



**EASTERN WYOMING COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, March 11, 2025

EWC Dolores Kaufman Board Room

Present: Jackie VanMark, Randy Adams, Kurt Sittner, Jim Willox, Bob Baumgartner, Rick Vonburg, and Katherine Patrick

Absent: Doug Mercer

1. Chairman VanMark called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of Agenda

Recommended To: Approve the agenda.

Moved by: Bob Baumgartner

Seconded by: Randy Adams

Carried

3. Approval of the Minutes

Recommended To: Approve the February 11, 2025 meeting minutes.

Moved by: Rick Vonburg

Seconded by: Katherine Patrick

Carried

4. Introductions -None

5. Public Comment-None

6. Administrative Reports

6.1 President's Report: Dr. Jeffry Hawes

The Strategic Plan-Envisioning Committee, led by Kim Dale, has completed the first phase of the plan. Phase II involved distributing a survey to both internal and external stakeholders. Additionally, a listening session was held at Guernsey High School, marking the first of a series of dozen listening sessions across the six-county area. The final two sessions will take place in Douglas and Torrington.

This morning, the DOE approved the transcript, and it has been officially accepted. Preparations are now underway for the next submission.

6.2 Financial Report: CFO Kwin Wilkes

CFO Wilkes presented the Financial Report for March, 2025.

6.3 Workforce Development Report: Dean Darryl Spitzer, and Director Ed Kimes

Dean Spitzer and Mr. Kimes are reaching out to other high schools in the service area to build CDL training programs and develop a business plan for expanding CDL training to Douglas, northern counties, and Wheatland. Mr. Kimes is working on developing an education waiver proposal for under-21 CDL training across state lines. He is exploring the purchase of another truck and trailer for CDL training expansion. The CDL program team will be implementing electronic log sheets and automated systems.

6.4 HLC Assurance Review Update: VP Dr. Margaret Farley

This was moved to the April 8, 2025 Board Meeting.

7. Food and Housing Service Fee Increases: VP John Hansen

Mr. Hansen presented a proposal to increase meal plan prices from \$5.12 per meal to \$7.57 per meal, a 32% increase. This adjustment is based on inflation, rising food costs, and comparisons with other colleges in the state.

Mr. Hansen also presented new housing pricing for the College that is comparable to other institutions. He also suggests a 25% increase for private room rates, though these are rarely sold. The current housing and meal prices have remained unchanged for 3-4 years, with only a previously approved 3% phased increase in food services.

8. Course Fee Increase: Dean Debra Ochsner and VP John Hansen

The goal is to recapture as much of the operational costs as possible while remaining competitive in the marketplace. The College is facing a potential loss of about \$57,000 due to new legislation affecting property taxes. Dr. Ochsner presented proposed course fee changes, noting that faculty took the process seriously and were concerned about affordability for students. The fees are designed to cover specific costs associated with labs and consumables, not general institutional expenses.

Dean Spitzer elaborated on the process of evaluating and adjusting fees in CTE programs, revealing that it uncovered broader issues in budget allocation and spending practices. The changes aim to make the fee structure more accurate, equitable, and fiscally responsible while keeping costs reasonable for students.

9. Board Consent Agenda

- 9.1 Ratification of the February 2025 Expenditure Report
Recommended To: Approve the Consent Agenda.

Moved by: Bob Baumgartner

Seconded by: Katherine Patrick

Carried

10. Board Approval of Action Items

- 10.1 Approval of Institutional Fee Increases for FY26.
Recommended To: Approve Institutional Fee Increases for FY26.

Moved by: Rick Vonburg

Seconded by: Bob Baumgartner

Carried

- 10.2 Approval of Food Services Fee Increases for FY26.
Recommended To: Approve Food Services Fee Increases for FY26.

Moved by: Bob Baumgartner

Seconded by: Randy Adams

Carried

10.3 Approval of Housing Fee Increases for FY26.

Recommended To: Approval of Housing Fee Increases for FY26.

Moved by: Randy Adams

Seconded by: Rick Vonburg

Carried

10.4 Approval of Course Fee Increases for FY26.

Recommended To: Approve Course Fee Increases for FY26.

Moved by: Katherine Patrick

Seconded by: Bob Baumgartner


Carried

11. Department Reports - None

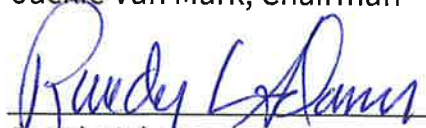
12. Trustee Topics

- Jim Willox updated the Board on the status of the EDA grant and Douglas expansion.
- Randy Adams stated he was very pleased and impressed with both the Women's and Men's Basketball season and teams this year.

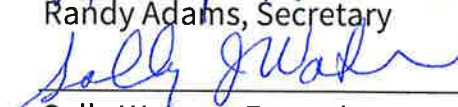
13. Adjournment



Jackie Van Mark, Chairman



Randy Adams, Secretary



Sally Watson, Executive Assistant