May | NIACC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

North Iowa Area Community College & Foundation
5/21/2026 6:00 PM
NIACC Campus | 500 College Dr., Mason City, IA 50401

I. Preliminary/Information Items

A. Call to Order and Declaration of Quorum

Vice President Nettleton called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM. A quorum was declared with the following persons in attendance.

Members Present:

1-David Steffens	2- Kurt Herbrechtsmeyer	3 – Mark Paca
5- Willie Weis	7- Stephanie Nettleton	8- Debra Hill
9 - Nicki Prantner		

Members Absent: 4- John Rowe, 6- Andy Julseth
Executive Officer: Joel Pedersen
Board Secretary: Abby Donald
Board Treasurer: Mindy Eastman
Visitors: Michelle Bamrick, Patti Hanson, Dr. Laurel Klinkenberg, Michelle Petznick

B. Additions to the Agenda and Adoption of the Agenda

Vice President Nettleton asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. Motion moved by Director Herbrechtsmeyer and seconded by Director Steffens. Ayes - all. Motion carried.

II. Board Items

A. Community Colleges for Iowa Report

Director Hill reported that she had a board meeting on Monday. They discussed the budget and evaluated the director. The board is happy with the work that Community Colleges for Iowa is doing. The dues for each college will be lower this year due to lower lobbying and legal fees. The potential for bachelor's degrees at community colleges was discussed. The trustee conference will move to November 2027, following this year's summer conference, and will be combined with the convention and trade shows.

B. IASB School Board Recognition Presentation of Certificates

President Pedersen presented Board members with certificates in recognition of School Board Recognition Month and thanked them for their commitment to the College.

C. Legislative Report

Joel shared a post-session recap of the 2026 legislative session and discussed property tax legislation

D. Appointment of Salary Committee

President Julseth has asked Directors Nettleton and Steffens to serve on the salary committee. Director Julseth will also serve on the committee.

E. Tentative 2026 - 2027 Board Meeting Schedule

Joel shared the meeting dates for 2026-2027 with the Board. The board advised changing the March meeting to Wednesday, March 24.

F. Board Member Forum

Director Prantner shared that Hampton Dumont students toured the new Franklin County Center, and several were excited about the opportunities. Director Hill shared that a young man from Garner received a John Pappajohn entrepreneur award and will attend DMACC. Director Herbrechtsmeyer shared that he was asked to have NIACC clean up the weeds behind the building in Charles City, and it was done shortly thereafter.

G. Agenda Items for June Board Meeting

No agenda items were requested.

III. Consent Agenda

Vice President Nettleton asked if anyone would like to discuss or remove items from the Consent Agenda. Vice President Nettleton asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion moved by Director Hill and seconded by Director Weis. Ayes - all. Motion carried.

A. Approval of Minutes

1. Retreat and Board Meeting Minutes - April 16, 2026
2. AEA Joint Meeting of the Boards Minutes - April 1, 2026

B. Financial Report and Actions

1. Bills for April 2026 and Budget Statements through April 30, 2026. Director Prantner reviewed the bills this month and found them to be in order.

C. Personnel Items

The personnel recommendations were included in the Board book.

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

D. Action Items

IV. Action Items

A. Request for Approval of 2026-2027 Board Meeting Schedule

Joel recommended that the Board meeting for 2026-2027 be approved, with the noted change to the March meeting, which will be held on Wednesday, March 24, 2027. Vice President Nettleton asked for a motion to approve the calendar, with a change to move the March meeting to Wednesday, March 24. Motion moved by Director Steffens, and seconded by Director Prantner. Ayes - all. Motion carried.

B. Request for Approval of Contract with North Iowa Area Council of Governments

A memo from President Pedersen was included in the board book requesting approval of the contract with the North Iowa Area Council of Governments. Vice President Nettleton asked for a motion to approve. Motion moved by Director Steffens and seconded by Director Herbrechtsmeyer. Ayes - all. Motion carried.

C. Request for Approval of 2027-2028 Academic Calendar

A memorandum from Michelle Petznick was included in the board book, requesting approval of the 2027-2028 Academic Calendar. Vice President Nettleton asked for a motion to approve. Motion moved by Director Weis and seconded by Director Hill. Ayes - all. Motion approved

D. Request for Approval of FY2027 Employee Agreements

A memorandum from Lora Juhl was included in the Board book requesting approval of the FY2027 Employee agreements. Vice President Nettleton asked for a motion to approve. Motion moved by Director Hill and seconded by Director Prantner. Ayes - all. Motion carried.

E. Request for Approval of FY26 Major Purchase Request

A memorandum from Mindy Eastman was included in the Board book requesting approval of the FY26 Major purchase request. Vice President Nettleton asked for a motion to approve. Motion moved by Director Prantner and seconded by Director Weis. Ayes - all. Motion approved

F. Request for Approval of Pumphouse-Phase 2 Project Proposal

A memorandum from Mindy Eastman was included in the Board book requesting approval of the Pumphouse - Phase 2 project proposal. Vice President Nettleton asked for a motion to approve. Motion moved by Director Steffens and seconded by Director Paca. Ayes - all. Motion carried.

G. Request for Approval of 2026 Summer Projects

A memorandum from Mindy Eastman was included in the Board book requesting approval of the 2026 Summer Projects. Vice President Nettleton asked for a motion to approve. Motion moved by Director Hill and seconded by Director Steffens. Ayes - all. Motion carried.

H. Request for Approval Upscale Assessment for Dental Hygiene Program

A memorandum from Mindy Eastman & Dalila Sajadian was included in the Board book, requesting approval of the Upscale Assessment for Dental Hygiene Program. Vice President Nettleton asked for a motion to approve. Motion moved by Director Prantner and seconded by Director Weis. Ayes - all. Motion carried.

I. Request for Approval of FY27 Tuition, Fees, and Housing

A memorandum from Mindy Eastman was included in the Board book, requesting approval of FY27 Tuition, Fees, and Housing. Vice President Nettleton asked for a motion to approve. Motion moved by Director Weis and seconded by Director Steffens. Ayes - all. Motion carried.

J. President's Evaluation Closed Session Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(i)(2026)

The regular meeting of the NIACC Board of Directors was recessed at 6:52 PM. Vice President Nettleton requested a motion to recess the regular NIACC Board meeting and go into closed session for President Joel Pedersen's evaluation per Iowa Code 21.5(1)(i). Motion moved by Director Steffens and seconded by Director Hill. There was a roll call vote:

Director Steffens - Yes	Director Herbrechtsmeyer- Yes	Director Paca - Yes
Director – Weis- Yes	Director Nettleton - Yes	Director Hill - Yes
Director Prantner – Yes		

There was consensus to reconvene the regular meeting at 7:27 PM.

V. Additions to the Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

VI. President's Report

Joel provided an update on the new legislation allowing K-12 schools to charge students for failed courses, as well as on the Canvas hacking incident.

VII. Adjournment

Vice President Nettleton requested a motion to adjourn. Motion moved by Director Hill and seconded by Director Weis. The meeting adjourned at 7:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Andy Julseth, President
NIACC Board of Directors

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Abby Donald, Board Secretary
NIACC Board of Directors