

Waukesha County Technical College
District Board Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2026 - 5:00 PM
Richard T. Anderson Education Center, C051/C057

Present:

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

Absent:

Stephanie Reisner, Board Member

Also Present:

Richard Barnhouse
Jennifer Hagen
18 guests

REGULAR MEETING

I. Call to Order – Brian Baumgartner 5:11 pm

II. Public Remarks*

- A. No public remarks were received.

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

- A. Dr. Barnhouse welcomed everyone to the June WCTC District Board Meeting.
- B. Last month the college hosted 4 graduation ceremonies.
- C. Dr. Barnhouse will be moving into the role of Chair of Higher Education Regional Alliance (HERA) in July. Membership includes 17 colleges and universities in the southeast Wisconsin area.
- D. Dr. Barnhouse will move into the role of Treasurer for the President's Association in July.
- E. Dr. Barnhouse met with Secretary Pechacek of the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development regarding higher education trends.
- F. Dr. Barnhouse met with Secretary John Miller, CEO of the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation.

- G. Last week Brad Piazza and Laura Krohn joined Dr. Barnhouse in a planning meeting with the President's Association visioning session in Wausau.
- H. Dr. Barnhouse and staff toured Wenthe-Davidson Engineering last month.
- I. Dr. Barnhouse will attend the Wisconsin Quantum Alliance Launch in Madison tomorrow. Dr. Barnhouse will be speaking at the event.
- J. Dr. Barnhouse recognized departing Board members Jamie Stahulak and Stephanie Reisner and thanked them for their time on the WCTC District Board. Trees have been planted outside the RTA in their name.

IV. Approval of Consent Agenda Items

- A. Minutes dated May 12, 2026
- B. Accounts Payable Summary May 2026
- C. 38.14 Contract Report May 2026
- D. Approval of Hire Report
- E. Approval of Continuation of 38.14 Contract Pricing Rates for FY26
- F. Approval of International Travel

Rob Ewing motioned to approve the Consent Agenda Items, receiving a second from Ryan Clark. **Approved, carried unanimously.**

V. Action Items

A. WCTC Board Adoption of 2026/27 Budget – Kristine Golz

- Total budget is balanced with revenue driven by a small tax levy increase (1% net new construction), flat state aid, and modest tuition increases while operating within revenue limitations.
- Health, dental, and life insurance for employees have no increase this year.
- Funding supports key initiatives including AI, ERP implementation, EMS/Paramedic programming, and capital projects, while also exploring institutional changes like new programs and a potential name change.

Courtney Bauer motioned to approve the formal adoption of the FY2026/27 budget, receiving a second from Ryan Clark. **Approved, carried unanimously.**

B. Establish Projected 2026/27 Reserves – Kristine Golz

- Reserves are strategically segmented to support operations, stability, and future need
- Planned reserve changes reflect targeted use and stabilization.

Rob Ewing motioned to approve the reservations and fund balance for fiscal year 2026/27, receiving a second from Mike Cady. **Approved, carried unanimously.**

C. Bid Approval for AJN Exterior Concrete Re-bid - Rich Haen

- The S Building exterior concrete project is being rebid to correct substandard work from Summer 2025, including full concrete removal/replacement to fix grading and drainage issues and the addition of protective bollards to enhance safety and infrastructure protection.
- Improvements support a safe, durable, and accessible environment at the AJN Center, aligning with WCTC's goal to enhance user experience, support growing event demand, and strengthen student attraction and retention efforts.

Amanda Busche motioned to award the S Building Exterior Renovation rework project to the lowest responsible bidder, PLM Paving and Concrete, with a total construction cost of \$82,624, receiving a second from Barb Dittrich. **Approved, carried unanimously.**

D. Bid Approval for Fire Training Grounds Concrete Project – Rich Haen

- The project supports installation of a second four-story modular burn building at the fire training grounds, including site preparation (foundations, pads, trench drains, and light pole relocation) to enable more advanced, realistic firefighter training scenarios.
- The addition improves training quality and reduces wear on the existing burn building without increasing program size, traffic, noise, or overall site usage.

Courtney Bauer motioned to award the Fire Training Grounds concrete project to the lowest responsible bidder Wil-Surge Electric, Inc., with a total construction cost of \$312,435, receiving a second from Ryan Clark. **Approved, carried unanimously.**

E. Bid Approval for Waukesha Parking Lot Resurfacing Project – Rich Haen

- The project will resurface and restore the Waukesha Campus parking lot following prior infrastructure work (sewer, stormwater, and utilities), where temporary patches were installed and are now ready for final paving.
- Work is scheduled from July 1 through August 7, 2026, to complete final surface restoration of previously disturbed asphalt area.

