



NWTC August Board Meeting Minutes

Northeast Wisconsin Technical College

8/19/2026 12:00 PMCDT

@ 2740 West Mason Street, Green Bay, WI 54303

I. Open Meeting & Roll Call

The Board Chairperson will call the August 19, 2026 NWTC Board of Trustees meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and request that roll call be taken at this time.

Present: Ross Loining, Gerald Worrick, Kelly Robinson (virtual), Cathy Dworak, Collin Pomplun, Jeff Rickaby (virtual), Emily Miller (virtual), Chet Lamers

Absent: Dustin Delsman

Also Present: Kristen Raney, Kelly Casperson, Matt Petersen, John Grant, Scott Anderson, Jennifer Flatt, Karl Reischl, Laura King, Brian Nicol, Roz Kruse, Brian Krogh, Mark Hansel, Pam Lunde, Eric Derenne, Stephanie Feucht, Adam Pfost, Sara Lam, Vicki Csida

II. Guests

A. Open Forum, Introduction of Guests, and Acknowledgements

The Chairperson will ask for the introduction of any guests present at this time and invite public comment.

No guests

III. Action Items

A. Bills

Detailed copies of the current disbursements for fiscal year 2026 for the month of July are being forwarded to the Board Treasurer for review and recommendation to the Board for payment. Additional listings of the bills are available in the District Office for review by any interested person.

It is recommended that the Board approve the July 2026 bills as presented.

Gerald Worrick made a motion to approve the July 2026 bills as presented. Cathy Dworak seconded the motion. Motion carried with all voting "Aye" on roll call vote.

B. Resolution Authorizing the Borrowing of \$4,000,000 for Movable Equipment; \$1,500,000 for Building Remodeling and Improvement Projects; and Providing for the Issuance and Sale of General Obligation Promissory Notes Therefor

During its fiscal year 2027 budget deliberations, the Board approved various capital projects for building remodeling and improvements, acquiring moveable equipment, and site improvements. This resolution authorizes the borrowing of \$5,500,000 of general obligation notes for these purposes. A resolution authorizing the borrowing has been prepared by Bond Counsel and is attached as Board Exhibit.

It is recommended the Board adopt the resolution authorizing the borrowing of \$4,000,000 for moveable equipment; \$1,500,000 for building remodeling and improvement projects; and providing for the issuance and sale of general obligation promissory notes therefor.

Jeff Rickaby made a motion to adopt the resolution authorizing the borrowing of \$4,000,000 for moveable equipment; \$1,500,000 for building remodeling and improvement projects; and providing for the issuance and sale of general obligation promissory notes therefor. Collin Pomplun seconded the motion. Motion carried with all voting "Aye" on roll call vote.

C. **WTCS Concept Review: Dental Therapy Associate Degree Program**

The Dental Therapy Program prepares students to provide preventive, restorative, and basic therapeutic dental services under the supervision of a licensed dentist. Graduates are trained in oral health assessment, treatment planning, cleanings, fluoride treatments, restorations, and uncomplicated tooth extractions, while also promoting oral health and disease prevention. The scope of practice for Dental Therapists includes Preventive care, Dental evaluation and treatment planning, Dental prophylaxis, Dental restorations, and Uncomplicated tooth extractions. Dental therapists often serve as patient advocates and help expand access to care in dental shortage areas and underserved communities. Dental Therapists are strongly used in Medicaid/public health systems.

The Rural Health Transformation Program, funded through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and administered in Wisconsin by the Department of Health Services (DHS), provides resources to address rural health care workforce shortages and improve access to care. Through this initiative, the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) will invest in clinical training opportunities, simulation labs, and the development of new health care programs in high-demand fields such as dental therapy, behavioral health, nursing, and allied health. Funding will support program start-up and implementation costs, including accreditation, curriculum development, equipment, faculty and preceptor training, recruitment, and operational expenses during the first two years. These investments are intended to expand rural health care career pathways, strengthen experiential learning opportunities, and establish sustainable programs and clinical partnerships that will continue serving rural communities beyond the grant period.

Applicants must have earned a degree from a Dental Hygiene program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) before enrolling in this associate degree program. Dental Therapy is an emerging labor market with official job opening statistics in Wisconsin not yet available. Minnesota has a longer-established Dental Therapy profession with a broader scope of practice (including Advanced Dental Therapist roles). Currently, there are 30-60 Dental Therapist job openings in Minnesota. Minnesota hourly salaries range from \$55 to \$70/hour. The program is expected to begin in Spring 2028.

It is recommended that the Board approve the Dental Therapy associate degree and authorize its submission to the WTCS State Board for approval.

Gerald Worrick made a motion to approve the Dental Therapy associate degree and authorize its submission to the WTCS State Board for approval. Chet Lamers seconded the motion.

Motion carried with all voting "Aye" on roll call vote.

