

**Waukesha County Technical College  
District Board Meeting Minutes  
February 10, 2026 - 5:00 PM  
Richard T. Anderson Education Center, C051/057**

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**Present:**

Brian Baumgartner, Chairperson  
Courtney Bauer, Board Vice Chairperson  
Ryan Clark, Secretary/Treasurer  
Michael Cady, Board Member  
Rob Ewing, Board Member  
Amanda Busche, Board Member  
Barb Dittrich, Board Member  
Jamie Stahulak, Board Member

**Absent:**

Stephanie Reisner, Board Member

**Also Present:**

Richard Barnhouse  
Jennifer Hagen

18 guests

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**REGULAR MEETING**

**I. Call to Order – Brian Baumgartner 5:00 pm**

**II. Public/Staff Remarks\***

**III. Delegates to be Heard**

**A. Student Leadership Council – Isabelle Erickson**

- First-year student Isabelle Erickson was elected Student Leadership Council (SLC) president for the remainder of the 2025–26 year, and SLC welcomed three new members this semester, expanding representation across nearly all academic schools.
- The SLC successfully hosted a Children’s Holiday Party for Waukesha County families, featuring club-led activities, crafts, food service support, and interactive attractions, reinforcing community connection and student involvement.
- SLC kicked off the term with Welcome (Back) Week events and plans to continue regular programming (e.g., Paint & Sip, building pop-ups) alongside special events such as Cupid Bingo, Cesar Chavez programming, the Cosmetology Fashion Show, and a Versiti Blood Drive.

**IV. President’s Report – Dr. Richard G. Barnhouse**

- A.** Dr. Barnhouse welcomed everyone to the February WCTC District Board meeting.
- B.** On Monday Dr. Barnhouse attended a meet and greet with gubernatorial candidate Mandela Barnes. Dr. Barnhouse will attend other meet and greets with other candidates.
- C.** Dr. Barnhouse attended the signing of a Shared AI Degree program with Mid-State. Students from Mid-State will take AI classes through WCTC.

- D. Dr. Barnhouse discussed tonight's presentation on the next phase for the Applied AI Lab which includes a Spin Out of the Applied AI Lab.
- E. The college has met with UW Madison and the Wisconsin Tech Council to discuss quantum computing. Starting to have conversations on what this program looks like in a two-year space.
- F. Dr. Barnhouse, Alli Jerger, and Rich Haen attended the WTCS Board meeting in January to discuss the second-floor addition of the Applied AI Lab in the Q Building.
- G. WCTC was a co-sponsor of the Waukesha County Business Alliance State of Waukesha County event last month.
- H. Blessings in a Backpack hosted their Race to Feed event last month in the AJN. This event packs food for children who do not have access to food on the weekends.
- I. The Wisconsin Senate hearing regarding TCS10 legislation is on February 25. Dr. Barnhouse will attend.
- J. Chancellor Gibson of UW-Milwaukee visited campus to see the UWM University Center in the L Building and to meet with Dr. Barnhouse.
- K. The March WCTC District Board meeting will be held in the Classic Room in the A Building.

#### V. Approval of Consent Agenda Items

- A. Minutes dated January 13, 2026
- B. Accounts Payable Summary January 2025
- C. 38.14 Contract Report January 2025
- D. Approval of Hire
- E. Board Monitoring Report 2025/26 Second Quarter Financials
- F. FY25 Report on Compliance with Federal and State Awards

Mr. Ewing motioned to approve the Consent Agenda Items, receiving a second from Mr. Stahulak. **Approved, carried unanimously.**

#### VI. Action Items

- A. Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of \$3,750,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2026A, of Waukesha County Area Technical College District, Wisconsin, and Setting the Sale of the Notes – Kristine Golz
  - Funding will be used for building roof improvement projects on the G Building and movable capital equipment in academics and operations.

Dr. Cady motioned to authorize the issuance of \$3,750,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes and Setting the Sale of the Notes, receiving a second from Mr. Clark. **Approved, carried unanimously.**

#### VII. Presentation/Discussion

- A. Remodel Interior Design Labs S205/S207 – Rich Haen and Angie Todd
  - Renovation plans focus on modernizing Interior Design Studio S-203/S-205 and Classroom S-207 to better align with current industry standards and the recently updated Kitchen and Bath Lab.
  - Upgrades aim to enhance team-based learning, improve classroom technology, and update lighting to mirror professional environments.

- Enrollment trends show strong and growing program numbers across Interior Design, Kitchen & Bath Design, and related dual-degree pathways, with retention well above college averages.
- Project timeline spans February – October 2026, including approvals, bidding construction, and completion ahead of Fall Term 2 classes.

**B. Applied AI Lab Next Phase – Laura Krohn**

- The Applied AI Lab is accelerating growth to meet regional economic and workforce needs, respond to emerging technologies, and shape the future of higher education.
- The team conducted planning through landscape analysis, benchmarking, and understanding headwinds and opportunities to explore opportunities for expansion.
- The potential opportunity for expansion would focus on applied AI, quantum, and robotics, offering technical assistance, workforce training, applied research, and entrepreneurial support.

**VIII. Adjournment – Brian Baumgartner**

- A.** Mr. Stahulak motioned to adjourn the meeting, receiving a second from Ms. Busche.  
Meeting adjourned at 6:06 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Jennifer Hagen

Signed:   
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Ryan Clark, Board Secretary/Treasurer