

**NORTHERN OKLAHOMA COLLEGE BOARD OF REGENTS**  
**Minutes**

Wednesday, February 21, 2024, NOC Tonkawa

**Regents Present:** Brad Fox, Mike Loftis, Michael Martin, and Jason Turnbow.

**Regents Absent:** Jami Groendyke.

**Employees Present:** Diana Watkins, Anita Simpson, Sheri Snyder, Dr. Rick Edgington, Jason Johnson, Jeremy Hise, Marsh Howard, Denise Bay, and Scott Cloud.

1. **Call to Order.** Presiding Chair Brad Fox called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Notice of the meeting had been given to the Secretary of State and the agenda posted. Quorum was declared present.
2. **Introduction of visitors, guests, and/or speaker.** Whitney Herzog Scimeca, Assistant Attorney General, Kevin Ditmore, Tonkawa Economic Development, Mic Keeler, Community Member.
3. **Reciting of the Northern Oklahoma College Mission Statement.** Northern Oklahoma College, the State's first public community college, is a multi-campus, land-grant institution that provides high quality, accessible, and affordable educational opportunities and services which create life changing experiences and develop students as effective learners and leaders within their communities and in a connected, ever-changing world.
4. **Public Comments.** No comments to report.

**BOARD ACTION**

5. **Vote to approve minutes.**
  - The minutes of the Wednesday, December 13, 2024 meeting were approved on the motion of Regent Martin as seconded by Regent Turnbow. Voting aye were Regents Martin, Loftis, Turnbow, and Fox.
6. **Resolutions Supporting the Current Law on Guns on Campus.**
  - Diana Watkins presented a Resolution supporting the current law on Guns on Campus. On the motion of Regent Turnbow as seconded by Regent Martin, the Regents voted to approve the Resolutions supporting the current law on Guns on Campus. Voting aye were Regents Loftis,

Martin, Turnbow, and Fox.

7. **Enid Public Schools Joint Facility Usage Agreement.**

- Jeremy Hise presented the Joint Facility Usage Agreement with Enid Public Schools. The agreement outlines the terms and conditions of the partnership. The Joint Facility Usage Agreement will promote school-sponsored athletic programs, such as baseball, softball, and cross-country in the city of Enid. The term of the agreement shall extend from January 16, 2024, for thirty (30) years ending January 16, 2054. On the motion of Regent Loftis as seconded by Regent Martin, the Regents approved the Joint Facility Usage Agreement between NOC and Enid Public Schools. Voting aye were Regents Loftis, Martin, Turnbow, and Fox.

8. **2024-2025 Academic Calendar.**

- Diana Watkins presented for approval the 2024-2025 Academic Calendar. On the motion of Regent Turnbow as seconded by Regent Loftis, the Regents voted to approve the 2024-2025 Academic Calendar. Voting aye were Regents Loftis, Martin, Turnbow, and Fox.

9. **Monthly Financial Report.**

- Ms. Simpson presented for approval of the monthly financial reports dated December 31, 2023, and January 31, 2024. On the motion of Regent Turnbow as seconded by Regent Martin, the Regents approved the monthly financial reports as presented. Voting aye were Regents Loftis, Martin, Turnbow, and Fox.

10. **Monthly Purchase Report.**

- Ms. Simpson presented February 2024 purchases for approval. **Purchases of \$25,000 or more** were for: (#1.) Multi-Factor Authentication – Zoho Corporation - \$31,338.00; Funding Source: Capital Funds. On the motion of Regent Loftis as seconded by Regent Turnbow, the Regents approved February 2024 Monthly Purchases. Voting aye were Regents Loftis, Martin, Turnbow, and Fox.

11. **Monthly Allocations Report.**

- Ms. Simpson presented for approval Section 13/New College Fund 600 & 650 allocation requests for the following projects: Furniture & Equipment – Tonkawa - \$10,000.00, Furniture & Equipment – Enid - \$20,000.00, Computers & Networking – Tonkawa - \$15,000.00, Computer Hardware, Software, Licenses & Fees – \$35,000.00. On the motion of Regent Turnbow as seconded by Regent Martin, the Regents voted to approve the Section 13/New College Fund 600 & 650 allocation request for \$80,000.00 as presented. Voting aye were Regents Loftis, Martin, Turnbow, and Fox.

12. **Hiring Process. Discussion and possible action regarding the process for hiring an NOC President.**
  - Presiding Chair Brad Fox stated that the job posting for the NOC President will be posted in the next few weeks. He also stated that he will be taking the necessary steps to form a hiring committee. No action was needed.
13. **Vote to go into Executive Session.**
  - On the motion of Regent Loftis as seconded by Regent Turnbow, the Regents Approved to go into Executive Session. Voting aye were Regent Loftis, Martin, Turnbow, and Fox.
14. **Executive Session.**
  - Possible Executive Session pursuant to Title 25, Oklahoma Statutes 307 (B), to hold confidential communication with NOC's attorney regarding *Perrine v. Northern Oklahoma College*, not filed yet, where disclosure will seriously impair the ability of NOC to conduct the litigation in the public interest.
15. **Vote to return to open session.**
  - On the motion of Regent Turnbow as seconded by Regent Martin, the Regents voted to return to open session. Voting aye were Regents Loftis, Martin, Turnbow, and Fox.
16. **Needed actions from Executive Session.**
  - No action is needed.

