

NORTHERN OKLAHOMA COLLEGE BOARD OF REGENTS

Minutes

Wednesday, November 19, 2025, NOC Stillwater

Regents Present: Andrew Ewbank, Brad Fox, Jami Groendyke, Mike Loftis, and Sandy Mulligan.

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

1. **Call to Order.** Presiding Chair Mike Loftis 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.** Kirk Vanderslice of Hinkle & Co., PC.
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 were made.
5. **Oath of Office** – Regent Brad Fox, having been reappointed to the Northern Oklahoma College Board of Regents for a five-year term beginning July 1, 2022, re-executed and subscribed to the statutory Oath of Office on November 19, 2025. The Oath was administered by President Morris, and Regent Fox affirmed his commitment to uphold the duties and responsibilities of the Board of Regents.

BOARD ACTION

6. **Vote to approve minutes.**
 - The minutes of the Wednesday, October 22, 2025, meeting were approved on the motion of Regent Fox as seconded by Regent Groendyke. Voting aye were Regents Ewbank, Fox, Groendyke, Mulligan, and Loftis.

7. **FY2025 External Audit Report.**

- Mr. Kirk Vanderslice with Hinkle & Co., PC, presented the FY2025 External Audit Report, noting an unmodified opinion with no findings. He also expressed appreciation to Anita Simpson for her years of service and stated it has been a pleasure working with her. On the motion of Regent Groendyke, seconded by Regent Fox, the Board approved the FY2025 External Audit Report. Voting aye were Regents Ewbank, Fox, Groendyke, Mulligan, and Loftis.

8. **2026-2027 Academic Calendar.**

- Dr. Shelly Mencacci presented for approval the 2026-2027 Academic Calendar. The proposed calendar closely follows the structure of last year's, with only minor date adjustments. On a motion by Regent Fox, seconded by Regent Ewbank, the Board of Regents voted to approve the 2026-2027 Academic Calendar. Voting aye were Regents Ewbank, Fox, Groendyke, Mulligan, and Loftis.

9. **Monthly Financial Report.**

- Ms. Simpson presented for approval the monthly financial reports dated for October 31, 2025. On the motion of Regent Groendyke as seconded by Regent Mulligan, the Regents approved the monthly financial report as presented. Voting aye were Regents Ewbank, Fox, Groendyke, Mulligan, and Loftis.

10. **Monthly Purchase Report.**

- Ms. Simpson presented the November 2025 purchases for approval. **Purchases of \$25,000 or more were for:** (#1.) Academic Research Database – All Campuses – ProQuest - \$30,173.62 Funding Source: Capital Funds, Sole Source. On the motion of Regent Fox as seconded by Regent Ewbank, the Regents approved the November 2025 Monthly Purchases. Voting aye were Regents Ewbank, Fox, Groendyke, Mulligan, and Loftis.

11. **Monthly Allocations Report.**

- Ms. Simpson presented for approval Section 13/New College Fund 600 & 650 allocation requests for the following projects: Computers & Networking - Tonkawa - \$15,000.00, Computers & Networking - Enid - \$15,000.00, Computers Hardware, Software, Licenses & Fees - \$15,000.00, Library Acquisitions - \$15,000.00, Library Acquisitions – Enid - \$15,000.00. On the motion of Regent Groendyke, as seconded by Regent Fox, the Regents voted to approve the Section 13/New College Fund 600 & 650 allocation request for \$75,000.00 as presented. Voting aye were Regents Ewbank, Fox, Groendyke, Mulligan, and Loftis.

