

**NORTHERN OKLAHOMA COLLEGE BOARD OF REGENTS
Minutes**

Wednesday, April 22, 2026, NOC Tonkawa

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, Dr. Marsh Howard, Jeremy Hise, Denise Bay, Scott Cloud, Mike Machia, Stacy Burns, Dr. Kathleen Otto, Cara Beth Johnson, and Dr. Kathleen Swain.

1. **Call to Order.** Chair Mike Loftis 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.**
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:** Nothing to report.

BOARD ACTION

5. **Vote to approve minutes.**
 - The minutes of the Wednesday, March 25, 2026, meeting were approved on the motion of Regent Ewbank, as seconded by Regent Fox. Voting aye were Regents Ewbank, Fox, Groendyke, Mulligan, and Loftis.
6. **Capital Project Agreement**
 - President Diana Morris presented the revised Capital Project Agreement for the Athletic Training Education Center project. She explained that the agreement had previously been approved using estimated project costs; however, updated construction bids resulted in revised figures requiring Board approval. Vice President Jeremy Hise reported that increased construction costs were primarily due to rising expenses for concrete, metal, and labor. He noted that Enid Public Schools increased its commitment to the project by \$100,000 and that additional funding opportunities through the P3 program, City of Enid, and private fundraising efforts were being explored. Discussion was also held regarding project furnishings, parking accommodations, and the anticipated construction timeline. Vice President Sheri Snyder stated that the NOC Foundation Executive Committee had approved moving forward with the project and shared that donor outreach efforts were underway. On the motion of Regent Fox, seconded by Regent Groendyke, the revised Capital Project Agreement was approved. Voting aye were Regents Ewbank, Fox, Groendyke, Mulligan, and Loftis.

7. **Great Western Dining Contract.**

- Vice President Anita Simpson presented the year three contract renewal agreement with Great Western Dining as part of the existing five-year agreement. She reported that the college administration recently met with representatives from Great Western Dining to review overall services and operations. Minor adjustments regarding personnel and work order processes were discussed, but no major contract changes were recommended. Vice President Anita Simpson stated that while the contract allowed for a 4% Consumer Price Index increase, Great Western Dining elected to implement only a 3% increase on the 15-meal and 19-meal plans. Additional increases included a 3.5% increase for casual meal rates and select group participation rates, as well as a 4% increase for camps. All other contract provisions, including courtesy meals, the President's catering fund, and hours of operation, remained substantially unchanged. Vice President Anita Simpson noted that Great Western Dining had been responsive to the College's needs and service requests. On the motion of Regent Fox, seconded by Regent Ewbank, the Great Western Dining Contract was approved. Voting aye were Regents Ewbank, Fox, Groendyke, Mulligan, and Loftis.

8. **Monthly Financial Report.**

- Vice President Simpson presented for approval of the monthly financial report dated March 31, 2026. On the motion of Regent Groendyke, as seconded by Regent Mulligan, the Regents approved the March 2026 Financial Report. Voting aye were Regents Ewbank, Fox, Groendyke, Mulligan, and Loftis.

9. **Monthly Purchase Report.**

- Vice President Anita Simpson presented the April 2026 purchases for approval. Purchases of \$25,000 or more included: (#I.) Precision Agriculture Drone Package – P3 Precision AgriDrone Solutions – \$29,995.00; Funding Source: NASNTI Grant Funds, (#II.) KPAC Stage Painting – Watermark Painting & Drywall – \$30,972.00; Funding Source: Capital Funds, (#III.) Tonkawa Campus Wide Concrete Repairs – Hodgson Construction, LLC – \$151,959.00; Funding Source: Capital Funds, (#IV.) Easterling Residence Hall Full Roof Replacement – American Roofing & Construction, LLC – \$311,700.00; Funding Source: Capital Funds, (#V.) Elliott-Goulter Residence Hall Units 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, & 9 Carpet Replacement – Crutcho Creek Farms, LLC – \$26,083.98; Funding Source: Capital Funds, (#VI.) Enid Campus Wide Concrete Repairs – Hodgson Construction, LLC – \$93,509.00; Funding Source: Capital Funds, (#VII.) Jets Cafeteria & Lounge Tile Replacement – Crutcho Creek Farms, LLC – \$62,593.73; Funding Source: Capital Funds, (#VIII.) Mabee Gym Floor Replacement – Crutcho Creek Farms, LLC – \$114,884.37; Funding Source: Capital Funds, (#IX.) Mabee Restroom Plumbing Automation for Sinks, Stools, & Urinals & ADA Water Line Diameter – Ideal Mechanical Services – \$32,400.00; Funding Source: Capital Funds, (#X.) Zollars Carpet Replacement – Crutcho Creek Farms, LLC – \$352,187.18; Funding Source: Capital Funds, (#XI.) Mailing Machine, Bulk Mail Address Printer & Jogger – Quadient Leasing USA, Inc. – \$215,974.20; Funding Source: E&G & Auxiliary Funds, (#XII.) Data Center Server/Storage Upgrade – IT Outlet, Inc. – \$516,165.00; Funding Source: Capital Funds, (#XIII.) Annual Software & Hardware Maintenance Support Renewal – Business Imaging Systems, Inc. – \$40,921.42; Funding Source: Capital Funds, (#XIV.) Annual Microsoft License Renewal – IT Outlet, Inc. – \$37,780.00; Funding Source: Capital Funds. On the motion of Regent Fox, as seconded by Regent Ewbank, the Regents approved the April 2026 Monthly Purchases. Voting aye were Regents Ewbank, Fox, Groendyke, Mulligan, and Loftis.

