

NORTHERN OKLAHOMA COLLEGE BOARD OF REGENTS

Minutes

Thursday, February 27, 2025, NOC Enid

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

Regents Absent: Brad Fox.

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

1. **Call to Order.** Chair Jason Turnbow called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Notice of 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.**
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 11, 2024 meeting were approved on the motion of Regent Groendyke as seconded by Regent Loftis. Voting aye were Regents Groendyke, Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.
6. **Resolutions Supporting the Current Law on Guns on Campus.**
 - Diana Morris Watkins presented a Resolution supporting the current law on Guns on Campus. On the motion of Regent Groendyke as seconded by Regent Mulligan, the Regents voted to approve the Resolutions supporting the

- current law on Guns on Campus. Voting aye were Regents Groendyke, Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.
7. **2025-2026 Academic Calendar.**
 - No Action Required.
 8. **Academic Service Fees Request 26'.**
 - Ms. Simpson presented for approval the Academic Service Fees changes for FY26. On the motion of Regent Groendyke, as seconded by Regent Loftis, the Regents approved the Academic Service Fees increase for FY2026. Voting aye were Regents Groendyke, Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.
 9. **Consider Naming Opportunity.**
 - Diana Morris Watkins presented for approval of the renaming of the auditorium within the Kinzer Performing Arts Center at NOC Tonkawa as "The Heilmann Auditorium" in recognition of Heilmann's contributions to the Institution. She emphasized Heilmann's impact on the Fine Arts Department at NOC. Anita Simpson and Sheri Snyder highlighted his instrumental role in the development of the KPAC and his 32-year career at NOC, including his leadership of "The Roustabouts" and significant contributions to music education. On the motion of Regent Mulligan as seconded by Regent Loftis, the Regents approved the renaming of the auditorium within the Kinzer Performing Arts Center at NOC Tonkawa as "The Heilmann Auditorium." Voting aye were Regents Groendyke, Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.
 10. **NOC Workplace Wellness Policy.**
 - Dr. Marsh Howard presented for approval the NOC Workplace Wellness Policy, which outlines the wellness initiatives, resources, and commitments NOC has implemented to support the health and well-being of its employees and the broader campus community. The policy aims to foster a culture of well-being through various programs and support systems. On the motion of Regent Groendyke, as seconded by Regent Mulligan, the Regents approved the NOC Workplace Wellness Policy. Voting aye were Regents Groendyke, Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.
 11. **Monthly Financial Report.**
 - Ms. Simpson presented for approval of the monthly financial reports dated December 31, 2024, and January 31, 2025. On the motion of Regent Groendyke, as seconded by Regent Loftis, the Regents approved the monthly financial reports as presented. Voting aye were Regents Groendyke, Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.

12. **Monthly Purchase Report.**

- Ms. Simpson presented February 2024 purchases for approval. **Purchases of \$25,000 or more** were for: (#I.) Mavericks and Threlkeld Residence Halls Roof Replacement – Williams Construction Company -\$117,390.00; Funding Source: Auxiliary Funds to be reimbursed by OMES, (#II.) Wellness Center Indoor Track –Performance Surfaces - \$97,730.00; Funding Source: Capital Funds. On the motion of Regent Groendyke as seconded by Regent Mulligan, the Regents approved February 2025 Monthly Purchases. Voting aye were Regents Groendyke, Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.

13. **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, Computers & Networking – Enid - \$10,000.00, Computers & Networking – Stillwater - \$10,000.00, Computer Hardware, Software, Licenses & Fees – \$10,000.00. On the motion of Regent Groendyke as seconded by Regent Mulligan, the Regents voted to approve the Section 13/New College Fund 600 & 650 allocation request for \$40,000.00 as presented. Voting aye were Regents Groendyke, Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.

INFORMATION TO THE BOARD

14. **Administrative Comments.**

- Dr. Shelly Mencacci noted that the AG & Biological Sciences Division hosted the Interscholastic Ag competition with approximately 780 entries. Proceeds went to the Mr. Bob Matthiessen Scholarship. The Business Division is providing annual tax preparation support for low-income families. Cara Beth Johnson was nominated and accepted the role of Treasurer for the National Accreditation Council Business Schools and Programs. She also stated that all December nursing graduates passed the NCLEX on their first attempt, maintaining a 100% pass rate for the 3rd year in a row. The division is developing a Spanish for HealthCare workers micro-credential and new teaching methodologies for co-hort learning simulations to be completed fully online. A conference will be hosted at the Renfro Center to showcase the nursing program.
- Sheri Snyder invited the Regents to the NOC Alumni and Friends Reunion and Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on Saturday, March 29, 2025. She announced that registration will begin at 4:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 5:00 p.m. in the Renfro Center. Additionally, Sheri shared that Diamond Rio will be performing at this year's Spring Renfro Lectureship on April 3, 2025.