D. **WTCS Concept Review: AI Data Specialist Associate Degree Program**

The AI Data Specialist AAS program prepares students to work with data and artificial intelligence technologies used across industries. Students learn to collect, manage, and analyze data using industry-standard tools, identifying trends, patterns, and insights that support business decision-making.

Coursework covers data management, programming, data analytics, machine learning, and AI applications. Students gain hands-on experience preparing data for machine learning models, building and evaluating predictive models, and working with technologies such as image recognition and natural language processing. The program also introduces data engineering concepts and the application of AI tools in real-world business settings.

Beyond technical skills, students develop the ability to communicate data findings clearly, collaborate with others, and apply AI responsibly and ethically—addressing issues of privacy, fairness, and societal impact.

Through hands-on projects, work-based learning, and a capstone project, students build a professional portfolio while applying their skills to real-world problems.

Graduates are prepared for entry-level roles supporting data management, analytics, machine learning, and AI initiatives in industries such as business, manufacturing, healthcare, and technology. Graduates may also continue their education through bachelor's degree programs in Artificial Intelligence, Data Science, Computer Science, Information Technology, and related fields at Wisconsin universities.

Starting salaries generally range from \$45,000 to \$65,000 annually, depending on position, employer, industry, and experience, with strong potential for growth as graduates develop specialized expertise in data analytics, machine learning, and AI.

The program is expected to launch in Spring 2028.

It is recommended that the Board approve the Artificial Intelligence Data Specialist associate degree and authorize its submission to the WTCS State Board for approval.

Chet Lamers made a motion to approve the Artificial Intelligence Data Specialist associate degree and authorize its submission to the WTCS State Board for approval. Cathy Dworak seconded the motion. Motion carried with all voting "Aye" on roll call vote.

E. District Stakeholder Survey

As the College continues to align resources with community needs and priorities, the College is interested in receiving feedback from communities in the District. The proposed survey asks respondents about economic priorities as well as priorities that could be supported by the property tax levy.

It is proposed that the Board approve issuing a community survey to District stakeholders.

Gerald Worrick made a motion to approve issuing a community survey to District stakeholders.

Collin Pomplun seconded the motion. Motion carried with all voting "Aye" on roll call vote.

 [Exhibit 2 - DRAFT NWTC Community Survey Summer 2026-8-17.pdf](#)

IV. Consent Agenda Items

A. Minutes

The minutes of the July 13, 2026 are attached as Board Exhibit 3.

It is recommended that Board approval be given for the July 13, 2026 Board meeting minutes.

 [Exhibit 3 - NWTC July Board Meeting & Organizational Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

B. Faculty New Hires

Rob Hock – Criminal Justice & Academy Instructor

Education

- Associate of Applied Science, Criminal Justice–Law Enforcement (Northeast Wisconsin Technical College); Bachelor's Degree in Business with an emphasis in Public Administration/Criminal Justice Administration (Concordia University)

Occupational Experience

- Public Safety Training Coordinator and Adjunct Instructor (Northeast Wisconsin Technical College) coordinating specialized training for law enforcement, fire, and EMS personnel and providing instruction in law enforcement education programs.
- More than 15 years of law enforcement experience, including service as Patrol Sergeant (Green Bay Police Department and Police Officer UW–Green Bay and UW–Milwaukee Police Departments) with expertise in training, supervision, tactical operations, and public safety.

Placement for this position would be at the level Faculty A, \$81,500.

Mike Smith – Biomedical Electronics Instructor – District Wide

Education

- Master of Business Administration (Northern Illinois University); Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering Technology (Milwaukee School of Engineering); Associate of Applied Science in Biomedical Electronics Technology (Western Wisconsin Technical College).

Occupational Experience

- Clinical Engineering Manager II (TriMedx), overseeing clinical engineering operations, personnel, budgets, and customer satisfaction across multiple healthcare facilities; brings more than 30 years of experience in biomedical engineering, medical imaging, manufacturing, service, and operations management.
- Previous leadership roles include Repair Manager (BC Technical), Operations Manager (Southwest Medical Resources), Project Manager (Genesis Medical Imaging and Barrington Medical Imaging), Field Service Manager (Intermagnetics General Corporation), Director of Engineering and Service (Miller Medical Systems), and various engineering positions (GE Medical Systems).

Certifications/Licensure

- Registered Professional Engineer, Wisconsin; Certified Facilitator, Development Dimensions International (DDI).

Placement for this position would be at the level Faculty B, \$87,259.

Scott Valleskey – Fire Science Instructor

Education

- Associate Degree in Fire/Medic (Lakeshore Technical College).

Occupational Experience

- Fire Lieutenant/Paramedic (City of Manitowoc), serving as officer in charge of fire station operations, supervising engine and ambulance crews, conducting training, and facilitating EMS certifications.
- Fire/EMS Instructor (Lakeshore College) with extensive experience delivering fire certification programs, industrial fire training, and EMS instruction, including BLS, ALS, and PALS. Previous experience includes Firefighter/Paramedic (City of Wisconsin Rapids) and Paramedic (Orange Cross Ambulance).

