

**MINUTES OF MEETING
WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM BOARD
MAY 14, 2013
WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM
4622 UNIVERSITY AVENUE
MADISON, WI 53705**

Tuesday, May 14, 2013 – 9:00 a.m.

Members Present: Phil Baranowski, Natalie Cruz, Mary Quinnette Cuene, Stan Davis, Tony Evers, Scott Jansen for Reggie Newson, Becky Lezvow, Drew Petersen, John Schwantes, S. Mark Tyler and José Vásquez (via wisline)

Members Absent: Stephen Willett and Phil Neuenfeldt

System Office Staff Present: Kathy Cullen, Ben Emmel, Morna Foy, Kelly Gallagher, Tom Heffron, Carol Lynch, Nancy Merrill, Willa Panzer, Dan Scanlon, Annette Severson, Conor Smyth, and Jim Zylstra

District/Others Present: Paul Gabriel and Pat Costello, District Boards Association; Caroline Russell, WSG President; Sharon Wendt, Department of Public Instruction; Kyle Schwarm, Statewide Marketing Consortium; Tom Eckert, Blackhawk Technical College; Bruce Barker, Chippewa Valley Technical College; Susan May, Fox Valley Technical College; Bryan Albrecht, Gateway Technical College; Mike Lanser, Lakeshore Technical College; Aaron Burkes, Madison Area Technical College; Sue Budjac, Mid-State Technical College; Michael Burke, Milwaukee Area Technical College; Libby Burmaster, Nicolet Area Technical College; Lori Weyers and Rob Elliott, Northcentral Technical College; R. Jeffrey Rafn and Karen Smits, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College; Duane Ford and Phil Thomas, Southwest Wisconsin Technical College; Gary Brown and Peg Boudreau, Western Technical College; Breann Boggs, Department of Administration; John Schroeder, Wisconsin Eye

Board Vice President Drew Petersen called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.

Carol Lynch read the open meeting statement and roll call indicated that there was a quorum present.

Board Vice President Petersen indicated that the Board President's report would be delayed until President Tyler arrived following his reappointment Senate confirmation hearing. He acknowledged that Wisconsin Eye was present and covering the day's proceedings. He also introduced Scott Jansen who was recently appointed by the Department of Workforce Development Secretary Reggie Newson to serve as the Director of the new Office of Skills Development which is part of Governor Walker's Wisconsin Fast Forward Initiative. He informed Board members that a copy of the most recent Board of Regents report could be found in the board folders.

ITEM A: Approval of the Minutes from the March 19-20, 2013 Meeting

It was moved by Board member Baranowski, seconded by Board member Levzow, that the March 19-20, 2013, Board minutes be approved as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

ITEM C: Report of the System President

System President Morna Foy welcomed WTCS Associate Vice President of the Office of Student Development and Assessment Willa Panzer back from deployment and thanked her for her service.

Governor Walker proclaimed April 30, 2013, to be “Dual Credit Day” in Wisconsin. President Foy spoke at the dual credit day event at Lomira High School along with State Superintendent Tony Evers and Moraine Park Technical College President Sheila Ruhland. She thanked Board member Baranowski, for attending. Similar events were held at all technical colleges throughout the state.

Board Vice President Petersen’s employer, TDS Telecom, recently hosted a group of Mid-State Technical College students at one of its data center properties in Fitchburg. Students had the opportunity to tour the facility, ask questions of the experts, and learn about future careers.

President Foy introduced Caroline Russell, the new president of the Wisconsin Student Government (WSG) organization. Caroline thanked the Board for welcoming her and indicated that one of her goals as president is to have WSG have more of a presence at the Capitol and at WTCS board meetings.

President Foy attended the WTCS State Ambassador’s banquet in April. She reported that the event is very inspiring and she encouraged Board members and staff to attend whenever possible. A copy of the program was provided to Board members.