- Jeremy Hise stated that the first phase of the Failing Field project is underway, with lights installed on February 28. He also noted that the TSET construction/implementation grant application was submitted on February 12, 2025. He expressed his appreciation to Dr. Marsh Howard, Vice President of Stillwater, and Dr. Jaime Schussler of Oklahoma State University for their hard work in completing the application. Additionally, he shared that the Black History Month ceremony was well attended and enjoyable. He thanked Dr. MaryAnn McCoy for coordinating such a wonderful event.
- Dr. Rick Edgington provided an overview of the Spring 2025 Preliminary Enrollment Report dated February 27, 2025, noting an increase in both headcount and credit hours compared to the previous year. He also introduced Pete's Path, a new program implemented by OSU beginning in the Spring 2025 semester. Pete's Path is designed for students who do not meet OSU's assured admission requirements, offering them a structured transition plan. In the fall, participants enroll in Freshman Orientation and American Government at OSU while completing the remainder of their coursework at NOC Stillwater. In the spring, they take American History at OSU, with the rest of their courses continuing at NOC Stillwater. This differs from the Gateway program, which requires students to complete 24 credit hours at NOC before enrolling in any OSU courses. Dr. Edgington noted that he and Dr. Mencacci have been working closely with Division Chairs to coordinate fall enrollment for Pete's Path. He expressed optimism that the program will attract new students to NOC Stillwater and enhance enrollment opportunities.
- Anita Simpson reported that she has submitted the Higher Education FY25 Deferred Maintenance Quarterly Project Progress report to the State Regents for the quarter ending December 31, 2024. As of that date, \$529,989—representing 43.97% of the \$1,205,357 received for FY2025—had been expended. She provided a summary of the report, outlining the projects that have been expended, encumbered, and pending approval.
- Dr. Marsh Howard announced that NOC Stillwater will be offering parking spaces for The Boys from Oklahoma concert April 10-13 at Boone Pickens Stadium as a fundraiser. The spaces are \$50 per day. He stated that spaces will be available to purchase by NOC employees, Regents, and Foundation Trustees on March 6. Spaces will be available to purchase by NOC Alumni and Friends on March 7. All proceeds will help fund several NOC Foundation Scholarships, Stillwater Activity Fund, and Stillwater Public Education Foundation.
- Jason Johnson reviewed the timeline of the citywide water shortage and expressed his appreciation for the excellent communication between the City

of Tonkawa and NOC throughout the process. He commended the team for their outstanding efforts in managing the situation effectively.

15. **President's Update.**

- President Morris Watkins expressed deep gratitude to the City of Tonkawa and the NOC team, including Stacy Burns, NOC Physical Plant Director and Mayor, for their exceptional dedication and hard work in repairing and restoring the city's water supply. She commended their tireless efforts and strong leadership throughout the process, emphasizing the vital role they played in addressing the community's needs and ensuring a swift resolution to the situation.
- President Morris Watkins stated that she will be attending the Wrestling Nationals in Council Bluffs, Iowa. For the first time in 41 years, Northern Oklahoma College is competing at the NJCAA Wrestling Championships, and for the first time, the Lady Mavs are participating in the Women's Invitational Tournament. She expressed how proud and excited the entire NOC family is of these historic achievements and the athletes' hard work and dedication.

16. **Regents Comments.**

- Regent Turnbow commended the Administration for their exceptional work in managing the city water shortage and coordinating the temporary closure of Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa. He specifically recognized their efforts in working closely with city officials to facilitate the closure, allowing the city an opportunity to rebuild its water supply.

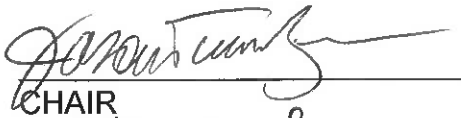
17. **Other Reports.**

- **Personnel Changes.** Ms. Anita Simpson reported four resignations and three new hires.
- **NOC's Strategic Plan Update.** President Diana Morris Watkins provided a brief update on the Strategic Plan, noting that kickoff discussions have already begun. She shared that Taskforce committees are being formed to focus on four key areas:
 - **Increasing Student Engagement & Satisfaction**
 - **Increasing Faculty & Staff Engagement & Satisfaction**
 - **Maximizing External Partnerships**
 - **Improving Facilities**

Watkins also expressed her appreciation for the strong turnout of external partners who participated in these discussions, especially in Enid.

ROUTINE AND OTHER

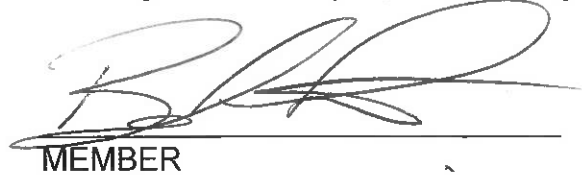
18. **New Business.**
19. **Items for the next agenda.**
20. **Announcement of next scheduled meeting:** The next regular scheduled meeting is Wednesday, March 26, 2025, at 2:00 p.m., in the Brown Conference Room 217, on the Stillwater campus.
21. **Adjournment.** – Motion made at 3:40 p.m. to adjourn by Regent Groendyke as seconded by Regent Loftis. Voting aye were Regents Groendyke, Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.



CHAIR



VICE CHAIR



MEMBER



MEMBER

SECRETARY