

# NORTHERN OKLAHOMA COLLEGE BOARD OF REGENTS

## Minutes

Wednesday, October 16, 2024, NOC Tonkawa

**Regents Present:** Mike Loftis, Sandy Mulligan, and Jason Turnbow.

**Regents Absent:** Brad Fox and Jami Groendyke.

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

1. **Call to Order.** Chair Jason Turnbow 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.** Kevin Ditmore, Director of Tonkawa Economic Development.
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, September 25, 2024 meeting were approved on the motion of Regent Loftis as seconded by Regent Mulligan. Voting aye were Regents Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.
6. **Refunding of Oklahoma Development Finance Authority Master Real Property Lease Series Agreement 2014C to 2024B.**
  - Ms. Simpson presented for approval the Refunding of Oklahoma Development Finance Authority Master Real Property Lease Series Agreement 2014C to 2024B. NOC will save \$230,000.00 from changing the lease schedule for bonds sold to construct Mavericks Residence Hall in Tonkawa and Jets

Residence Hall in Enid in 2014. The cost of the projects totaled \$10 million. The agreement for repayment of the bonds will be completed in 2034. On the Motion of Regent Mulligan, seconded by Regent Loftis, the Regents voted to approve the Refunding of Oklahoma Development Finance Authority Master Real Property Lease Series Agreement 2014C to 2024B. Voting aye were Regents Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.

7. **Monthly Financial Report.**

- Ms. Simpson presented for approval of the monthly financial report dated for September 30, 2024. On the motion of Regent Mulligan as seconded by Regent Loftis, the Regents approved the monthly financial report as presented. Voting aye were Regents Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.

8. **Monthly Purchases.**

Ms. Simpson presented October 2024 purchases for approval. **Purchases of \$25,000 or more** were for: (#1.) Upgrade Current Security Camera System & Add 16 New Cameras – Tonkawa -ShotRok, \$49,969.59; Funding Source: Capital Funds, Sole Source. On the motion of Regent Loftis as seconded by Regent Mulligan, the Regents approved the monthly purchases as presented. Voting aye were Regents Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow

9. **Monthly Allocations Report.**

- Ms. Simpson presented for approval Section 13/New College Fund 600 & 650 allocation requests for the following projects: Computers & Networking – Tonkawa - \$10,000.00, Computer Hardware, Software, Licenses & Fees - \$300,000.00. On the motion of Regent Loftis as seconded by Regent Mulligan, the Regents voted to approve the Section 13/New College Fund 600 & 650 allocation request for \$310,000.00 as presented. Voting aye were Regents Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.

## **INFORMATION TO THE BOARD**

10. **Administrative Comments.**

- Dr. Mencacci highlighted key updates across various divisions. The Nursing Division had their White Coat Ceremony and Honor Society Induction on October 15, 2024, in Enid. Twenty-two students transitioned to clinical practice, and eight were recognized from the NOC-Saint Francis cohort program. Two students were inducted into the Alpha Delta Nu National Associate Degree Nursing Honor Society. In the Health, Physical Education & Recreation (HPER) Division she noted that a Presidential Learning Scholars Field Trip is planned to the Greenwood District in Tulsa, highlighting experiential learning. HPER also renewed a partnership with OSU Center for Health Sciences (CHS), expanding internship opportunities for both Master and undergraduate athletic trainer students. Dr. Mencacci also gave a brief update on the Learning

Commons stating that a collaboration between Tammy Davis and Ben Hanline is underway to curate books and learning resources for students and faculty, alongside new art displays.