INFORMATION TO THE BOARD

12. Administrative Comments.

- Dr. Shelly Mencacci provided the Academic Affairs report, highlighting several updates across divisions. She noted continued success in the Agriculture and Biological Sciences Division, where instructor and Sheep Center manager Bart Cardwell led students to multiple top honors at the Tulsa Open Sheep Show, earning Premier Exhibitor and several Champion and Reserve Champion titles. In Fine Arts, Dr. Eddie Dixon reported growth in the band program, with eight NOC students selected for the Oklahoma Intercollegiate Honor Band to perform at the Oklahoma Music Educators Conference this spring. Suzi Brown shared that those students in Health, Physical Education, and Athletics participated in numerous community events, including Stand Up to Starvation, Charlie Adams Day, the Enid Day of Kindness, the NOC Alzheimer's Walk, and the Cherokee Strip Parade, while the Athletic Training students prepared for final exams. Dr. Mencacci also highlighted progress in Academic Services and Workforce Readiness, where John Dolezal has strengthened industry outreach and implemented a tutoring promotion campaign that increased Tutor.com usage by 300% and resulted in system enhancements to provide students with additional hours. She concluded with an accreditation update, reporting that NOC hosted its HLC peer review visit on November 10, with reviewer Dr. Ed Cunliff conducting meetings, focus groups, and campus tours; the written report is expected within 30 days, and the institution's next comprehensive HLC evaluation visit is scheduled for November 15–16, 2027.
- Sheri Snyder presented the Development and Community Relations report, noting that members of her department were attending the Oklahoma College Public Relations Association workshop. She highlighted progress on the Pickens Learning Commons project, including installation of the one-and-a-half-times life-size Ben Johnson statue and the commissioned painting of the horse by Yatika Starr Fields, which will be viewable at the December Regents meeting. Snyder reported that Distinguished Alumni nominations closed November 1, with internal committee reviews underway and final recommendations scheduled to be presented to President Morris following Thanksgiving, ahead of the March 26 induction ceremony. She provided an update on current Foundation campaigns, including the Presidential Partners and Greater Gifts Drive mailings sent to nearly 6,000 constituents, emphasizing strong year-end giving activity and positive Foundation Board updates. Snyder announced that NOC is the beneficiary of a trust expected to provide approximately \$1.2 million, noting the donor's long history of modest but consistent annual gifts. She also shared that she and Diana are finalizing another major gift expected to be announced before year-end, describing it as "life-changing." She encouraged Regents to consider participating in the current campaigns, noting that internal support strengthens external fundraising efforts, and she concluded by inviting questions.

- Jeremy Hise provided an update on Student Affairs, noting two recent campus community events: “Caring the Baton” and the annual Veterans Day presentation. He shared that this year, the Student Government Association assumed responsibility for organizing the speaking series previously coordinated by Dr. McCoy, and the students have done a strong job leading and introducing speakers. Veterans Day featured Mayor Mason as the keynote speaker, and Hise commended student leadership involved in both events. He informed the Regents of the passing of Kelly Osborne, former director of Making a Difference, recognizing her long-standing support in bringing services to campus and assisting students during critical incidents. Hise reported that he and Marsh presented the institution’s TSET Legacy Grant proposal in Owasso on November 4, advancing to the allocation phase; they will attend the board meeting the following day, where funding decisions or follow-up questions may occur. The requested amount is \$5.69 million, though final approval and terms are still uncertain. He noted that any updates will be shared with President Morris for distribution. Hise concluded by announcing that the NOC Tonkawa Choir will perform a 40-minute concert at Bivins Chapel in Enid on December 3 at 6 p.m., describing it as a great venue for choral music and encouraging Regents to attend.
- Dr. Rick Edgington reviewed the 2025 Fall Preliminary Enrollment report dated November 19, 2025, noting that the headcount is up 3% from last year.
- Anita Simpson reported on the OKHEEI Board Meeting held on November 12. She stated that the consortium institutions will receive an additional assessment based on participant numbers to cover administrative costs, as well as a one-time assessment to address claims. The total administrative cost for the 3,050 participants is \$363,700, and the claims assessment totals \$1,000,000. NOC’s proportionate share is \$28,142 for administrative costs and \$77,377.05 for claims, for a combined total of \$105,519.05. She also highlighted Financial Aid activity, noting that the department has already processed 2,047 FAFSA applications for FY2025–FY2026 and has received 507 for the following year. Approximately 986 students were placed on holds for outstanding balances before spring enrollment opened, and retention specialists have helped reduce that number by about 100 within a week. She added that unpaid accounts are eventually referred to collections and warrant intercept when necessary. Simpson also shared that the college is in the midst of its annual network security assessment, with results and needed improvements forthcoming, and reported receiving supplemental NASNTI funding that will enable the installation of fiber to the Process Technology building on the Tonkawa campus, improving reliability beyond the current Wi-Fi setup.
- Jason Johnson reported that all athletic programs are underway and performing well, noting that the Lady Jets, listed as 4–1 in his written report, are now 6–0 after receiving notification from the NJCAA that a prior loss was

overturned, likely due to an ineligible opposing player. He highlighted the success of NOC's first-ever MPS wrestling duals, held Friday and Saturday, which drew approximately 60 women and 40 men, with the men's division capped at 150 entries. The event had strong attendance, and before the men's match on Saturday, the college honored the late Todd Glasgow by awarding the Todd Glasgow Scholarship to a male wrestler in the presence of Glasgow's family, including a son who traveled from out of state. Johnson expressed pride in the event and noted plans to continue it in future years. He also shared that he and several staff members attended the 2025 Campus Safety and Security Summit at UCO, an every-other-year event featuring sessions on safety and emergency response. He attended sessions on domestic terrorism, campus intervention teams, AI and security, and stop-the-bleed training, noting that his staff divided sessions to ensure broad coverage of the content.

