



March | NIACC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

North Iowa Area Community College – Regular Board Meeting

March 19, 2026 5:00 PM

NIACC Campus | 500 College Drive | Mason City, IA 50401

I. Preliminary/Information Items

A. Call to Order and Declaration of Quorum

President Julseth called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM. A quorum was declared with the following persons in attendance.

Members Present:

1-David Steffens, Jr.	2- Kurt Herbrechtsmeyer	3- Dave Moore
4- John Rowe	5- Willie Weis	6- Andy Julseth
7- Stephanie Nettleton	8- Debra Hill	9- Nicki Prantner

Executive Officer: Joel Pedersen (remote)

Board Secretary: Abby Donald

Board Treasurer: Mindy Eastman

Visitors: Michelle Bamrick, Patti Hanson, Mandi Holcomb (remote), Dr. Laurel Klinkenberg, Dr. Rachel McGuire

B. Additions to the Agenda and Adoption of the Agenda

A motion was made by Director Herbrechtsmeyer and seconded by Director Moore to adopt the agenda. Ayes – all. Motion carried.

C. Audit

Mindy Eastman introduced Mandi Holcomb from Denman CPA, LLP, to present the audit report. Mandi went through the Independent Auditor's Report, which stated: "In our opinion, based on our audit and the report of the other auditors, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the business type activities and the fiduciary activities of North Iowa Area Community College and its discretely presented component unit as of June 30, 2025, and the respective changes in financial position and where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles

generally accepted in the United States of America". The opinion was unmodified.

A motion was made by Director Weis and seconded by Director Steffens to adopt the agenda. Ayes – all. Motion carried.

II. Board Items

A. Community Colleges for Iowa Report

Director Hill reported the following: ▪ she attended the Community Colleges Day on the Hill earlier this month. ▪ The CCFI lobbyist recommends keeping communication to legislators short and to the point, as there were 2,500 bills introduced this session. ▪ Debra met Ryan Roberts, the new CCFI Director of Government Relations. ▪ CCFI is still asking for a \$12 million increase in state general aid. ▪ Discussion on Community Colleges offering bachelor's degrees continues. ▪ The summer conference will be held July 8 and 9th in Marshalltown, and after this year, there is a discussion of moving the trustee conference to December in conjunction with the CCFI convention and trade show.

B. Legislative Report

President Pedersen shared the following: ▪ The Senate did not move the bachelor's degree bill forward to the full Senate, so it will not pass this year. ▪ Patti and her team have been working on talking with legislators about the proposed changes to 260E, and businesses are also stepping up. ▪ The House appropriations committee passed a bill with 2% tax on property tax revenue growth. This aligns closely with the governor's proposal. The Senate is working on its own version. The House bill would allow bond elections in June, and another bill would prohibit the use of bonds for debt service on general operations. We will keep everyone posted and will share in the board letter to compare the current proposals.

C. Board Member Forum

Director Hill shared that a community member who applied to NIACC was thrilled about the availability of scholarships. Director Hill also shared that she was thrilled that NIACC hired a former student, Theo Schoneman. Director Nettleton shared that the Music Man production was awesome and was a great promotional opportunity for Mason City. Director Moore shared that Doug Krabbe's son has been hired as the new baseball coach in Clear

Lake. Director Moore also shared that this will be his last meeting as a member of this Board.

D. Agenda Items for April Board Meeting

No agenda items were requested.

III. Consent Agenda

President Julseth asked if anyone would like to discuss or remove items from the Consent Agenda. Director Hill made a motion, seconded by Director Nettleton, to approve the Consent Agenda. Ayes-all. The motion carried.

A. Approval of Minutes

1. Workshop and Board Meeting Minutes | February 19, 2026

Workshop meeting minutes and regular meeting minutes from February 19, 2026.

B. Financial Report and Actions

1. Bills for the Month of February 2026 and Budget Statements through February 28, 2026

Director Hill reviewed the bills and found them to be in order.

C. Personnel Items

The personnel recommendations were included in the Board packet.

1. Retirements, Resignations, and Terminations | Authorizations | Appointments | Other

D. Action Items

IV. Action Items

A. 2027 Budget Development

1. Preliminary Approval of FY2027 Public Budget

The proposed FY27 public budget and a memorandum showing NIACC's tax history were included in the board book. The public budget sets our spending limits and the levy. Mindy Eastman calculated NIACC's 2027 levy at 1.23913 per \$1,000. Mindy requested preliminary approval for the FY27 public budget.

2. Setting a Public Hearing

Mindy Eastman requested permission to hold the Public Hearing for the FY27 public budget on Thursday, April 16, 2026, at 5:00 PM.

3. Authorization to Publish the Preliminary Budget and Notice of Public Hearing

Mindy Eastman requested authorization to publish the preliminary budget and notice of Public Hearing.

Director Steffens made a motion, seconded by Director Hill, to approve the preliminary budget, hold a public hearing, and publish the preliminary budget and the notice of the public hearing. Ayes - all. Motion carried.

B. Request for Authorizing Redemption of GO Bonds, Approving Fifth Amendment to Escrow Agency Agreement, and Levying a Tax for FY27

A motion was made by Director Rowe and seconded by Director Steffens to authorize the redemption of GO school bonds, approve the fifth amendment to the escrow agency agreement, and levy a tax for FY27. The roll was called, and the vote was:

David Steffens, Jr. - Yes	Kurt Herbrechtsmeyer - Yes	Dave Moore - Yes
John Rowe - Yes	Willie Weis – Yes	Andy Julseth - Yes
Stephanie Nettleton - Yes	Debra Hill - Yes	Nicki Prantner - Yes

Yes – 9 No – 0 Absent – 0 Motional Carried.

C. FY26 Major Purchase Request

A memorandum from Mindy Eastman was included in the Board book requesting approval of the FY26 Major Purchase. A motion was made by Director Prantner and seconded by Director Weis for approval. Ayes – all. Motion carried.

D. Request for Approval of Course Fee

A memorandum from Mindy Eastman was included in the Board book requesting approval of additional course fees for art and design courses. A motion was made by Director Steffens and seconded by Director Hill for approval. Ayes – all. Motion carried.

E. Request for Approval to Seek Bids and Set a Public Hearing for Utilities Project

A memorandum from Mindy Eastman was included in the Board book requesting approval to seek bids and set a public hearing for the utilities project. A motion was made by Director Rowe and seconded by Director Nettleton for approval. Ayes – all. Motion carried.

F. Request for Approval of Quality Faculty Plan Revisions

A memorandum from Dr. Laurel Klinkenberg was included in the Board book, requesting approval of revisions to the Quality Faculty Plan. A motion was made by Director Hill and seconded by Director Nettleton for approval. Ayes – all. Motion carried.

V. Additions to the Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda

VI. President's Report

President Pedersen shared the following: ▪ *Expects to hear in the next month if we will move to the top 25 in the Aspen Award.* ▪ *shared his appreciation for his leadership team and how proud he is of the women's basketball team.* ▪ *shared proposed changes to move the Community Colleges for Iowa Trustee Conference from July to December and asked people to share their input.* ▪ *announced a \$1 million grant from the state for a dental hygiene building.* ▪ shared that the athletic field project is moving along.

VII. Adjournment

Director Moore made a motion, seconded by Director Steffens, to adjourn the meeting. Ayes-all. The motion was carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Julseth, President
NIACC Board of Directors

Abby Donald, Secretary
NIACC Board of Directors