

**Waukesha County Technical College
District Board Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2026 - 5:00 PM
Richard T. Anderson Education Center, C051/057**

Present:

Courtney Bauer, Board Vice Chairperson
Ryan Clark, Secretary/Treasurer
Michael Cady, Board Member
Rob Ewing, Board Member
Stephanie Reisner, Board Member

Absent:

Brian Baumgartner, Chairperson
Amanda Busche, Board Member
Jamie Stahulak, Board Member
Barb Dittrich, Board Member

Also Present:

Richard Barnhouse
Jennifer Hagen

20 guests

REGULAR MEETING

I. Call to Order – Courtney Bauer 5:00 pm

II. Public/Staff Remarks*

III. President's Report – Dr. Richard G. Barnhouse

- A. Dr. Barnhouse welcomed everyone to the January WCTC District Board meeting.
- B. Spring semester starts next week. Faculty are back to campus this week for in-service.
- C. Hearing regarding proposed legislation for TCS10 that Dr. Barnhouse discussed at the last Board meeting occurred on December 10. Dr. Barnhouse made his points during his testimony. Representatives from Law Enforcement and Paramedic professions also testified in support.
- D. Commencement on December 13 was a great event. Dr. Barnhouse thanked staff who assisted with the event.
- E. Dr. Barnhouse and Laura Krohn visited Moraine Park West Bend campus on December 17. Moraine Park has recently updated their facilities following a successful referendum.
- F. Last month Dr. Barnhouse met with Bryan Albrecht, the interim director of the District Boards Association (DBA) and discussed what the colleges are looking for in the DBA.
- G. The WCTC District Board retreat is January 27. The purpose of the retreat is for planning for the future and to provide professional development, especially for Higher Learning Commission accreditation requirements. No board business will occur, and no action will be taken during the retreat.
- H. Last week, the State Legislative Senate Committee on University and Technical Colleges held their public/informational hearing at WCTC, chaired by Senator Rob Hutton. Rich did a welcome address at the hearing.
- I. The annual Board Appointment process has kicked off. The application period for the 3 open positions is February 2, 2026 – February 16, 2026. Jennifer will email the Board

Members whose terms are ending June 30, 2026, as well as emailing all Board Members regarding the process.

- J. Dr. Barnhouse attended the Greater Milwaukee Committee monthly meeting yesterday. The subject of the meeting was the decline in revenue of the performing arts due in part to fewer participants. Dr. Barnhouse compared this to a declining enrollment for higher education.
- K. Four companies were launched out of gener8tor's gbeta that concluded last month out of the AI Lab.
- L. The college recently brought in an AI Project Manager to drive AI in the college and implement across the entire enterprise.
- M. Dr. Barnhouse introduced Melissa Wegner, the Manager of Community and Campus Relations at the Waukesha Campus.

IV. Approval of Consent Agenda Items

- A. Minutes dated December 9, 2026
- B. Accounts Payable Summary December 2025
- C. 38.14 Contract Report December 2025
- D. Approval of Hire
- E. Board Policies Review 1.8, 2.1, and 2.2
- F. TCS 10.07 Admissions Special Circumstances Approval

Ms. Reisner motioned to approve the Consent Agenda Items, receiving a second from Mr. Clark. Approved, carried unanimously.

V. Action Items

- A. Bid Approval G/S Buildings Roof Replacement – Rich Haen
 - Mr. Haen reviewed this project to replace over 50,000 square feet of roof of the G Building as well as almost 2,000 square feet of roof of the S Building.
 - These sections were identified as being in poor condition during the 2024 annual inspection.

Mr. Ewing motioned to award the G Building and S Building roof replacement to Kaschak Roofing, receiving a second from Mr. Clark. Approved, carried unanimously.

VI. Presentation/Discussion

- A. Graduate Follow-up Report – Ryan Paulus
 - Mr. Paulus survey is sent 6 months after graduation for the 2023-24 graduates. Comes as physical mailer, text messages, email messages, and use a third party to call. Get about a 40% response rate.
 - Graduate outcomes remain strong, with 96% of graduates employed or continuing their education and the majority achieving their stated goals.
 - Salaries are steady to slightly improving, with inflation-adjusted earnings showing the first increase in five years and strong long-term wage growth for alumni.
 - Student satisfaction is high, highlighted by exceptionally positive feedback about instructors and record ratings for instruction quality and student services.
 - WCTC ranks among the top in statewide benchmarks, holding the second highest graduate satisfaction rate in the WTCS system.

VII. Adjournment – Courtney Bauer

- A. Mr. Clark motioned to adjourn the meeting, receiving a second from Ms. Reisner.
Meeting adjourned at 5:37 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by
Jennifer Hagen

Signed:  _____
Ryan Clark, Board Secretary/Treasurer