

**WESTERN TECHNICAL COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD**  
**Minutes of Regular Meeting**  
**June 18, 2024**

Mr. Ken Peterson, District Board Chair, called the regular meeting of the Board of Western Technical College District to order at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at Western Technical College, Admin Center, 111 7<sup>th</sup> St. N., Rm 408, La Crosse, WI. Board members present: L. Bagstad, A. Bosshard, C. Doering III, M. Greendeer-Rave, K. Hennessey, A. Lawrence, and K. Peterson., R. Stanford, President. Excused: J. Dillin,

Notice of the meeting was posted publicly on June 13, 2024, at 2:58 p.m., with the agenda being distributed to interested persons, sent to the district's official newspaper (The La Crosse Tribune), and distributed to other news media throughout the district in compliance with Wisconsin Statutes, Sections 19.81-19.98.

Others present J. Pintz, R. Hopkins, A. Thornton, W. Hackbarth, J. Heath, C. Heit, T. Dryden, J. Lemon, E. Jacobson, K. Dean, M. Leske, K. Reyburn, D. Hether, (Western employees), A. Delagrave, W. Delagrave, L. Merrifield, M. Skarlupka, and R. Alderson.

A Public Hearing on the 2024-25 proposed Budget was held at 2:02 pm on Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at the Western Technical College Admin Ctr, Rm 408, La Crosse, WI. No comments or questions were presented for consideration during the Public Hearing.

Motion Bagstad, seconded by Hennessey, to approve the resolution of commendations for T. Craker, A. Delagrave, J. Jablonski, D. Otto, A. Bosshard, J. Dillin, and M. Hein. Votes: 8 Ayes, 0 Opposed, 0 Abstain. Motion carried. Attachments A, B, C, D, E, F, and G.

New 2024-2027 board members Skarlupka and Alderson were introduced and shared a little bit about themselves. L. Merrifield shared an update on DBA and legislative activities. The vice presidents shared updates on enrollment. D. Hether shared happenings and future plans for the regional learning centers. T. Dryden shared an update on how things are going for the upcoming HLC visit in October and how board members can prepare for that visit; no action was taken.

Bagstad provided an update on two TIDs from Aradia.

Bosshard provided an update on the Budget and Facilities Subcommittee. Bagstad provided an update on the Policy Subcommittee.

Greendeer-Rave excused.

Motion Bosshard, second Hennessey, that the Western Technical College District Board approve the following consent items as presented: 1. Minutes - a. May 14, 2024, May 7 & 9, 2024 Policy Sub Minutes, Dec 19, 2023 Budget & Facilities Sub Minutes 2. Financial Reports: a. Vendors over \$2,500-May 2024; b. Gen Rev/Exp Rept.- Apr 2024; c. Dept Budget Sum-Apr 2024; d. Enterprise Sum-Apr 2024; e. Capital Projects - May 2024. 3. Project Submission: a. FY24-28 DOE TrIO-SSS. 4. Policies (second read) a. A0106 Oath of Office & A0106p; b. A0128 Board Conduct c. B0104 Board Budget and Facilities d. E0714 Language Access Votes; 5 Policies (first read) a. B0401 Use of College for Political Purpose; b. E0715 Student Recruitment: 5 Ayes, 0 Opposed, 1 Abstain: from Vendors over \$2,500. Motion carried.

Motion Lawrence, second Bagstad to approve Out of State Tuition Remission/Waivers, a. 23-24 Annual Out of State Tuition Remission b.23-24 Out of State Waiver spreadsheet; c. 24-25 Tuition Remission Requests; d. 24-25 Remit Out of State Requests-State Approval; 2. 3-Yr Facilities Plan as presented and submit to WTCS for record; 3. Dist Boards Assoc Annual Fees. Votes 6 Ayes, 0 Opposed, 0 Abstain. Motion carried.

Motion Bagstad, second Hennessey to approve with Roll Call 1. President's Employment Contract Ammendment; Hennessey-y, Lawrence-y, Doering-y, Bagstad-y, Bosshard-y, Peterson-y; 2. Adopt: Salary Adjustments total salary increase (2%) and maximum of the salary ranges (1%) fir FY 24-25; Hennessey-Abstain, Lawrence-y, Doering-y, Bagstad-y, Bosshard-y, Peterson-y;3. Adopt Board Approval of presented 2024-25 Budget; Hennessey-y, Lawrence-y, Doering-y, Bagstad-y, Bosshard-y, Peterson-y. Motions carried.

President Stanford shared an update on the ATD Community Vibrancy project, the HSED/GED graduation, the \$2.2 million Apprenticeship Grant, and the AFIT Summer Inst. conference will be about AI, we have 11 co-workers attending. Today, we signed another articulation agreement with Viterbo University for the data analytics

program.

The District Board Chairperson shared information about being a scholarship reviewer and the HSED/GED Graduation are both great ways to connect with students. Reminder of the book discussion in July, Tara Westover's book "Educated and reminded them of Plus Delta feedback.