The System Office team has been very active at the state and national level. President Foy attended the ACCT conference in San Francisco. Provost and Vice President of Student Success Kathy Cullen, was recently elected to a three-year term with the National Association of State Directors of Career and Technical Education consortium, representing region five. WTCS Education Directors Sandy Schmit and Moira LaFayette recently showcased the WTCS Technical Skill Attainment process at the Higher Learning Commission’s annual meeting in Chicago.

President Foy reported that the System recently helped sponsor an initiative headed by the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation-Wisconsin Biz magazine-to promote Wisconsin’s business and workforce climate, targeted to expanding or relocating businesses. She thanked the presidents and the Statewide Marketing Consortium for their support in getting this work done. Board members were provided with a copy of the magazine.

President Foy thanked Fox Valley Technical College president Susan May for including her in the dual credit events recently held at the college. President Foy had the opportunity to meet with business leaders in the area, recent technical college graduates and to tour the Health Simulation Lab with a group of second graders. The events highlighted how technical colleges touch and influence our communities.

President Foy congratulated Southwest Technical College President Duane Ford on his college being nominated by State Superintendent Evers for the Career Preparedness Award as part of ACT's College and Career Readiness Campaign.

Board Vice President Petersen reported that President Foy has completed one-on-one visits with 12 of the 16 districts. He thanked President Foy and System Office staff for the great deal of work that has been done to increase the visibility and performance of our technical colleges. One example is President Foy being invited to speak at Harvard University. He also indicated that this particular budget period has been a true opportunity for the System to increase state support based on the new performance funding method. The process is not yet completed, but we have made great strides. He expressed his appreciation of Morna's hard work during her first six months as President.

ITEM D: WTC District Boards Association Report

Pat Costello, trustee at Mid-State Technical College and President of the Wisconsin Technical College District Boards Association (DBA) gave a summary of the Association's Spring meeting.

Mr. Costello indicated that new officers will take over effective after the July meeting. Russ Moyer will be the new President, Ramona Mathews will be Vice President, and Carla Hedtke will be the new Secretary/Treasurer. The Summer meeting will be held July 18-19 and the Fall meeting will be held on November 6-8.

Executive Director Paul Gabriel welcomed Scott Jansen to his new position at the Department of Workforce Development. Mr. Gabriel summarized Assembly Bill 177, stating that it proposes technical college system funding be shifted away from property taxes and be funded by a sales tax. This would shift all control from the local level to the state level. The bill has spurred discussion about revising how the technical colleges are funded.

Board member Schwantes asked if AB 177 also focused on K-12 funding and the answer is no, the focus is strictly on technical colleges. Property tax reform would be supported by the System, but without targeting technical colleges. Board Vice President Petersen indicated that in conversations he and System Office staff have had with legislators, the issue is that there is a higher level of accountability when property taxes are used to fund the colleges and legislators do not think the System is not performing well or that they are being wasteful. Executive Director Gabriel indicated that shifting control away from local boards would affect timeliness and responsiveness. Board Vice President Petersen thanked Mr. Costello for his service to the District Boards Association and recognized him for being a strong advocate for the System.

ITEM E: WTC Presidents' Association Report

Jeff Rafn, President of Northeast Wisconsin Technical College and President of the Presidents' Association reported that the Presidents have been very actively working with Paul Gabriel and Morna Foy in regards to pending legislation and are pleased with the outcomes of the Joint Finance Committee hearings.

He reported that the workforce paradox committee has been working on performance measurements and how the System will account for students who leave college for employment.

The Association has been looking at implementing cost saving measures such as combining purchases. The District Mutual Insurance program was recently audited with no concerns identified. The program has been very successful and is seen as a national model. The Association is looking to see if the same model could be followed for health insurance coverage.

At the next meeting the presidents will discuss ways to collaborate with the WTCS Foundation to support the Association and the System. The Association recently had a very successful meeting with DWD regarding the new Fast Forward Wisconsin program. The second round of Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College & Career Training grants resulted in an additional \$15 million of funding.

The Association hosted a Governor's roundtable at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College with the Department of Revenue Secretary, the Department of Natural Resources Secretary and the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation Secretary. Governor Walker spoke very highly of the technical college system and their support of manufacturing.

