



## Blackhawk Technical College District Board Meeting Minutes

Date: April 15, 2026

Time: 5:00–7:00 p.m.

Location: Monroe Campus, Room 413, 210 Fourth Avenue, Monroe, WI 53566

### Attendance

**District Board Members Present:** Eric Thornton (Chairperson); Barbara Barrington-Tillman (Vice-Chairperson); Rich Deprez (Secretary); Suzann Holland (Treasurer); Mark Holzman; Dave Marshick. **District Board Members Absent:** Rachel Andres, Rob Henderickson, and Kathy Sukus.

**Staff:** Julie Barreau; Elisa Colson; Cassie Hartje; Dr. Katie Lange; Jim Nemeth; Dr. Tracy Pierner; Dr. Karen Schmitt; Dr. Jon Tysse; Dusty Williams.

**Student Representative:** LaFonda Richardson. **Students:** Jackson Boatman, Ale Bittner, Shawn Houfe, Breann Steiner, Faith Traynor.

**Guest(s):** None.

### Call to Order

Chairperson Thornton called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. and called for public comments. There were none.

### Special Reports

Chairperson Thornton called for Special Reports.

1. LaFonda Richardson provided a student activity report.
2. Dusty Williams reviewed the WI Professional Agriculture Students (PAS) Organization Competitive Events Conference results with the District Board members. PAS students, Jackson Boatman, Ale Bittner, Shawn Houfe, Breann Steiner, and Faith Traynor, introduced themselves to the District Board.
3. Cassie Hartje provided an ADA Title II Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 Level AA update.
4. Mark Borowitz and Charles Amy provided a presentation on the Green County Report to the District Board members.

### Consent Agenda

Chairperson Thornton called for the approval of the Consent Agenda items 1 – 5.

A motion to approve items 1–5 was made by Mr. Deprez and seconded by Mr. Marshick. **Ayes:**

**6; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**

1. Draft March 18, 2026 District Board Regular Meeting Minutes.
2. Current Bills for March 31, 2026, include starting check #00309295 and ending check #00309524, totaling \$12,578,073.54 for the month.
3. Training Contracts for April: The number served is 211 for an actual contract amount of \$49,234.
4. Acceptance of Grant Awards for April 2026.
5. Acceptance to issue the 2026-2027 annual contract renewals for full-time faculty.

### Committee Reports

Chairperson Thornton called for Committee Reports.

1. The March 18, 2026, Personnel Committee minutes were provided for review.



## Blackhawk Technical College District Board Meeting Minutes

Date: April 15, 2026

Time: 5:00–7:00 p.m.

Location: Monroe Campus, Room 413, 210 Fourth Avenue, Monroe, WI 53566

### Action Items

Chairperson Thornton called for Action Items.

1. It was moved by Ms. Barrington-Tillman and seconded by Mr. Marshick to approve the listing of the 2-acre Sunny Lane property for sale. **Ayes: 6; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**
2. It was moved by Mr. Deprez and seconded by Ms. Holland to approve the 2026-2029 Strategic Plan. **Ayes: 6; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**
3. It was moved by Mr. Marshick and seconded by Mr. Holzman to approve Joshua Pickering as the 2025-2026 Distinguished Alumni Award nominee. **Ayes: 6; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**

### Policy Review

Chairperson Thornton called for Policy Review. There were none.

### Information / Discussion

Chairperson Thornton called for Information/Discussion items.

1. Jim Nemeth reviewed the March Financial Statement and Quarterly Report with the District Board members.
2. Dr. Tracy Pierner presented his monthly report to the District Board members.
3. Staff changes, including new hires, new positions, resignations, and retirements, were reviewed.

### WTCS Consortium Updates

Chairperson Thornton called for WTCS Consortium updates.

1. District Board Association (DBA): They have hired a new Executive Director who will provide the President Association with a report on the future of the DBA.
2. The Insurance Trust (WTC): As of now, the Insurance Trust has dissolved. There was no money left, so the College will not receive any refund.
3. The Marketing Council is now called the Branding Committee.

### Future Agenda Items

Chairperson Thornton called for Future Agenda items; two were provided: Athletics Presentation and allowing debates between political opponents at the college.

### Adjournment

Chairperson Thornton called for the adjournment of the April 15, 2026, District Board meeting.

Mr. Marshick moved and was seconded by Mr. Holzman to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

**Ayes: 6; Opposed: 0. The motion was carried.**

Rich Deprez,



Secretary