13. **President's Update.**

- President Morris gave a brief update on the NOC Stillwater campus for Dr. Marsh Howard in his absence. She noted that Dr. Howard has been heavily engaged in ongoing work with Jeremy on TSET Initiatives. Additionally, he has become increasingly active in the Stillwater community, including participation in the Stillwater Leadership Class and support of the community Harvest Festival, where NOC was recognized as a sponsor. He also remains involved with the Stillwater Public Education Foundation. President Morris highlighted Dr. Howard's continued focus on energy-efficiency strategies on the Stillwater campus. She referenced a study conducted in partnership with Oklahoma State University that tracked and analyzed energy usage. Through operational adjustments—such as consolidating evening classes to specific floors. NOC has significantly reduced energy costs over the past three years.
- President Morris noted that this month marks two years since she was appointed Acting Senior Administrative Official and expressed appreciation for the progress the leadership team has achieved during that time. She reported attending recent statewide events recognizing higher education leaders, including the Higher Education Hall of Fame ceremony and the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, where NOC received public acknowledgment from honoree Bert Mackie. She also highlighted strong student participation at the recent Miss NOC event. President Morris provided an update on ongoing discussions with the University of Oklahoma regarding a potential Dental Hygiene partnership for the Enid campus. She anticipates bringing a Memorandum of Understanding forward in the spring, pending internal review and legal counsel. She emphasized the importance of continued efforts toward intentional succession planning, including the evaluation of job descriptions, leadership roles, and hiring needs within HR and other administrative areas. President Morris encouraged Regent participation in the upcoming State Regents Legislative Tours. Key legislative issues being monitored include potential changes to concurrent enrollment funding and the re-emergence of the

Housing and Dining bill, both of which could significantly impact NOC. She also expressed concerns regarding the State Regents' discussions on reducing bachelor's degree requirements to below 120 credit hours, which could negatively impact general education and the relevance of community colleges. Finally, she confirmed continued communication with President Hess regarding collaborative initiatives, with plans to re-engage discussions after the holiday season.

14. **Regents' Comments.**

- Regent Mulligan thanked Sheri Snyder, her department, and all others involved with the Terry Bradshaw Lectureship, stating that the event was phenomenal.
- Regent Fox expressed appreciation for the flowers and condolences sent following the recent passing of his grandfather, noting that the gesture was very much appreciated.
- Regent Loftis also expressed appreciation to President Morris, noting gratitude for her leadership over the past two years and commending her success in the role.

15. **Other Reports.**

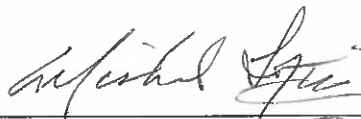
a. **Personnel Actions.** Ms. Anita Simpson reported three new hires.

b. **NOC/NOCF Strategic Planning Retreat.** Sheri Snyder provided an update on the upcoming Foundation Strategic Planning Retreat, noting that the date, time, location, and facilitator have been confirmed. The retreat will align with the college's strategic plan and goals. The event is scheduled for Wednesday, January 28, 2026, with Lisa White from Autry Technology serving as facilitator; she has extensive experience in strategic planning and previously worked with the executive team. Snyder acknowledged in-kind contributions from Evans and Associates, covering facility rental, and First National Bank, providing food and beverages. Invitations will be extended to all Board of Regents, Foundation Board of Trustees, and Executive Council members. Her office will coordinate with the President's Office to ensure proper posting with the state in the event of a quorum. Snyder noted that the retreat will provide an engaging and productive opportunity for planning the future of the College and Foundation.

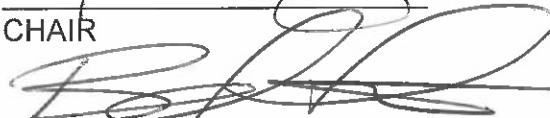
c. **NOC's 125th Anniversary Committee.** Sheri Snyder reported that the college's 125th Anniversary Committee has been established, with the first planning meeting scheduled via Zoom on Monday, December 15. The committee will develop plans for celebrating the milestone, incorporating the college's history, with events anticipated to begin in March or April and continue through the fall of the next academic year. Calendar invitations for the committee and related events will be distributed following today's meeting.

ROUTINE AND OTHER

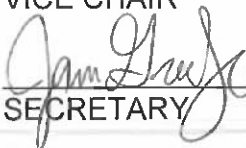
16. New Business.
17. Items for the next agenda.
18. Announcement of next scheduled meeting: The next regular scheduled meeting is Wednesday, December 17, 2025, at 2:00 p.m., President's Large Conference Room 106B on the Tonkawa campus.
19. Adjournment – Motion made at 3:35 p.m. to adjourn by Regent Fox as Seconded by Regent Mulligan. Voting aye were Regents Ewbank, Fox, Groendyke, Mulligan, and Loftis.



CHAIR



VICE CHAIR



SECRETARY



MEMBER



MEMBER