4:43 p.m. Motion Bosshard second Hennessey that the Western Technical College District Board adjourn. Votes: Ayes, 6; Opposed, 0. Motion carried.



District Board Secretary



# Western Technical College

## *Resolution of Commendation to* **Tracy Craker**

*Whereas*, Tracy Craker, Early Childhood Education Instructor in the Academic Excellence Education and Human Services Division retired from Western Technical College on June 14 after completing 19+ years of loyal and dedicated service to the students, staff, and the District Board of the Western Technical College District; and

*Whereas*, Tracy is extremely knowledgeable about her field and the art of being an educator, a combination that has significantly enriched the learning experience for her students; and

*Whereas*, her outstanding character and skills have been formally recognized by the college as she was honored with Western's Instructor Award last year; and

*Whereas*, Tracy possesses the unique ability to sense when something is amiss and offers comfort and perspective to those who are overwhelmed, consistently knowing the right words to soothe and support; and

*Whereas*, Tracy is a leader who embodies compassion, passion, and patience, tirelessly working to always put her students first; and

*Whereas*, her dedication to her craft, her students, and her exceptional ability to manage multiple responsibilities with grace will be greatly missed; therefore be it

*Resolved*, that the Board of the Western Technical College District hereby expresses its appreciation and gives a special commendation to Tracy Craker for her years of service and her commitment to excellence; and be it

*Resolved*, that the Western Technical College District Board, Administration, Faculty, Staff, and Students all wish Tracy many happy and satisfying years in her retirement.

**Western**  
**Technical College**

Roger Stanford, PhD, President/District Director

Ken Peterson, Chair



# Western Technical College

## *Resolution of Commendation to* **Amy Delagrave**

*Whereas*, Amy Delagrave, Non-Clinical Case Manager in the Counseling and Case Management department, will retire from Western Technical College on June 30 after completing 23+ years of loyal and dedicated service to the students, staff, and the District Board of the Western Technical College District; and

*Whereas*, Amy consistently sought to enhance her skills and knowledge to better serve her students, embodying a dedication to her craft and a passion for continuous improvement;

*Whereas*, she was known for her reliability, always ready to assist her colleagues with questions or concerns, and her willingness to step in whenever needed;

*Whereas*, Amy's infectious positive energy, quick wit, and self-deprecating humor consistently brightened the atmosphere, lifting the spirits of students and colleagues alike;

*Whereas*, she developed close, trusting relationships with her colleagues, becoming a cherished friend and earning the affectionate title of "Work Sister";

*Whereas*, her expertise, personality, and joy will be missed; therefore be it

*Resolved*, that the Board of the Western Technical College District hereby expresses its appreciation and gives a special commendation to Amy Delagrave for her years of service and her commitment to excellence; and be it

*Resolved*, that the Western Technical College District Board, Administration, Faculty, Staff, and Students all wish Amy many happy and satisfying years in her retirement.

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Ken Peterson, Chair



# Western Technical College

## *Resolution of Commendation to* **Jody Jablonski**

*Whereas*, Jody Jablonski, Benefits and HRIS Coordinator in the Human Resources department will retire from Western Technical College on June 30 after completing 29 years of loyal and dedicated service to the students, staff, and the District Board of the Western Technical College District; and

*Whereas*, Jody's unique characteristics, including her amazing attention to detail, problem-solving abilities, and remarkable capacity to help everyone, have set a high standard for us all, and;

*Whereas*, she has built strong, reliable relationships with her coworkers, serving as a mentor, friend, and dependable colleague, and always having or finding an answer to every question or concern; and

*Whereas*, Jody's incredible baking skills have delighted our taste buds, and her generous sharing of vegetables from her garden has nourished both our bodies and our spirits, and;

*Whereas*, her laughter and sense of fun have brightened our workplace, and her insistence on keeping even the oldest of things (floppy disks, anyone?) unless they were thrown away in her absence has become legendary, and;

*Whereas*, Jody's vast knowledge, delicious baking, and fresh vegetables from her garden will be deeply missed, along with her unwavering support and infectious enthusiasm; therefore be it

*Resolved*, that the Board of the Western Technical College District hereby expresses its appreciation and gives a special commendation to Jody Jablonski for her years of service and her commitment to excellence; and be it

*Resolved*, that the Western Technical College District Board, Administration, Faculty, Staff, and Students all wish Jody many happy and satisfying years in her retirement.