10. **Monthly Allocations Report.**

- Vice President Anita Simpson presented for approval Section 13/New College Fund 600 & 650 allocation requests for the following projects: Computer & Networking – Tonkawa - \$55,000.00, Computers & Networking – Enid - \$55,000.00, Computers & Networking – Stillwater - \$55,000.00, Computer Hardware, Software, Licenses & Fees - \$100,000.00, Campus Site Development & Physical Plant – Tonkawa - \$70,000.00. On the motion of Regent Fox, as seconded by Regent Mulligan, the Regents voted to approve the Section 13/New College Fund 600 & 650 allocation request for \$335,000.00 as presented. Voting aye were Regents Ewbank, Fox, Groendyke, Mulligan, and Loftis.

11. **Proposed Summer Residence Hall Rates for Tonkawa and Enid Campuses.**

- Vice President Anita Simpson presented the Proposed Summer Residence Hall Rates for the Tonkawa and Enid campuses for approval. Students residing on the Tonkawa campus will be housed in Threlkeld Hall at a rate of \$600.00, while students residing on the Enid campus will be housed in Jets Hall at a rate of \$735.00. On the motion of Regent Ewbank, seconded by Regent Fox, the Regents voted to approve the Proposed Summer Residence Hall Rates for the Tonkawa and Enid campuses. Voting aye were Regents Ewbank, Fox, Groendyke, Mulligan, and Loftis.

INFORMATION TO THE BOARD

12. **Administrative Updates.**

- Vice President Dr. Shelly Mencacci reported that the Language Arts and Social Sciences Division, led by Dr. Stacey Frazier, hosted a Criminal Justice Career Connections Day featuring NOC alumni and regional professionals employed in the criminal justice field. Dr. Mencacci also shared that the annual student art exhibit, *Beyond the Frame*, is currently on display in the Eleanor Hays Gallery and features more than 200 student artwork pieces. She also provided an update on the Nursing Division under the leadership of Interim Division Chair, Dr. Vicki Crouch, highlighting continued recruitment and outreach efforts, community engagement activities, and strengthening of the Student Nurses Association. She also reported that NOC had three campuses recognized among only six RN programs in Oklahoma, achieving a 100% NCLEX pass rate this past year. Dr. Mencacci shared information regarding the upcoming Academic Awards Ceremonies scheduled across the Stillwater, Enid, and Tonkawa campuses to recognize outstanding student academic achievement. She also reported that NOC was awarded a \$10,000 Teaching & Learning Grant to support innovation and hands-on learning opportunities. Grant funds were used to purchase 3D printers and related materials for each campus, establishing Makerspace areas for student and faculty use.
- Vice President Sheri Snyder reported that through the NOC Foundation, 74 students across the University Center, Tonkawa, Stillwater, and Enid campuses requested complimentary First-Generation graduation stoles to be worn during commencement ceremonies. An additional eight stoles were also provided for participating Faculty members. Ms. Snyder shared that the program has received positive feedback from both students and employees. Ms. Snyder also provided an update regarding the NOC Greenhouse Ribbon Cutting and Open House held earlier that day, as well as the end-of-year Faculty Meeting, Service Awards, and Retirement Recognition Program scheduled for May 8. Additionally, Ms. Snyder provided an update regarding the College website accessibility review conducted by Cave Interactive Media, LLC. She reported that the most recent accessibility audit was completed on March 3, 2026, and that the College website

achieved a 100% accessibility rating as of March 25, 2026. Ongoing monitoring and compliance efforts will continue through regular reviews and updates by Cave Interactive Media, LLC.

