for Eaton for the installation of mannekins for EMS, Fire, and Health students to use in their studies.
- G. Dr. Barnhouse has been invited to speak at a conference at the AI for Developing Countries Forum at the United Nations Office of Geneva, Switzerland.
- H. Dr. Barnhouse discussed a 3-year advanced degree in AI and how this will help regional business and economic development. This 3-year advanced degree is for AI only and will not include other programs.

V. Approval of Consent Agenda Items

- A. Minutes dated October 8, 2024
- B. Accounts Payable Summaries October 2024
- C. 38.14 Contract Report October 2024
- D. Approval of Hire Report
- E. Board Monitoring Report 2023/24 Fourth Quarter Financials
- F. Board Monitoring Report 2024/25 First Quarter Financials

Mr. Michalski motioned to approve the Consent Agenda Items, receiving a second from Ms. Reisner. Approved, carried unanimously.

VI. Action Items

- A. Resolution to Modify 2023/24 Budget – Kristine Golz
 - Ms. Golz discussed the need to modify the 2023/24 budget due to increased contract revenues for Dual Enrollment Academies in 2024.
 - This should be the last modification for fiscal year 2023/24.

Ms. Reisner motioned to approve the budget modification, receiving a second from Mr. Ewing. Approved, carried unanimously.

- B. Resolution to Modify the 2024/2025 Budget – Kristine Golz
 - Ms. Golz discussed the need to modify the 2024/2025 budget due to board authorized increase in planned November staff stipend.

Mr. Clark motioned to approve the budget modification, receiving a second from Ms. Reisner. Approved, carried unanimously.

- C. Presentation and Approval to Pursue a 3-year Degree in Artificial Intelligence – Dr. Brad Piazza
 - Dr. Piazza discussed the need for a 3-year advanced AI degree due to talent shortages, increased productivity, and increasing need for technical workers in Wisconsin.
 - Dr. Piazza discussed that no other college in the state has an AI undergraduate degree, so this would not be in direct competition with other institutions.
 - WCTC has been offering AI programs since 2024 including Foundations of AI certificate, AI Technician certificate, and associate degree AI Data Specialist.
 - Themes that came from a recent meeting with business and industry leaders regarding the creation of this advanced degree are:
 1. They do not need entry level AI workers.
 2. Non-technical skills they want in workers include communication skills, teamwork and leadership to navigate changes driven by AI.

3. They reported that beyond the outcomes WCTC has already developed for this degree, they are looking for workers with ethics and human augmentation, communication and presentation skills to translate AI and technical language to those who are not technical, and project management skills.
- The college will follow the same concept review and program review process as done for other programs. The college is looking to launch in Fall 2026.

Mr. Michalski motioned to approve directive to pursue Advanced Degree in Artificial Intelligence, receiving a second from Mr. Clark. Approved, carried unanimously.

VII. Presentation/Discussion

A. Board Program Investments – Andy Palen, et. Al.

- Presentation by Andy Palen, Alli Jerger, Laura Krohn, Sandra Maylen, and Dr. Brad Piazza to discuss the outcomes of initiatives the Board has approved in the past. This included AI degrees, AI Lab, Dual Enrollment and EXCELeRate, and Liberal Arts Transfer Degrees.

VIII. Mr. Clark motioned to convene into Closed Session pursuant to Sec. 19.85 (1)(b) and (c) Wisconsin State Statutes at 6:21 pm:

- Ms. Reisner seconded the motion
- **Unanimous roll call vote**
- Discussion was held regarding Faculty Non-Renewal.
- Ms. Bauer motioned to reconvene in open session, receiving a second from Mr. Ewing.
- **Unanimous roll call vote**
- The open meeting reconvened at 6:36 pm.

IX. Adjournment – Courtney Bauer

- A.** Mr. Clark motioned to adjourn the meeting, receiving a second from Mr. Michalski. Meeting adjourned at 6:37 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by
Jennifer Hagen
Sr. Executive Assistant to the Board

Signed: Courtney Bauer
Ryan Clark, Board Secretary/Treasurer
Courtney Bauer, Acting Secretary/Treasurer