

# NORTHERN OKLAHOMA COLLEGE BOARD OF REGENTS

## Minutes

Wednesday, May 14, 2025, NOC Enid

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

**Regents Absent:** Brad Fox

**Employees Present:** Diana Morris Watkins, Anita Simpson, Sheri Snyder, Dr. Rick Edgington, Jason Johnson, Dr. Shelly Mencacci, 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.** Elaine Johns presented the Mission of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, joined by Jack Toney, a distinguished three-time Purple Heart recipient.
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.**

## BOARD ACTIONS

5. **Vote to approve minutes.**
  - The minutes of the Wednesday, April 23, 2025 meeting were approved on the motion of Regent Loftis as seconded by Regent Groendyke. Voting aye were Regents Groendyke, Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.

6. **Purple Heart Proclamation.**

- Diana Morris Watkins presented for approval a proclamation to designate Northern Oklahoma College as a Purple Heart College. The Board heard a presentation from Elaine Johns, Executive Director of the Woodring Wall of Honor and Veterans Park in Enid, and recognized three-time Purple Heart recipient Jack Toney in attendance. A formal recognition ceremony will be held during the Fall 2025 semester. On the motion of Regent Mulligan, as seconded by Regent Groendyke, the Regents voted to approve the Purple Heart College Proclamation. Voting aye were Regents Groendyke, Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.

7. **2025-2026 NOC Board of Regents Meeting Dates.**

- Diana Morris Watkins asked the Board to consider approval of the 2026 NOC Board of Regents meeting dates. On the motion of Regent Loftis as seconded by Regent Groendyke, the Regents voted to approve the 2026 NOC Board of Regents meeting dates. Voting aye were Regents Groendyke, Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.

8. **Exchange for Services Agreement.**

- Ms. Sheri Snyder reviewed the Exchange for Services Agreement between Northern Oklahoma College and Northern Oklahoma College Foundation, Inc. On the motion of Regent Groendyke, as seconded by Regent Loftis, the Regents approved the Exchange for Services Agreement between Northern Oklahoma College and Northern Oklahoma College Foundation, Inc. Voting aye were Regents Groendyke, Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.

9. **Resource Agreement to Support Development Activities.**

- Ms. Snyder presented for approval the Agreement between Northern Oklahoma College and Northern Oklahoma College Foundation, Inc. to allocate resources to Support Development Activities for the Friends Raising/Fundraising Support Fund and the Community Stakeholders Relations Support Fund. On the motion of Regent Loftis, as seconded by Regent Mulligan, the Regents voted to approve the Resource Agreement to Support Development Activities. Voting aye were Regents Groendyke, Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.

10. **Group Three Trustee(s) of the Northern Oklahoma College Foundation, Inc.**

- On the motion of Regent Groendyke as seconded by Regent Loftis, the Regents voted to approve the removal of the following Group Three Trustee from the Foundation Board: Mr. Ken Bellmard – Tonkawa Area (Term ending 6-30-2026) – Resignation as presented. The Regents also voted to approve the appointment of the following Group Three Trustee(s) to the Foundation

Board as presented: Brad Purdy – Tonkawa Area (New term ending 6-30-2028), LynnDe Funk – Enid Area (New term ending 6-30-2028), Dr. Cheryl Evans – Enid Area (New term ending 6-30-2028), and Tom Poole – Area at Large (New term ending 6-30-2028), and Patricia Hullet – Tonkawa Area (unexpired term ending 6-30-2027) as presented. Voting aye were Regents Groendyke, Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.

11. **Great Western Dining Service Contract.**

- Anita Simpson presented for approval the Great Western Dining Contract for FY2026. The agreement includes a mandatory meal plan for all residents and is based on a guarantee of 220 full-service days per academic year. Two meal plan options are available: a 15-meal Plan with \$100 in Dining Dollars per semester and a 19-meal Plan with \$150 in Dining Dollars per semester. Rates for each plan are determined using a sliding scale based on daily participation. The agreement outlines expectations and financial responsibilities to ensure continued, high-quality dining services for campus residents. On the motion of Regent Groendyke, seconded by Regent Mulligan, the Regents voted to approve the Great Western Dining Service Contract. Voting aye were Regents Groendyke, Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.

