

**Cowley College
Board of Trustees Official Minutes**

July 10, 2024

I. Call to Order

The work session of the Board of Trustees of Cowley College was called to order on July 10, 2024, at 1:00pm in the Tiger Learning Center in the lower level of the Renn Memorial Library, 131 S. 3rd Street, Arkansas City, KS.

Trustees Present

- Brett Bazil, Chair**
- Bob McGregor, Vice Chair**
- Dr. Alan Marcotte, Trustee**
- Jacinda Shaw-Kinzie, Trustee**
- Joe Shriver, Trustee**
- David Stanley, Trustee**
- Phil White, Trustee**

Staff

- Dr. Michelle Schoon, President**
- Tiffany Vollmer, Board Clerk**
- Holly Harper, VP of Finance and Administration**
- Zach Cooper, Director of Sumner Campus**

Guests

- Jessica Lucas, Government Affairs Liaison**

The Invocation was presented by David Stanley, and the College Mission Statement was read by Chair Bazil.

II. Legislative Agenda & Sumner County Sales Tax

- **Jessica Lucas, Government Affairs Liaison, presented the timeline and history of the Sumner County sales tax approval and campus development.**
- **The College will continue to receive Sumner County sales tax dollars through March 2027 with final payout in May of 2027.**
- **The Board discussed the potential of a new campaign to renew the sales tax for an additional 10 years as well as ideas for future campus development/expansion.**
- **Zach Cooper, Director of Sumner Campus, presented ideas for use of the additional land the College already owns that does not include additional construction with the following priorities:**
 - **Utilize the land**
 - **Promote the College**
 - **Add educational value**

III. November HLC Site Visit

- **Dr. Schoon provided trustees with an overview of the upcoming 10 year HLC accreditation site visit on November 4-5 and what to expect on the Board level.**
- **Shared an overview of Criterion 2. Integrity: Ethical and Responsible Conduct**
- **Referenced the College enrollment management plan and current strategic plan, along with how to navigate to those documents on the College website.**

IV. Data and Measures

Shared sources of college data including:

- Student Information System
- Kansas Higher Education Statistics (KHEStats)
 - Annual Year (AY) Collection
 - Fall Preliminary and Census Collections
- National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)
 - IPEDS Data Collections
- National Community College Benchmarking Project (NCCBP)
- Noel Levitz Student Satisfaction Inventory; College Employee Satisfaction Survey

Reviewed the AIM: Accountability and Institutional Measures

- Metrics include:
 - Student Success – completed, transferred, employed
 - Student Retention
 - Educational Access
 - Academic Performance of Student Athletes: Team GPA
 - Noel Levitz Student Satisfaction Performance Gaps
 - Academic Support Services Student Usage
 - Three Year Student Loan Cohort Default Rate
 - Average Student Loan Debt Compared to Net Cost of Attendance
 - Prospect to Enrolled Student Conversion
 - Cash Carryover Percentage
 - Audit Report Exceptions

V. Federal and State Compliance

Reviewed recent changes to federal and state compliance requirements

- HB2105 – July 1 - (d) Each institution shall post and make publicly available on such institutions website all training materials used for students, faculty and staff on all matters of nondiscrimination, diversity , equity, inclusion, race, ethnicity, sex or bias and all of such institution’s polices and guidance on such matters.
- Title IX – August 1 date but recent Kansas injunction
- FLSA – July 1 - change in exempt threshold, with another change in January
- Gainful Employment/Financial Value Transparency- US Dept. of Education - two measures: the debt-to-earnings measure and the earnings premium measure.

VI. Board of Trustee Handbook

Briefly reviewed the Board of Trustee Handbook. Showed trustees how to navigate to the handbook on the Cowley.edu website.

VII. Board of Trustees Vision Casting

- Reviewed the mission, vision and core values of the college.
- Reviewed the Cowley College service area map along with the service areas of the other 18 community colleges.
- Reviewed the college funding stream.
- Reviewed the 2023 Board priorities and progress made over the last year.

- Reviewed facilities updates.
- Discussed enrollment growth, recruitment opportunities, retention focus, and exploring new markets.

Discussed what the college provides, to whom? And why? So they perceive us how? What do we value?

The Board of Trustees established the following focus statements for 2024-2025:

Cowley College provides:

1. Dual enrollment opportunities to area high schools to increase student credentials.
2. Flexible learning opportunities to all ages and interest groups for holistic learning.
3. Responsible spending to be good stewards of local resources
4. Short-term certificates to students for quicker entry to workforce.
5. General education transfer programs to students to enhance community and area economy
6. Technical training to business partners to have a trained workforce
7. Career exploration to students to help with future career goals.
8. Housing and student events to enrich lives and safety.
9. A diverse campus atmosphere to students and community.
10. Top notch athletic programs for college and community pride

VIII. Adjournment

With no other business to be considered, Chair Bazil declared the meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.



Tiffany Vollmer
Board Clerk