

**NEBRASKA COMMUNITY COLLEGE ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
First Quarter Meeting Minutes
January 24, 2014**

1. PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

All NCCA Board of Directors, Area Presidents, and the general public having been duly notified the first quarter meeting of the NCCA Board of Directors was held January 24, 2014, at Southeast Community College's Continuing Education Center in Lincoln. President Miller stated the public meeting notice was published in the Lincoln Journal Star on January 16, 2014. He also stated that the rules for the Nebraska Public Meeting Laws were available for public viewing. The public meeting notice is attached to these minutes.

2. ATTENDANCE

Directors Present:

President Kent Miller – Mid-Plains
Vice President Tom Perkins – Western Nebraska
Treasurer Steve Anderson – Northeast
Sam Cowan for Sandra Borden – Central
Robert Feit – Southeast
Merlyn Gramberg – Western Nebraska
Diane Keller- Central
Ernie Mehl – Mid-Plains
Shirley Petsche – Northeast
Lynn Schluckebier – Southeast

Staff Present:

Dennis Baack – Executive Director
Melanie Williams – Administrative Assistant

Also present: Dr. Greg Smith – Central, Ryan Purdy – Mid-Plains, Dr. Michael Chipps – Northeast, Dr. Jack Huck – Southeast, and Dr. Todd Holcomb – Western Nebraska.

3. CALL TO ORDER AND QUORUM DETERMINATION

President Miller called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. and asked for roll call and quorum determination. Present and responding were ten board members representing their respective area governing boards. It was determined that a quorum was present.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

President Miller asked for any additions or changes to the agenda. There were none.

MOTION BY TOM PERKINS AND SECOND BY LYNN SCHLUCKEBIER that the NCCA Board of Directors approve the meeting agenda as presented.

President Miller asked for any objections or discussion. There were none.

A roll call votes was taken.

Voting Aye: Anderson, Cowan, Feit, Gramberg, Keller, Mehl, K. Miller, Perkins, Petsche, Schluckebier

Voting Nay: None

RESULT: Motion carried ten (10) ayes and no nays.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Miller asked for any corrections or changes to the November 5, 2013, meeting minutes. There were none.

MOTION BY LYNN SCHLUCKEBIER AND SECOND BY ERNIE MEHL that the NCCA Board of Directors approve the November 5, 2013, meeting minutes as presented.

President Miller asked for any discussion. There was none.

A roll call vote was taken.

Voting Aye: Anderson, Cowan, Feit, Gramberg, Keller, Mehl, K. Miller, Petsche, Schluckebier

Voting Nay: None

Abstaining: Perkins

RESULT: Motion carried nine (9) ayes, no nays, and one (1) abstain.

6. 2014 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Baack stated that he would give a brief overview of each bill and answer any questions the Board may have prior to a position being taken.

LB 694 was introduced by Senator Seiler and would change provisions relating to unlawful possession of firearm at a school. Baack stated that this bill would allow guns to be brought to a school, with permission of the board, if it was for an educational program such as hunter's safety courses. Baack suggested the Board monitor this bill. Chipps asked if this bill only applied to K-12. Baack replied that this bill does include postsecondary education. It was decided to **monitor this bill with the option to support** if needed.

LB 724 was introduced by Senator Lautenbaugh and would change provisions relating to unlawful possession of a firearm at a school. Baack stated that this bill would allow law enforcement, on or off duty, to carry guns onto school grounds. It was decided to **monitor this bill with the option to support** if needed.

LB 729 was introduced by Senator Kolowski and would create a Task Force on Expanded Learning Opportunities for school-age youth. Baack stated that this bill deals primarily with K-12 education but does discuss college readiness. It was decided to **monitor this bill with the option to support** if needed.

LB 740 was introduced by Senator Crawford and would provide residency requirements for postsecondary education purposes for veterans and their family members. Baack stated that this bill would allow veterans, if they are out of the service up to two years, and their family members to receive in-state tuition. It was decided to **support** this bill.