- Vice President Jeremy Hise reported on the successful execution of Superhero Saturday held on April 11, which served as a recruitment event featuring resource fair opportunities for prospective students and families in coordination with campus departments and community vendors. Mr. Hise also participated in a radio interview to promote the event and increase community awareness. Mr. Hise further reported on his participation in the All in for Oklahoma Regional Meeting hosted by the Oklahoma Department of Commerce in Stillwater. During the meeting, he shared Northern Oklahoma College's experience as the first college in Oklahoma to utilize P3 funding for the Athletic Training Education Center project and highlighted the College's partnerships with Enid Public Schools, St. Mary's Regional Medical Center, and Great Salt Plains Health Center. The presentation resulted in follow-up discussions with additional institutions interested in the P3 program. Additionally, Mr. Hise participated in the Leadership Greater Enid Golf Tournament and Fundraiser in support of the organization's mission and community engagement efforts.
- Vice President Dr. Rick Edgington reviewed the preliminary enrollment report for Fall 2026, noting that enrollment numbers reflect an increase in headcount by 29% and up by 12% in credit hours.
- Vice President Anita Simpson reported that processing for students enrolled in the summer term is ongoing and that awarding for the 2026–2027 academic year has begun. Ms. Simpson also shared that the Director and Assistant Director of Financial Aid have been participating in NASFAA webinars regarding upcoming federal changes to loan limits and awarding processes that will take effect July 1, 2026. Ms. Simpson reported that, as of April 16, 2026, the College had utilized 74% of its Federal Work Study funds and noted an increase in student usage of the Net Price Calculator during April. Additionally, Ms. Simpson discussed the growing concern surrounding financial aid fraud, particularly in online courses, and reported that an institution-wide committee had been formed to address fraud prevention, verification processes, and the protection of institutional tuition and fee resources.
- Vice President Dr. Marsh Howard provided updates regarding campus activities and partnerships, including the leasing of campus space for an online free tuition high school program and fundraising efforts supporting student activities. Dr. Howard also discussed the recent student award ceremony, the Living Learning Program, and NOC Stillwater's continued participation in the Department of Labor Strengthening Community Colleges Consortium. In addition, he shared information regarding grant support received for the competitive cheer program. Dr. Howard concluded by highlighting recent enrollment events and increased student interest in participating in the Trivia Bowl competition.
- Vice President Jason Johnson congratulated the men's basketball team on its successful season and recognized Head Coach Chris Gerber for his leadership and accomplishments throughout the year. Mr. Johnson also provided an update regarding current openings for the cheer coach, men's wrestling coach, and women's basketball coach positions, noting that networking opportunities at the NJCAA Conference have assisted in recruitment efforts and potential candidate outreach.

Additionally, Mr. Johnson emphasized the importance of recruiting coaches who not only promote athletic success but also model and demand character, integrity, and leadership from student-athletes.

13. **President's Update.**

- President Morris provided several institutional updates to the Board. She highlighted faculty and student participation in the “Remember the 10” run held in Stillwater, noting involvement from all three NOC campuses and expressing appreciation for the strong campus representation and community support.
- President Morris also shared an update regarding the recent Civil Rights Audit conducted across NOC campuses. She reported that the auditor commended the College for the condition and compliance efforts of its facilities, given the age of the institution, and noted appreciation for the diligence of the Financial Affairs and Physical Plant teams. Additionally, she informed the Board that an updated Dental Hygiene agreement with the University of Oklahoma had been signed by OU, NOC, and Great Salt Plains Health Center and sent to the Council of Dental Affairs for approval.
- President Morris discussed the State Regents’ higher education funding formula and shared information regarding statewide impacts to institutions. She explained the formula categories, including enrollment, retention, and success, opportunity, and workforce metrics, while noting Northern Oklahoma College continues to perform well in several key areas, particularly in serving Pell-eligible and underprepared students. She also discussed ongoing statewide conversations regarding transfer credit metrics and future funding considerations.
- In other updates, President Morris announced the appointment of Dr. Julie Dinger as the new Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and recognized Northern Oklahoma College for being named Autry Technology Center’s “Partner of Progress” in recognition of the College’s collaborative support of CareerTech partnerships. President Morris concluded by providing commencement updates and noting that distinguished alumnus Jeff Medders would serve as the commencement speaker.

14. **Regents' Comments.** Nothing to report.

15. **Other Reports.**

- ***Personnel Changes.*** Vice President Anita Simpson reported three resignations.
- ***HLC Update.*** Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Shelly Mencacci, provided an update regarding Northern Oklahoma College’s Higher Learning Commission (HLC) reaffirmation process. Dr. Mencacci shared that NOC HLC Criterion Leads and team members recently visited Seminole State College to review successful accreditation practices and attended the HLC Conference in Chicago for additional training and professional development opportunities. Criterion Leads and team members were introduced to the Board and provided brief overviews of their assigned areas, including Dr. Marsh Howard, Vice President of NOC Stillwater, leading Criterion 1: Mission, Dr. Kathleen Swain, Director of Student Retention & First Year Experience, leading Criterion 2: Integrity; Cara Beth Johnson, Business Division Chair, leading Criterion 3: Teaching and Learning with an emphasis on assessment and accreditation; and Vice President of NOC Enid, Jeremy Hise, leading Criterion 4 – Sustainability and Institutional Effectiveness. Dr. Kathleen Otto, Institutional Research & Assessment Director, also discussed her role in supporting the HLC process through institutional data collection and assessment efforts. Administration further discussed the College’s ongoing preparation efforts, evidence gathering, and plans to conduct a mock


review process in advance of the HLC campus visit scheduled for November 2027.

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, May 20, 2026, at 2:00 p.m., James Conference Room, Enid.**
- 19. **Adjournment.** – Motion made at 3:38 p.m. to adjourn by Regent Ewbank, as Seconded by Regent Fox. Voting aye were Regents Ewbank, Fox, Groendyke, Mulligan, and Loftis.



CHAIR



MEMBER



VICE CHAIR



MEMBER



SECRETARY