12. **Funding Agreement between The Oklahoma Development Finance Authority and Northern Oklahoma College relating to Public-Private Partner Development Infrastructure Pool.**

- Anita Simpson and Jeremy Hise presented for approval the Funding Agreement between The Oklahoma Development Finance Authority and Northern Oklahoma College relating to Public-Private Partner Development Infrastructure Pool. The Funding Agreement between Northern Oklahoma College and Oklahoma Development Finance Authority (ODFA) is part of the Oklahoma Business Expansion Incentive Program and the Public-Private Partner (P3) Development Infrastructure Pool. This initiative will provide \$675,000 in funding through the Community Economic Development Pooled Finance Act for the construction of an Athletic Education Center, a new multi-purpose facility on the NOC Enid campus. NOC is the first institution to take advantage of this innovative funding opportunity. Under the terms of the agreement, the College will receive quarterly award payments beginning on July 15, 2027, or until the award is fully paid. Funds are sourced from Eligible Employee Withholding Taxes deposited into the state's Revolving Fund and appropriated to ODFA. On the motion of Regent Groendyke, as seconded by Regent Mulligan, the Regents voted to approve the Funding Agreement with the Oklahoma Development Finance Authority for the Athletic Training Project on the NOC Enid campus. Voting aye were Regents Groendyke, Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.

13. **Increase Rates for Residential Rental Properties, Facility Rental Fees, and Facility Usage Fees.**

- Ms. Simpson presented for approval proposed rate increases for residential rental properties, facility rental fees, and facility usage fees effective July 2025. On the motion of Regent Loftis, as seconded by Regent Groendyke, the Regents approved increased rates for residential rental properties, facility rental fees, and facility usage fees effective July 2025. Voting aye were Regents Groendyke, Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.

14. **Room and Board Rates.**

- Ms. Simpson requested approval of the Residence Room and Board Rates for Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 semesters. On the motion of Regent Loftis, as seconded by Regent Groendyke, the Regents approved Room and Board Rates for Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 semesters. Voting aye were Regents Groendyke, Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.

15. **Monthly Financial Report.**

- Ms. Simpson presented for approval the monthly financial report dated April 30, 2025. On the motion of Regent Loftis, as seconded by Regent Groendyke, the Regents approved the monthly financial report as presented. Voting aye were Regents Groendyke, Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.

16. **Monthly Purchase Report.**

- Ms. Simpson presented May 2025 purchases for approval. **Purchases of \$25,000 or more** were for: (#I.) Annual Microsoft Volume Licensing Renewal-IT Outlet, Inc. - \$37,227.50; Funding Source: Capital Funds. (#II.) Residential Houses – 205 and 209 S. Pine Street – David Williams Construction Company, Inc. - \$25,620.00 – prior bid – Funding Source: Auxiliary Funds to be reimbursed by OMES for Insurance Claim. Nursing Software HESI Testing Review – Nursing; Elsevier - \$54,352.00; Funding Source: Auxiliary Funds. (#III.) Print Shop Equipment – 36 Month Lease; B & C Business Products - \$176,591.52; Funding Source: Auxiliary Funds – (this item was previously approved at the April BOR meeting for Galaxie Business Equipment for \$180,178.68, the college opted to re-bid the project in pursuit of more competitive pricing). On the motion of Regent Groendyke, as seconded by Regent Mulligan, the Regents approved May 2025 Monthly Purchases. Voting aye were Regents Groendyke, Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.

