



## District Board Meeting | MINUTES



BELOIT-JANESVILLE CAMPUS  
District Board Room – 2613  
6004 S County Rd G, Janesville, WI 53546



July 14, 2025



5-7 p.m.

### ATTENDANCE – ANNUAL MEETING

**District Board Members Present:** Eric Thornton, Chairperson; Barbara Barrington-Tillman, Vice-Chairperson; Rich Deprez, Secretary; Kathy Sukus, Treasurer; Rob Hendrickson; Suzann Holland; and Dave Marshick.

**District Board Members Absent:** Rachel Andres and Mark Holzman.

**Staff:** Julie Barreau, Kathy Broske, Elisa Colson, Cassie Hartje, Dr. Katie Lange, Jim Nemeth, Liz Paulsen, Dr. Tracy Pierner, Dr. Jon Tysse.

**Student Representative:** LaFonda Richardson.

**Guests:** Jordan Masnica.

### CALL TO ORDER – OATH OF OFFICE AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairperson Thornton called the Blackhawk Technical College District Board Annual meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. and called for Public Comments. There were no comments.

### OATH OF OFFICE

Reappointed District Board members Barbara Barrington-Tillman, Rich Deprez, Dave Marshick, and Eric Thornton signed their oaths of office.

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE DISTRICT BOARD

- a. President Dr. Tracy Pierner temporarily chaired the District Board meeting and called for nominations for the office of Chairperson for FY 2025-26. Mr. Deprez nominated Mr. Thornton.

Following three (3) calls for nominations, it was moved by Mr. Marshick and seconded by Mr. Deprez to close nominations for the office of Chairperson of the District Board for FY 2025-26 and to cast one (1) unanimous ballot for Mr. Thornton for the office of Chairperson of the District Board for FY 2025-26. **Ayes: 7; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**

- b. Chairperson Thornton called for nominations for the office of Vice-Chairperson of the District Board for FY 2025-26. Ms. Holland nominated Ms. Barrington-Tillman for the office of Vice Chairperson of the District board for FY 2025-26.

Following three (3) calls for nominations, it was moved by Mr. Deprez and seconded by Mr. Marshick to close nominations and to cast one (1) unanimous ballot for Ms. Barrington-Tillman for the office of Vice-Chairperson of the District Board for FY 2025-26. **Ayes: 7; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**

- c. Chairperson Thornton called for nominations for the office of Secretary of the District Board for FY 2025-26. Ms. Barrington-Tillman nominated Mr. Deprez for the office of Secretary of the District Board for FY 2025-26.



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Following three (3) calls for nominations, it was moved by Mr. Marshick and seconded by Ms. Barrington-Tillman to close nominations and to cast one (1) unanimous ballot for Mr. Deprez for the office of Secretary of the District Board for FY 2025-26. **Ayes: 7; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**

- d. Chairperson Thornton called for nominations for the office of Treasurer of the District Board for FY 2025-26. Ms. Barrington-Tillman nominated Ms. Holland for the office of Treasurer of the District Board for FY 2025-26.

Following three (3) calls for nominations, it was moved by Mr. Deprez and seconded by Mr. Marshick to close the nominations and to cast one (1) unanimous ballot for Ms. Holland for the office of Treasurer of the District Board for FY 2025-26. **Ayes: 7; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**

### ANNUAL MEETING BUSINESS

- A. It was moved by Mr. Deprez and seconded by Mr. Marshick to hold nine (9) regular monthly meetings (September, October, December, February, March, April, May, June) of the District Board on the third Wednesday of the month at the Beloit-Janesville Campus, of Blackhawk Technical College at 5:00 p.m. with the following exception: the Annual Organizational and Regular meeting will be held on July 13, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. at the Beloit-Janesville Campus of Blackhawk Technical College. **Ayes: 7; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**
- B. It was noted that no action would be needed on the designation of the District's Official Newspaper for the Blackhawk Technical College District. The Janesville Gazette was named the official newspaper for the District for fiscal years 2024-25 and 2025-26.
- C. The Naming of Wisconsin Technical College District Boards Association (DBA) Delegate and Committee Representatives:
- a. It was moved by Mr. Deprez and seconded by Mr. Marshick to nominate Barbara Barrington-Tillman as the Blackhawk Technical College voting delegate to the Wisconsin Technical College District Boards Association for two (2) years (Fiscal Years 2025-26 and 2026-27). **Ayes: 7; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**

The following designations were made for the District Boards Association (DBA) committees:

- b. External Partnership Committee Representatives: None.
- c. Internal Best Practices Committee Representative: None.
- d. Bylaws, Policies & Procedures Committee Representative: None.
- e. Awards Committee Representative: None.
- D. It was moved by Mr. Deprez and seconded by Ms. Barrington-Tillman to approve the District Board Resolution designating the depositories in which District funds will be deposited and the individuals authorized to make transactions for FY 2025-26. **Ayes: 7; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**





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- E. It was moved by Mr. Marshick and seconded by Ms. Barrington-Tillman to designate Quarles & Brady LLP, Milwaukee, for labor relations and general higher education legal issues, and Nowlan Law LLP, Janesville, for local legal issues regarding general land issues and local disputes and contracts for FY 2025-26. **Ayes: 7; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**
- F. It was noted that no action would be needed to designate an auditor for the Blackhawk Technical College District. Accordingly, in March 2025, the District Board awarded a three-year audit contract to Wipfli of Eau Claire for the fiscal years ending 2026, 2027, and 2028, with a two-year renewal for fiscal years ending 2029 and 2030.

### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Deprez moved, and Mr. Marshick seconded, to adjourn the annual meeting at 5:20 p.m.  
**Ayes: 7; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**

### ATTENDANCE – MONTHLY MEETING

District Board Members Present: Eric Thornton, Chairperson; Barbara Barrington-Tillman, Vice-Chairperson; Rich Deprez, Secretary; Suzann Holland, Treasurer; Rob Hendrickson; Mark Holzman (arrived 5:33 p.m.); Dave Marshick; and Kathy Sukus.

**District Board Members Absent:** Rachel Andres.

**Staff:** Julie Barreau, Kathy Broske, Elisa Colson (left 5:45 p.m.), Cassie Hartje, Dr. Katie Lange, Jim Nemeth, Liz Paulsen, Dr. Tracy Pierner, Dr. Jon Tysse (left 5:33 p.m.).

**Student Representative:** LaFonda Richardson.

**Guests:** Jordan Masnica.

### CALL TO ORDER – REGULAR MEETING

Chairperson Thornton called the Blackhawk Technical College District Board meeting to order at 5:20 p.m. and called for Public Comments. There were no comments.

### SPECIAL REPORTS

Chairperson Thornton called for Special Reports.

- a. Dr. Jon Tysse provided the 2025 Spring Success and Summer Enrollment Report Presentation to the District Board Members.
- b. The Student Representative, LaFonda Richardson, reviewed the student activity report with the District Board members.
- c. Cassie Hartje summarized the Philanthropic Gifts of \$5,000 and greater that the BTC Foundation received from January 1, 2025, through June 30, 2025. The total cash and in-kind donations were \$152,469.21.
- d. Dr. Pierner presented his State of the College Report.



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### CONSENT AGENDA

Chairperson Thornton called for the Consent Agenda. It was moved by Ms. Barrington-Tillman and seconded by Mr. Deprez to approve the Consent Agenda items a-f, which include the following. **Ayes: 8; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**

- a. Draft June 18, 2025, District Board Meeting Minutes.
- b. Draft June 23, 2025, Public Hearing and Special District Board Meeting Minutes.
- c. Current Bills for June 20, 2025, include starting check #00305503 and ending check #00305763, totaling \$4,880,476.79 for the month.
- d. Training Contracts: 115 contracts were served, with an actual contract amount of \$77,942.
- e. Grant Awards for July 2025.
- f. Confirmation of Instructional Employment Contract issued to Dawn Correll, Nursing Instructor.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chairperson Thornton called for Committee Reports. There were none.

### ACTION ITEMS

Chairperson Thornton called for Action Items.

- a. Jordan Masnica of Robert W. Baird reviewed the results from competitive bids for the sale of \$3,800,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2025A.

It was moved by Mr. Marshick and seconded by Mr. Deprez to approve the Resolution Awarding the Sale of \$3,800,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2025A of Blackhawk Technical College District, Wisconsin, to Huntington Securities, Inc. at an interest rate of 3.3541%. **Ayes: 7; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**

The roll was called. The following members voted affirmatively: Ms. Barrington-Tillman, Mr. Deprez, Mr. Hendrickson, Ms. Holland, Mr. Marshick, Ms. Sukus, and Mr. Thornton. **Ayes: 7; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**

- b. Administration recommends award of contract for the replacement of the Water Heating system located in the Central Building on the Beloit-Janesville Campus to Mechanical Inc., DBA Helm Services, at a base bid of \$132,906.

It was moved by Mr. Deprez and seconded by Mr. Marshick to award the contract for the replacement of the Water Heating system to Mechanical Inc., DBA Helm Services, for \$132,906. **Ayes: 8; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**

- c. It was moved by Mr. Marshick and seconded by Ms. Barrington-Tillman to approve the Resolution to construct a vestibule at entrance 2-11 with an estimated cost of \$180,000, contingent upon WTCS Board approval, and to request Wisconsin Technical College System Board approval of this capital project. **Ayes: 8; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**





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- d. Jim Nemeth reviewed the updated Three-year Facilities Plan with the District Board members.

It was moved by Ms. Barrington-Tillman and seconded by Mr. Marshick that the updated Three-Year Facilities Plan for July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2028, be approved and submitted to the WTCS Board. **Ayes: 8; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**

- e. It was moved by Mr. Deprez and seconded by Mr. Marshick to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of \$1,500,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2025B, of Blackhawk Technical College District, Wisconsin. **Ayes: 8; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**

The roll was called. The following members voted affirmatively: Ms. Barrington-Tillman, Mr. Deprez, Mr. Hendrickson, Ms. Holland, Mr. Holzman, Mr. Marshick, Ms. Sukus, and Mr. Thornton. **Ayes: 8; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**

- f. It was moved by Mr. Hendrickson and seconded by Mr. Marshick to approve alcoholic beverages at the September 11, 2025, Business After 5 Event. **Ayes: 8; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**

### POLICY REVIEW

Chairperson Thornton called for Policy Review. There were none.

### INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

- a. Jim Nemeth reviewed the June Financial Statement Report with the District Board members.  
b. Dr. Tracy Pierner presented his monthly report to the District Board members.  
c. Staff Changes, consisting of new hires, new positions, resignations, and retirements, were reviewed.

### WTCS CONSORTIUM UPDATES

Chairperson Thornton called for WTCS Consortium updates. There were none.

### FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chairperson Thornton called for WTCS Consortium updates. There were none.

### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Deprez moved and was seconded by Mr. Marshick to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m.  
**Ayes: 8; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**

Richard Deprez, Secretary