LB 754 was introduced by Senator Smith and would provide funds for career education programs. Baack stated that this bill deals with K-12 education and would take lottery funds to encourage schools to pursue vocational courses. It was decided to **support** this bill.

LB 766 was introduced by Senator Bloomfield and would change tuition assistance programs provisions for National Guard members. Baack stated that this bill would limit National Guard members to one Bachelor's degree. As it is originally written, a National Guard member could not receive additional assistance after the completion of an Associate's degree. It was decided to **monitor this bill with the option to support** if needed.

LB 779 was introduced by Senator Scheer and would change duties of the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education relating to transfer-of-credit courses. Baack stated that this bill would get the Coordinating Commission more involved in the transfer of credit. He stated that he had met with Senator Scheer about this bill and the Senator stated that he would like all 300 and 400 level courses to transfer. After the meeting, the Senator decided not to pursue the bill and allow higher education institutes to work amongst themselves for a resolution. It was decided to **monitor this bill with the option to support** if needed.

Additional discussion was had regarding the Nebraska Transfer Initiative and the overall transfer process. President Miller stated that he would like this to be an agenda item for the remainder of the year and the actual transfer document provided for the second quarter meeting.

LB 781 was introduced by Senator Harms and would change a date relating to community college area comprehensive audit. Baack stated that this bill would change the due date for the community college audits by one month to November 15. It was decided to **support** this bill.

LB 826 was introduced by Senator McCoy and would provide a study relating to education incentives for high-need occupations. It was decided to **monitor this bill with the option to support** if needed.

LB 879 was introduced by Senator Christensen and would provide for a permit to carry a concealed handgun in a school. Baack stated that this bill would allow teachers and administrators to carry concealed handguns on school grounds. In prior bills of the same topic, the Board had taken a position of opposition. It was decided to again **oppose** this bill.

LB 917 was introduced by Senator McCoy and would provide procedures for donation of real property to the Northeast Community College Area. Baack stated that this bill would give the Regional Center property, which sits in the middle of Northeast's campus, to Northeast. However, the sex offender facility would not be included at this time but if became available, Northeast would have the opportunity to look at the property. It was decided to **support** this bill.

LB 984 was introduced by Senator Sullivan and would change allocations from the Education Innovation Fund. Baack stated that this bill would revamp the fund and consolidate the numerous programs that currently come out of the fund to make it more compact. Scholarship funds for the colleges do come out of this fund so a watchful eye must be had to ensure we continue to receive those funds. It was decided to **monitor this bill with the option to support** if needed.

LB 1055 was introduced by Senator Janssen and would provide for tuition-free credits for veterans and military personnel as prescribed. Baack stated that this bill is asking all higher education facilities to provide 15 free credit hours to veterans. Dr. Smith commented that veterans already have tuition assistance available to them so he questions why the colleges should give away something somebody else is willing to pay for. Dr. Huck stated that this should be made into a policy question. Should the state move into the domain of telling higher education who they can and cannot charge tuition to? It was decided to **oppose** this bill.

LB 1061 was introduced by Senator Lautenbaugh and would change from elected to appointed boards for community college areas. Baack stated that this bill would have

the county commissioners in each area appoint community college board members. It was decided to **oppose** this bill.

LB 1077 was introduced by Senator Sullivan and would adopt the Shared Responsibility for Access and Success Act. Baack stated that this bill would change the way scholarship funds, which come out of the Education Innovation Fund, is distributed. This bill does not have an implementation date until July 2016 so this would allow the financial aid offices to analyze the bill. It was decided to **monitor** this bill.

LB 1083 was introduced by Senator Garrett and would change job training grant provisions relating to veterans. Baack stated that the Department of Economic Development has a fund for job training grants and this bill would add veterans to the list of those who can access those funds. It was decided to **support** this bill.

LB 1103 was introduced by the Education Committee and would provide for a strategic planning process for education. Baack stated that this bill is a study of all higher education and the colleges will need to participate. It was decided to **monitor** this bill.