17. **Monthly Allocations Report.**

- Ms. Simpson presented for approval Section 13/New College Fund 600 & 650 allocation requests for the following projects: Computers and Networking – Tonkawa - \$10,000.00, Computers and Networking – Enid - \$10,000.00, Computers and Networking – Stillwater - \$10,000.00. Computer Hardware, Software, Licenses & Fees - \$70,000.00. On the motion of Regent Groendyke, as seconded by Regent Loftis, the Regents voted to approve the Section 13/New College Fund 600 & 650 allocation request for \$100,000.00 as presented. Voting aye were Regents Groendyke, Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.

18. **Vote to return to open session.**

- No vote was taken to enter Executive Session. The Regents elected to postpone entering Executive Session at this time.

19. **Executive Session.**

- No Executive Session was held. The Board chose to defer the discussion outlined under this item.

20. **Vote to Return to Open Session.**

- This item was not applicable, as the Regents did not enter Executive Session.

21. **Personal Actions of NOC President.**

- No formal discussion or action was taken. The Regents agreed to form a committee to evaluate the President of Northern Oklahoma College and plan to review this matter at the June Board of Regents meeting.

## **INFORMATION TO THE BOARD**

22. **Administrative Comments.**

- Shelly Mencacci provided a brief update on the Commencement Ceremonies, which were held on May 3. The event saw strong participation from students, their families, and friends. She expressed appreciation to the Board for their presence and support on this meaningful occasion. As part of ongoing efforts to support continuous improvement, Division Chairs and the Academic Affairs Office conducted a comprehensive review of the academic year within each academic unit. This assessment focused on identifying both areas of success and opportunities for growth to inform strategic planning and improve outcomes in the upcoming year.

- Sheri Snyder provided an update on the development of the new college website, noting that weekly project meetings are being held with Shannon Lorg and Diana Watkins to ensure the project remains on schedule. The website is anticipated to launch in time for the start of the Fall semester on August 18.
- Jeremy Hise noted that Northern Oklahoma College (NOC) and Enid Public Schools (EPS) were recognized at the 2025 Regents Business Partnership Excellence Awards ceremony on May 6 at the University of Central Oklahoma. The award honors collaborative efforts that advance workforce development and educational opportunities. NOC nominated EPS in recognition of their long-standing partnership, which includes shared use of athletic facilities, support for concurrent enrollment programs such as Early 30 and Dual Credit to Degree, and co-hosting events like NOC men's basketball games for local elementary students. In 2024, four EPS students graduated with associate degrees while still in high school. As part of the award, NOC received a \$500 matching grant from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to further enhance the partnership. Jeremy also stated that Patrick Anderson and the Enid Higher Education Council are leading a regional initiative to address the elementary teacher shortage by increasing the number of education graduates from NOC and NWOSU in Enid. As a pilot for 2025–2026, NOC and NWOSU have partnered with Enid Public Schools (EPS) to launch a part-time Teacher Assistant (TA) program. Five returning NOC sophomores, recommended by advisors Tiffany Meacham and Dr. DeLisa Ging, will attend classes in the morning and work as paid TAs in local elementary schools each afternoon. This initiative provides financial support, hands-on experience, and strengthens collaboration among NOC, NWOSU, EPS, and the Enid Higher Education Council to address a critical workforce need.
- Dr. Rick Edgington reviewed the Fall 2025 Preliminary Enrollment Report dated May 13, 2025, noting that headcount is up by 8%, with credit hours up by 14% from 2024.
- Anita Simpson reported that FY2026 Budget Hearings began May 11 with Division Chairs and will continue this week with the remaining Division Chairs, Vice Presidents, and Department Supervisors. She also presented a Financial Affairs update at the May 9 Employee Meeting to share the institution's current financial status. For FY2025, Educational and General (290) revenue and expenditures remain on track with the approved budget. For FY2026, state appropriations are expected to remain flat, increasing the reliance on tuition and fee revenue. While property insurance costs are projected to remain stable, preliminary estimates indicate a 15% increase in health insurance premiums. The College's insurance consortium is actively exploring cost-saving measures to minimize the impact on employees.
- Dr. Marsh Howard provided a brief update on Maintenance and Facilities. A follow-up meeting was held with OSU regarding issues related to strobe

malfunctions, missing inspection records, and a cost estimate of \$9,000. NOC located the 2021 agreement confirming that OSU is responsible for fire/life safety inspections and associated costs. Additionally, Dr. Howard met with OSU Facilities in April to address recurring flow station failures. Two options were presented: proceed with repairs at an estimated cost of \$2,000 or reprogram the unit to reduce precision and minimize future wear.