President Foy will be the commencement speaker at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College later this week. This WTCS Board meeting will be President Rafn's last meeting as President and Susan May will take over as the new president in July 2013.

Board Vice President Petersen asked if President Rafn when the decision would be made regarding the TAACCCT grant applications and President Rafn indicated that a decision would be made in the Fall of 2013. He thanked President Rafn for his service as president of the Association.

ITEM G: District Board Appointment Process

WTCS Senior Policy Advisor and Federal Relations Officer Nancy Merrill gave the Board a quick overview of the district board appointment process. She outlined the statutes that dictate the process and the requirements that must be met by each district. Milwaukee Area Technical College district is the one district with different requirements.

System Office staff are responsible for reviewing all applicant materials for accuracy and compliance to state statutes. The System Office initiates the process and the annual appointments are brought before the Board for action each May.

Each district must have a plan of representation in place. The plan and the applicant interviews often take place at the same hearing. Legal notices are required. Applicants need to expend a fair amount of time and effort to complete all of the application materials.

Board member Stan Davis commented that applicants must go through quite a lengthy application process and no preference is given to incumbents. Board member Becky Levzow asked if we define employers by the number of employees they have. Ms. Merrill explained that only the Milwaukee District Board defines employers by the number of employees and the definition is much more concise than for other districts.

Ms. Merrill indicated that President Foy is a very involved in the process and that the District Boards Association provides professional development for its trustees. Colleges have to manage this locally. System Office staff are also very involved in reviewing and monitoring the process for compliance and Board members should be aware of the effort that is expended to conduct this process.

Vice President Petersen commented on the high quality of the applicants. These are desirable positions to hold which is demonstrated by the people applying for these positions.

ITEM B: Report of the Board President

Board President Mark Tyler arrived following his Senate confirmation hearing. He indicated that the legislators all had very positive comments regarding the technical college system. They appreciate and respect the work the colleges perform which is evidenced by the votes at the Joint Finance Committee hearings. President Tyler thanked everyone for their advocacy work and voiced that it was very effective and greatly appreciated.

ITEM F: Strategic Directions Outcomes

WTCS Director of Strategic Partnerships and External Relations Conor Smyth reported on the outcomes of the Board's Strategic Directions. He summarized the process that was used to develop the directions and how the vision, directions, goals and measures adopted by the Board last July have provided a strategic framework for the work of the System and for the performance outcomes framework included in the Governor's budget. He reported that WTCS Associate Vice President of Instruction, Annette Severson would be giving an overview of the program approval process and Western Technical College's Dean of the Business Services, Gary Brown would be giving an overview of how Western determines the mix of programs that will be offered at the college.

Board Vice President Petersen commented that when contemplating the performance measurements, they appear to align well with our strategic directions and hopefully this will pay dividends from this point and beyond. It makes a lot of sense to make these alignments. Mr. Smyth remarked that the System appreciates that the budget is reflective of the strategic directions.

Associate Vice President Severson gave Board members an overview of the program approval process and the details involved in identifying program need in advance and delivering “just in time” education so that graduates will have job opportunities upon graduation. When programs are developed and delivered too early, the jobs may not be available upon graduation. If programs are developed and offered too late, the same problem may exist. Colleges use a wide variety of measurements to analyze the need for specific programs.

The ongoing program review, approval and discontinuation of programs are a continuous process. President Foy commented that public agencies often continue to do things in a way they have always been done and Ms. Severson has completely redesigned the program approval process twice during her time at the WTCS. The changes have been made in collaboration with presidents, but her staff has made the majority of revisions to this process. This process is the focus of many conversations President Foy has had at the Capitol and she complimented Ms. Severson and her team for their hard work. Board President Tyler remarked that Senator Schultz has commented to him that the System is very responsive to employers and their workforce needs. Legislators are surprised at the close partnerships our colleges have with businesses and employers and how employers influence how colleges operate. All in all, our System has left a very positive impression with legislators. Board member Cuene acknowledged and thanked Ms. Severson for her efforts.