LB 1106 was introduced by Senator McGill and would change provisions relating to career academies. Baack stated that this bill is a rewrite of LB 47 and states that the State will have a fund to pay tuition for students who take courses at career academies. It was decided to **support** this bill.

MOTION BY ROBERT FEIT AND SECOND BY TOM PERKINS that the NCCA Board of Directors approve the 2014 legislative agenda as stated.

President Miller asked for any further comments or questions. There were none.

A roll call vote was taken.

Voting Aye: Anderson, Cowan, Feit, Gramberg, Keller, Mehl, Miller, Perkins, Petsche, Schluckebier

Voting Nay: None

RESULT: Motion carried ten (10) ayes and no nays.

A break was taken from 10:32 a.m. until 10:43 a.m.

7. NCCA BOARD PLAN/FOCUS FOR 2014

President Miller stated that the Executive Team had met and identified some items which relate to the topic. They would like to organize effective and productive quarterly meetings for 2014. To accomplish this, the Executive Team will meet prior to each quarterly meeting to discuss plans for that meeting as well as subsequent

meetings. They also would ask the CEO's if they would meet before the quarterly meeting whether that be the afternoon before or immediately before. President Miller went on to say that the Executive Team would like the focus of the second quarter meeting to be the Bill Gates 'charge' that was presented at ACCT Congress. The video will be shown at the Board meeting followed by a possible mini Board workshop. Additional discussions could be: Student Success and review of the Board Evaluation Instrument. President Miller also stated that he will bring up the topic of changing the location of the third quarter meeting from a video conference to either a meeting in Mid-Plains or Western.

Baack then informed the Board of a request for the Nebraska State Chamber regarding a campaign they would like Board to participate in. The campaign is aimed at military personnel that will be leaving the military soon and trying to get them to come to Nebraska for their education. To be a 2-star sponsor would cost the Association \$10,000. Baack stated that the Association has enough money in cash reserves to cover this campaign and still be okay financially.

MOTION BY ROBERT FEIT AND SECOND BY TOM PERKINS that the NCCA Board of Directors authorize the Association to be a 2-Star sponsor in the Nebraska State Chamber Veterans Campaign.

President Miller asked for any further discussion. There was none.

A roll call vote was taken.

Voting Aye: Anderson, Cowan, Feit, Gramberg, Keller, Mehl, Miller, Perkins, Petsche, Schluckebier

Voting Nay: None

RESULT: Motion carried ten (10) ayes and no nays.

8. COUNCIL OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT

Dr. Holcomb stated that they are looking into a follow-up with GISS and will be having a conference call at their meeting to discuss this.

9. TREASURER'S REPORT

Anderson reviewed the financial report with the Board and asked for any questions or comments. There were none.

10. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Baack stated that each area board had passed the proposed by-law change and the federal delegation meetings have been made during NLS. President Miller and Feit will be leading the meetings this year as Baack will not be attending.

11. ACCT REPORT

Feit asked is anyone would be interested in being an ACCT Ambassador to please contact Diane Gallagher at ACCT.

12. AREA BOARD REPORT

Schluckebier stated that the ballots on the bond issue with Lincoln Public Schools have been mailed and Southeast is hoping it will pass.

Anderson stated that Northeast is close to raising the funds needed for a campus in O'Neill.

Keller stated that Central recently approved the purchase of land near the new Kearney Senior High.

Gramberg stated that Western is in the process of trying to purchase land next to the campus in Scottsbluff by filing imminent domain and also trying to find temporary facilities for housing students in Sidney.

Mehl stated Mid-Plains is about 30 days from opening their new cafeteria on the South Campus in North Platte and were also able to purchase land near their McCook campus.

13. COMMENTS AND CONCERNS OF GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

Perkins referenced an article in USA Today regarding security and safety on college campuses. He does not know how often this occurs on our campuses but this is an issue that needs to be addressed. President Miller questioned if the areas are doing enough to encourage reporting assaults on campuses. Feit distributed a pamphlet that Southeast has distributed regarding this matter.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:49 a.m.

Kent Miller, President

Sandra Borden, Secretary