Ryan Clark motioned to award the Waukesha Parking Lot Resurfacing project to the lowest responsible bidder Poblocki Paving Corp., with a total construction cost of \$189,866 receiving a second from Rob Ewing. **Approved, carried unanimously.**

F. Bid Approval Mechanical Infrastructure Phase 2 Project – Rich Haen

- Installation of high-efficiency boilers, chillers, pumps, and electrical systems to serve six buildings, completing decentralization of the heating and cooling system to improve reliability, efficiency, and redundancy.
- Each building will operate independently, eliminating underground piping risks and generating energy savings.
- Construction is scheduled July 1, 2026 through October 31, 2027.

Rob Ewing motioned to award the Mechanical Infrastructure Phase 2 Project to the lowest responsible bidder, Will-surge Electric, Inc., with a total construction cost of \$6,743,465, receiving a second from Mike Cady. **Approved, carried unanimously.**

VI. Presentation/Discussion

A. Report on Nominating Committee for 2026/27 District Board Officers – Ryan Clark

- Mike Cady reported that the following nominations were received:
 - Courtney Bauer received 5 nominations for Board Chairperson.
 - Ryan Clark received 3 nominations for Vice Chairperson.
 - Brian Baumgartner received 2 nominations for Vice Chairperson.
 - Ryan Clark received 2 nominations for Secretary Treasurer.
 - Brian Baumgartner received 2 nominations for Secretary Treasurer.
 - Amanda Busche received 1 nomination for Secretary Treasurer.
- Brian Baumgartner asked that his name be removed for consideration for Vice Chairperson.
- Ryan Clark asked that his name be removed from consideration for Secretary Treasurer.
- The following slate will be up for vote at the July 13 WCTC District Board Annual Organizational Meeting:
 - Courtney Bauer for Chairperson.
 - Ryan Clark for Vice Chairperson.
 - Brian Baumgartner for Secretary Treasurer.
 - Amanda Busche for Secretary Treasurer.

B. WCTC Name and Brand – Andy Palen

- Independent, 9-month listening process by Mueller Communications spanned 9 stakeholder interviews, 2 focus groups, 4 listening sessions,

and 126 survey responses, with K-12/CTE and advisory engagement still underway.

- WCTC enjoys strong equity among those who know it.
- Word-by-word analysis shows "College" has near-consensus support, "Technical" is genuinely mixed, "Waukesha" is contested, and "County" carries the highest friction — meanwhile the WCTC acronym ranked second only to "College" as the element to protect, with even 45% of "keep as-is" respondents really defending the letters.
- Andy will come back to the Board in October after more information from students has stakeholders has been obtained.

C. H Building Nursing Renovation Project – Rich Haen and Colleen Nuckolls

- Nursing and related health programs are experiencing growth. The significant space imbalance that restricts program expansion was highlighted.
- Nursing space lacks the ability to support modern teaching methods, technology, and student needs, with current layouts limiting instructional effectiveness and access.
- The proposed renovation will create flexible, simulation-based clinical learning spaces (including updated labs and VR/XR capabilities), improve safety and workforce readiness, and relocate School of Health offices to enhance collaboration and program alignment.
- The project is scheduled from October 2026 to completion in July 2027.

D. S Building AJN Restroom and Locker Room Renovation Project – Rich Haen

- The S Building AJN Restroom and Locker Room renovation modernizes approximately 3,828 sq. ft. of high-use support spaces to align with the recently upgraded AJN lobby and growing campus/community utilization.
- Existing restrooms and locker rooms are outdated and misaligned with current academic uses (cosmetology, fire protection, EMS), resulting in inefficiencies, accessibility gaps, and diminished user experience.
- Renovations will improve accessibility, code compliance, and layout functionality while better supporting instructional needs and enhancing the experience for students, faculty, and event attendees.
- Project is scheduled from October 2026 to completion targeted for April 2027.

E. Q Building Lower Level Classroom and Office Renovation Project – Rich Haen

- The Q Building lower-level renovation is the next phase in transforming the facility into a cohesive hub for advanced technology, AI, and interdisciplinary innovation.

- Existing classrooms and office spaces no longer meet current instructional, technological, or collaboration needs.
- Renovation will modernize classrooms and offices, improve instructional quality and user experience, and fully integrate the lower level to maximize the building's overall impact.
- Construction is scheduled to begin in October 2026 with completion targeted for June 2027.

VII. Ryan Clark motioned to convene into Closed Session pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(c) Wisconsin State Statute at 6:08 pm:

- A. Rob Ewing seconded the motion
- B. **Unanimous roll call vote**
- C. Discussion was held regarding WCTC President's Evaluation.
- D. Ryan Clark motioned to reconvene into open session, receiving a second from Mike Cady.
- E. **Unanimous roll call vote.**
- F. The open meeting reconvened at 8:29 pm.
- G. Ryan Clark motioned to approve the WCTC President's Evaluation and Terms and presented; receiving a second from Amanda Busche. **Approved, carried unanimously.**

VIII. Adjournment – Brian Baumgartner

- A. Jamie Stahulak motioned to adjourn the meeting, receiving a second from Amanda Busche. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by
Jennifer Hagen
Sr. Executive Assistant to the Board

Signed:  _____

Ryan Clark, Board Secretary/Treasurer