## INFORMATION TO THE BOARD

17. **Administrative Comments.**
  - Diana Watkins noted that the Mass Communications department is very excited to announce that the Podcast class has been officially approved.
  - Sheri Snyder recognized First National Bank of Oklahoma on receiving the Business Partner Excellence Award. She invited the Regents to attend the Award Ceremony on Thursday, March 7. Ms. Snyder also stated that she has been working with the Washington Speakers' Bureau on the next guest speaker for the Carl Renfro Lectureship on April 2, 2024. Sheri noted that she has assisted with the new buses/new vans vinyl wrap with RFP and is hoping to have everything finalized by the end of February with the install to be completed in May.
  - Jeremy Hise stated that Making a Difference and mental health therapist, Brittany Juliano, provided the first proactive psychoeducation session to NOC Enid students as a part of the MAD/NOC partnership. The topic of this session was dating violence and safety. The event was very well attended and Brittany

did a fantastic job of covering a challenging and important topic in a way that kept the students actively engaged. Jeremy also noted that four students from Enid High were recognized as seniors who will graduate with an Associate's Degree from Northern Oklahoma College.

- Dr. Rick Edgington reviewed the Spring 2024 Preliminary Enrollment Report dated February 21, 2024, noting that headcount and credit hour is down from last year.
- Anita Simpson reported that we received the listing of Potential Capital Projects for Real Property Master Lease Program for the calendar year 2024 that was required to be submitted to the Legislature on February 7, 2024. Included in the listing are the potential refunding of the 2014C and 2014D Property Series which are callable. The bond issuance has reached its ten-year call date and will provide the opportunity for refinancing should the interest rates move to a favorable position. The current threshold would require a minimum of a 3% savings test to be met before any refunding issuance. The market environment will be closely monitored for any opportunities to provide savings. Anita also stated that NOC has contracted with GH2 Architects for the bidding and construction phase services in conjunction with the Marshall Bell Tower renovation project. The advertisement for bids will be placed on February 19<sup>th</sup> with in mandatory pre-bid conference to be held on February 29<sup>th</sup>. The bid opening will occur on March 12<sup>th</sup> and will be presented at the March Board of Regents meeting for consideration.
- Marsh Howard noted that he hosted "First Friday" – "open door, open discussion" for Stillwater employees. Marsh also stated that he attended the Living Learning Program Team meeting and submitted 7 applicants' names for 4 Gateway LLP spots to OSU. Room selection begins in March.
- Jason Johnson noted that athletics is actively in one of the busiest times of the year as we have an overlap between basketball, baseball, and softball seasons. Our wrestling programs are recruiting and signing student-athletes for the 24/25 academic year. NOC hosted a very successful "Meet the Coaches Night" in conjunction with the Tonkawa vs Blackwell dual. We continue to hear positive feedback about the decision to bring wrestling to the NOC Tonkawa campus. There is still much more to do including the continued fundraising campaign.

18. **President's Update.**

- Diana Watkins gave thanks to the Executive Council team and Denise Bay for helping her transition to Interim President.

- Diana Watkins noted that the Higher Education Day at the Capitol was very productive with PLC students attending from each campus.
- Diana Watkins stated that she and Dr. Rick Edgington visited Tri-Country Dental out of Bartlesville following a discussion with OU concerning the possibility of starting a Dental Hygienist program at NOC.

19. **Regents Comments.**

- Regent Martin announced that he will be stepping down as Regent at the end of his five-year term which will expire at the end of June 2024.

20. **Other Reports.**

- ***Personnel Changes.*** Ms. Anita Simpson reported seven resignations and seven new hires.
- ***NOC Strategic Plan.***
  - Diana Watkins gave a brief update on NOC's Strategic Plan and announced that there is progress in all areas.

**ROUTINE AND OTHER**

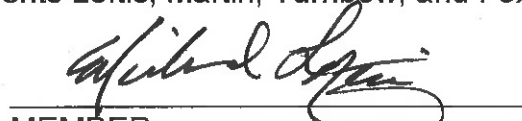
21. **New Business.**

22. **Items for the next agenda.**

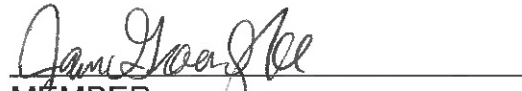
23. **Announcement of next scheduled meeting: The next regular scheduled meeting is Wednesday, March 27, 2024, at 2:00 p.m., in the Brown Conference Room 217, on the Stillwater campus.**


24. **Adjournment.** – Motion made at 3:06 p.m. to adjourn by Regent Loftis as seconded by Regent Martin. Voting aye were Regents Loftis, Martin, Turnbow, and Fox.

  
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VICE CHAIR

  
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SECRETARY