Western Technical College Dean of Business Services Gary Brown presented an overview to the Board of how Western determines the mix of programs they develop and deliver. He explained that Western is closely tied to business partners in the district. He explained the data-driven approach to balancing college resources and community needs in delivering an effective program mix.

Board President Tyler asked how the college identified emerging businesses and their workforce needs. Mr. Brown explained that by staying well connected to the business community and staying engaged with other educators, they can better assess what future needs will be and how to meet those needs. Western reaches out to new businesses to form new partnerships and the businesses are also very good about reaching out to the college when they have unmet needs.

President Foy thanked Mr. Brown for his presentation and stated that all of the technical college districts have processes of determining programmatic needs and have developed strong relationships with businesses in their districts and this is one of the reasons why we are able to make changes Systemwide.

Board President Tyler presented commendations to two Board members whose terms were expiring in May; Mary Cuene and Natalie Cruz. Phil Neuenfeldt was not in attendance and will receive his commendation by mail.

ITEM H: Consent Agenda

Board President Tyler offered Board members the opportunity to ask questions or provide comments regarding the consent agenda items. None were voiced.

It was moved by Board member Schwantes, seconded by Board member Vasquez, that the Wisconsin Technical College System Board approves the program and facilities development requests as well as the annual district board appointments as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

ITEM I: Madison Area Technical College-Remodeling of Facilities

WTCS Facilities Director Dan Scanlon gave a quick overview of Madison Area Technical College's proposed remodeling project and offered the item for comments and questions. None were voiced.

It was moved by Board member Baranowski, seconded by Board member Levzow, that the Wisconsin Technical College System Board approves Madison Area Technical College's proposal to remodel facilities at the Truax Campus as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

ITEM J: Chippewa Valley Technical College-Fire and Paramedic Training Center

WTCS Facilities Director Dan Scanlon gave a quick overview of Chippewa Valley Technical College's proposal to construct a Fire and Paramedic Training Center in Eau Claire and offered the item for comments and questions. Board President Tyler congratulated Chippewa Valley on receiving private funds to cover the cost of the construction.

It was moved by Board member Schwantes, seconded by Board member Petersen, that the Wisconsin Technical College System Board approves Chippewa Valley Technical College's proposal to construct a Fire and Paramedic Training Center in Eau Claire as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

ITEM K: Lakeshore Technical College-Flexible Training Arena

WTCS Facilities Director Dan Scanlon gave a quick overview of Lakeshore Technical College's proposal to construct a Flexible Training Arena in Cleveland and offered the item for comments and questions.

Board President Tyler commented that a lot of private donations are coming in and funding new facilities around the state.

It was moved by Board member Evers, seconded by Board member Baranowski, that the Wisconsin Technical College System Board approves Lakeshore Technical College's proposal to construct a Flexible Training Arena in Cleveland as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

ITEM L: Legislative Update

WTCS Executive Vice President Jim Zylstra gave Board members an update on the state biennial budget process and the progress the System Office has made getting their proposed amendments into the budget. He reported that the budget should be finalized in late June.

System President Foy reported that when she became President of the System, she was coming in at the beginning of the budget process. The budget process is known to not be the most pleasant of responsibilities for an agency head, however, the System is so strong and the presidents are great about doing outreach with their local representatives and businesses to advocate for the System. It has been a pleasure to see how the process has played out. Even though the System didn't receive a whole lot of new dollars, it did receive much appreciated recognition.

WTCS Senior Policy Advisor and Federal Relations Officer Nancy Merrill gave Board members a federal legislative update. She notified Board members that a summary document could be found in their board folders.

ITEM M: Announcements/Adjourn

Board President Tyler commented that the Board is wrapping up an incredible year. The System is viewed in a positive manner and he thanked the Board and System Office staff for their efforts.

It was moved by Board member Vasquez, seconded by Board member Baranowski, that the May 14, 2013 Board meeting adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Lynch
Recording Secretary