- Jason Johnson reported that installation of all new security cameras on the Enid and Tonkawa campuses has been completed. He also noted that the NOC Tonkawa Wellness Center will be closed for one week beginning July 7 to allow for the installation of a new walking track.

23. **President's Update.**

- President Diana Morris Watkins reported attending the recent Film Festival held in Tonkawa, noting strong community engagement and emphasizing the event's significance for the Tonkawa area. She expressed appreciation to Sheri Snyder and her team for their contributions to the event's success. Dr. Watkins provided a brief update on the current legislative session, noting that higher education institutions are not expected to receive an increase in state allocations for FY2025–FY2026. She also shared progress on the 2026–2030 Strategic Plan. Meetings have been held with Strategic Planning Task Committees, focusing on four key areas: Student Engagement, Staff and Faculty Engagement, Facilities, and External Stakeholders. These focus areas are intended to strengthen academic quality, promote student success, foster collaborative and creative learning environments, and enhance responsiveness to community needs.

24. **Regents' Comments.**

- Regent Jason Turnbow expressed his appreciation to the administration for their strong leadership and efforts throughout the year in effectively balancing enrollment management, student services, and campus operations.
- Regent Mike Loftis expressed his enthusiasm upon seeing the First-Generation banner displayed on campus. He commended the administration and staff for their dedicated efforts in launching and supporting the First-Generation initiative, noting it as a significant achievement.

25. **Other Reports.**

- ***Personnel Changes.*** Ms. Anita Simpson reported ten resignations.

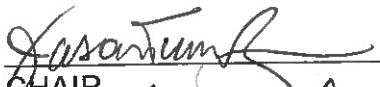
26. **Recommendation for Faculty Re-employment 2025-2026.**

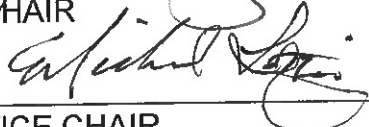
- Dr. Shelly Mencacci gave a brief update on Faculty Intent to Rehire. Dr. Mencacci stated that all current full-time faculty have been retained for the


upcoming academic year. She noted that before initiating any new full-time hiring, a thorough review of existing personnel actions and analysis of projected student enrollment for the Fall semester. This approach ensures that any new faculty positions are strategically aligned with areas of enrollment growth, rather than simply replacing positions without regard to current institutional needs or budgetary considerations.

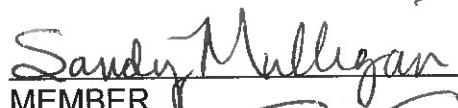
## **ROUTINE AND OTHER**

27. **New Business.**
28. **Items for the next agenda. Executive Session.** Pursuant to Title 25, Oklahoma Statutes 307 (B)(1), for the purpose of discussing the employment, hiring, appointment, promotion, demotion, disciplining, or resignation of the (President of NOC) any individual salaried public officer or employee.
29. **Announcement of next scheduled meeting: The next regular scheduled meeting is Wednesday, June 18, 2025, at 2:00 p.m., President's Large Conference Room on the Tonkawa campus.**
30. **Adjournment.** – Motion made at 3:48 p.m. to adjourn by Regent Loftis as seconded by Regent Groendyke. Voting aye were Regents Groendyke, Loftis, Mulligan, and Turnbow.

  
CHAIR

  
VICE CHAIR

  
SECRETARY

  
MEMBER

  
MEMBER