- Sheri Snyder stated that the Development office continues its efforts in building and strengthening relationships with donors and prospective donors, focusing on establishing new scholarships and providing ongoing correspondence and acknowledgments for gift receipts. We are pleased to report a significant influx of support since the last Board meeting, with major donations of \$5,000 and above received between September 23 and October 11. Sheri also announced that the Presidential Partners Campaign brochures are now finalized and will be mailed out in the near future. She also stated that her department has coordinated and attended several meetings to explore new artwork and mural opportunities for the Pickens Learning Commons (PLC) and the Cultural Engagement Center (CEC). Northern Oklahoma College (NOC) has reached an agreement with native artist Yatika Starr Fields to commission murals for the south and west walls of the CEC at a mutually agreed-upon fee.
- Jeremy Hise noted that NOC Enid Fall Northern Encounter saw notable growth, with 64 attendees this year—up from 42 in 2022 and 15 in 2021. With 72 RSVPs, Raychel and Trystan led effective recruitment efforts and campus tours, and increased involvement from academic departments and clubs helped create a richer experience. Survey results indicated that 88% of students enjoyed the event, 88% felt welcomed, and 84% are likely to attend NOC. While feedback was positive, plans are underway to enhance future events, including a spring Northern Encounter and a larger event for Enid High School.
- Rick Edgington reviewed the Fall 2024 Preliminary Enrollment reports dated October 16, 2024, noting that the headcount for the fall is up by 2% and credit hours are up by 6% from Fall 2023.
- Anita Simpson stated that the FY2026 Budget Needs Survey was submitted to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, totaling \$34,605,140. Key funding requests include mandatory costs, merit salary increases, support for the State Regents' Strategic Plan 2030, and deferred maintenance for the Tonkawa and Enid campuses. She also stated that Open Enrollment for Health Insurance took place October 14<sup>th</sup> to October 25<sup>th</sup>. This year, health insurance premiums will see a 15% increase. She also commended Stacy Burns, Physical Plant Director, for his dedication and hard work in completing the new Greenhouse that is part of the NASNTI grant. His efforts have been instrumental in bringing this project to fruition, reflecting his commitment to enhancing campus facilities and supporting educational initiatives.

- Marsh Howard stated that he attended a meeting regarding the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) alongside Dr. Rick Edgington and Dr. Shelly Mencacci. The meeting was held with OSU Provost Dr. Chris Francisco to lay the groundwork for the upcoming MOU negotiations. He also stated that Northern Encounter Stillwater will take place on October 30, with NOC Gateway Alumni leading campus tours. To enhance the experience, the focus will be on creating a more immersive college environment by assisting attendees with their schedules and addressing any questions they may have.
- Jason Johnson reported that the Criminal Justice Association won the Regional Conference and Competition Sweepstakes Championship in Texas in early October. The team is led by Criminal Justice Instructor Troy Cochran.

11. **President's Update.**

- Diana Morris Watkins shared that discussions at the Two-Year Council of Presidents meetings have focused on the State Regents' initiative to implement Embedded Associate Degrees at four-year institutions. The discussions are exploring the logistics, benefits, and potential challenges of incorporating these programs into four-year institutions.
- Diana also noted that she attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Stillwater Medical Clinic in Tonkawa. This new clinic will be a significant benefit to our students, providing convenient access to healthcare services.

12. **Regents' Comments.**

- No comments.

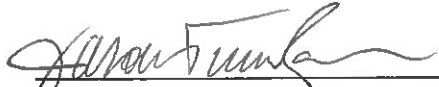
13. **Other Reports.**


- ***Personnel Changes.*** Ms. Anita Simpson reported one new hire.
- ***Strategic Plan Update.*** Dr. Shelly Mencacci provided an update on the progress of the Strategic Plan, highlighting key developments and ongoing initiatives.


## **ROUTINE AND OTHER**

14. **New Business.** Diana requested relocating the November BOR meeting from Stillwater to Enid.
15. **Items for the next agenda.**
16. **Announcement of next scheduled meeting:** The next regular scheduled meeting is Wednesday, November 13, 2024, at 2:00 p.m., in the Gantz Center, James Room, Enid Campus.

17. **Adjournment.** – Motion made at 3:18 p.m. to adjourn by Regent Loftis as seconded by Regent Mulligan. Voting aye were Regents Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.

  
CHAIR

  
VICE CHAIR

  
SECRETARY

  
MEMBER

  
MEMBER