**Western**  
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Ken Peterson, Chair



# Western Technical College

## *Resolution of Commendation to De Anne Otto*

*Whereas*, De Anne Otto, Purchasing and Accounts Payable Manager in the Business Services department will retire from Western Technical College on June 30 after completing 9+ years of loyal and dedicated service to the students, staff, and the District Board of the Western Technical College District; and

*Whereas*, De Anne has been recognized as a leader who is always willing to go the extra mile, embodying the qualities of being fair but firm, ensuring that every task is executed with the highest level of integrity and professionalism; and

*Whereas*, she possesses unique characteristics that have greatly benefited her team and the entire college, including her great sense of humor, her meticulous attention to detail, and her thoroughness in every aspect of her work; and

*Whereas*, De Anne has fostered excellent relationships with her coworkers, consistently willing to listen, provide valuable feedback, and guide her team with patience and wisdom; and

*Whereas*, her work ethic is exemplary, ensuring that every question is answered, every problem is resolved, and every task is completed to the highest standard, all with a positive and cheerful demeanor; and

*Whereas*, her expertise, dedication, reliability, positive energy, and kindness will be missed; therefore be it

*Resolved*, that the Board of the Western Technical College District hereby expresses its appreciation and gives a special commendation to De Anne for her years of service and her commitment to excellence; and be it

*Resolved*, that the Western Technical College District Board, Administration, Faculty, Staff, and Students all wish De Anne many happy and satisfying years in her retirement.

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# Western Technical College

## *Resolution of Commendation to* **Andrew Bosshard**

*Whereas*, Andrew Bosshard has served as a member of the Western Technical College District Board for 9 years, from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2024; and

*Whereas*, Andrew has provided leadership to Western Technical College by serving as District Board Vice Chair (2017-19) and Chair (2019-21), as well as numerous committees at the Wisconsin District Boards Association; and

*Whereas*, Andrew served as the board Chair during the pandemic, one of the toughest times in the history of Western Technical College, providing steady guidance and resilient leadership during unprecedented challenges; and

*Whereas*, Andrew is recognized as a servant leader, consistently putting the needs of the college and its community first; and

*Whereas*, Andrew facilitated board outings to enhance the collaborative nature of the board, fostering a spirit of teamwork and unity among board members; and

*Whereas*, Andrew consistently asked rich and important questions that have helped position Western Technical College and the board for long-term success, ensuring that critical issues were thoughtfully considered and addressed; and

*Whereas*, his expertise, thoughtful questions, and steadfast leadership will be missed; therefore be it

*Resolved*, that the Board of the Western Technical College District hereby expresses its appreciate and gives a special commendation to Andrew Bosshard for his years of service as a member of the District Board and extends to him continued best wishes for the future.

**Western  
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Ken Peterson, Chair



# Western Technical College

## *Resolution of Commendation to* **Jim Dillin**

*Whereas*, Jim Dillin has served as a member of the Western Technical College District Board for 2 years, from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024; and

*Whereas*, Jim has provided leadership to Western Technical College by serving as District Board Secretary (2023-24), as well as the Wisconsin District Boards Association; and

*Whereas*, Jim brought a direct K12 perspective to the board, focusing on creating win-win strategies for student transitions to college, thereby enhancing the seamless progression of students from secondary to higher education; and

*Whereas*, Jim has shown an absolute commitment to Career and Technical Education, advocating tirelessly for programs and initiatives that prepare students for successful careers; and

*Whereas*, Jim has been dedicated to serving all students, ensuring that the needs of every student are considered and addressed in board decisions; and

*Whereas*, Jim invested significant time into fostering direct partnerships between Western Technical College and his district, strengthening collaboration and mutual support; and

*Whereas*, his experience, thoughtful questions, and commitment to Western will be missed; therefore be it

*Resolved*, that the Board of the Western Technical College District hereby expresses its appreciate and gives a special commendation to Jim Dillin for his years of service as a member of the District Board and extends to him continued best wishes for the future.

**Western**  
**Technical College**

Roger Stanford, PhD, President/District Director

Ken Peterson, Chair





# Western Technical College

## *Resolution of Commendation to* **Majel Hein**

*Whereas*, Majel Hein has served as a member of the Western Technical College District Board for 4 years, from July 1, 2020 through February 2024; and

*Whereas*, Majel has provided leadership to Western Technical College by serving as District Board Secretary (2021-23) and Vice Chair (2023-24), as well as numerous committees at the Wisconsin District Boards Association; and

*Whereas*, Majel has been a tireless advocate for access to education for all students, ensuring that opportunities are available to every member of the community regardless of their background or circumstances; and

*Whereas*, she has led the way in developing and supporting policies focused on equity, working to create an inclusive environment where all students can thrive; and

*Whereas*, Majel has championed the cause of justice-involved students, recognizing the importance of providing support and resources to help them reintegrate and succeed in their academic pursuits; and

*Whereas*, she has been a vocal advocate for students with mental health needs, promoting initiatives and policies that support their well-being and academic success; and

*Whereas*, her kindness, easy-going nature, and positive energy will be missed; therefore be it

*Resolved*, that the Board of the Western Technical College District hereby expresses its appreciate and gives a special commendation to Majel Hein for her years of service as a member of the District Board and extends to her continued best wishes for the future.

**Western**  
**Technical College**

Roger Stanford, PhD, President/District Director

Ken Peterson, Chair