Certifications

- Critical Care Paramedic; Fire Emergency Services Instructor I & II; Fire Officer I; Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Pumper; Driver/Operator Aerial; Firefighter I & II; Hazardous Materials Technician.

Placement for this position would be at the level Faculty A, \$75,300.

Todd Sayen – HVAC R Instructor

Education

- Completed HVAC/R Service Technician program coursework (Northeast Wisconsin Technical College), including all available evening classes in the program.

Occupational Experience

- Technical Service and Training Manager (Ideal Air Heating & Cooling, Inc.), providing technical leadership, project management, technician training, and support for residential, commercial, and industrial HVAC systems.
- More than 19 years of HVAC industry experience, including Technical Service Advisor roles (Auer Steel Heating & Supply Co. and Temperature Systems, Inc.) and Service

Technician (Ideal Air Heating & Cooling, Inc.), with expertise in HVAC troubleshooting, training delivery, equipment startup, controls, refrigeration, hydronics, chillers, and building automation systems.

Certifications

- EPA 608 Universal Technician Certification; NATE HVAC Certification; NCI Air Balance Certification (Residential Systems Performance); Carrier Controls Systems Level 1 Certification; EPA 608 Proctor.

Placement for this position would be at the level Faculty A, \$80,000.

It is recommended that Board approval be given for the new hire(s) listed above.

C. Faculty Resignations

Erin Hansel – Environmental Engineering Instructor, who has been with the College since August 1, 2022 and has announced her resignation effective August 3, 2026.

It is recommended that Board approval be given for the resignation(s) listed above.

D. Faculty Retirements

Peter Anderson – Machine Tool Instructor, who has been with the College since August 15, 2011 and has announced his retirement effective May 21, 2027.

It is recommended that Board approval be given for the retirement(s) listed above.

E. Corporate Training & Economic Development (Contracts for Service)

Under the provisions of Wisconsin Statutes § 38.14 (3) and State Administrative Code WTCS 8, the District Board may enter into contracts to provide instructional or non-instructional services to public institutions, local governmental bodies, private institutions, industries, and businesses. District Board policy E240 delegates the authority to initiate a contract to the President, with the proviso that the contract is subject to retroactive approval by the Board. A report of fiscal year 2026 contracts pending Board approval is attached as Board Exhibit 4. This report includes not only the in-district contracts but also the out-of-district and the out-of-state contracts. State Board Contract for Service Policy requires that the District Board receive a report at least quarterly on contracts entered into for which less than full cost is being charged. We have elected to provide the Board with this report on a monthly basis. This report uses a state formula in which the state annually calculates a percentage for indirect expenses (34.98% for on-campus and 28.45% for off-campus) such as administration, facilities, utilities, information systems, registration, counselors, insurance, etc., associated with a contract to determine full costs. Project pricing was recommended by the department and approved by the Board. The intent is to recover the direct and indirect costs of delivering the services. Copies of the contracts are available for review by any interested person. It is recommended that the Board approve the contracts for services identified in Board Exhibit 4.

 [Exhibit 4 - July Contracts for Service Board Report.pdf](#)

Gerald Worrick made motion to approve the Consent Agenda (July 13, 2026 minutes, Faculty New Hires, Faculty Resignations, Faculty Retirements, Contracts for Service). Collin Pomplun seconded the motion. Motion carried with all voting "Aye" on voice vote.

V. Reports

A. President's Report

Dr. Kristen Raney, President of Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, will provide the President's Report at this time.

- WTCS Legislative Workgroup
- State Draft Budget Request
- WTCS Forecasting Summit
- External Engagement & Events
- Internal Engagement & Events
- New Board Agenda Format

B. Board Member Liasion Updates

Board members that are liaisons to other entities will have an opportunity to report on updates they have since the last Board meeting.

- DBA Executive Board – Dustin Delsman
- DBA Legislative Committee – Collin Pomplun
- DBA Awards Committee – Emily Miller
- DBA External Partnerships Committee – Chet Lamers & Cathy Dworak
- DBA Internal Best Practices Committee – Gerald Worrick
- DBA Bylaws, Policies, & Procedures – Kelly Robinson & Jeff Rickaby
- NWTC Foundation Board – Dustin Delsman

VI. Next Board Meeting

The September 16, 2026 Board meeting will be held in the District Boardroom on the Marinette Campus located at 1601 University Drive, Marinette, WI 54143.

Board members and administration will have an opportunity to identify items that weren't identified prior to the preparation of the agenda for referral to administration or placed on a future board agenda.

VII. Adjournment

The Board Chair will accept a motion to adjourn the August 19, 2026 Board meeting.

Chet Lamers made a motion to adjourn the August 19, 2026 meeting at 1:49 p.m. Cathy Dworak seconded the motion. Motion carried with all voting "Aye" on voice vote.



Gerald Worrick, Secretary

9/16/2026

Date