



## Blackhawk Technical College District Board Meeting Minutes

Date: March 18, 2026

Time: 5:00–7:00 p.m.

Location: Beloit-Janesville Campus, District Board Room 2607A

6004 S County Rd G, Janesville, WI 53546

### Attendance

**District Board Members Present:** Eric Thornton (Chairperson); Barbara Barrington-Tillman (Vice-Chairperson); Rich Deprez (Secretary); Suzann Holland (Treasurer); Rob Hendrickson (left 5:41 pm); Dave Marshick. **District Board Members Absent:** Rachel Andres; Mark Holzman; Kathy Sukus.

**Staff:** Julie Barreau; Kathy Broske; Elisa Colson; Cassie Hartje; Dr. Katie Lange; Jim Nemeth; Dr. Tracy Pierner; Joel Schleusner; Dr. Karen Schmitt; Dr. Jon Tysse.

**Student Representative:** LaFonda Richardson. **Students:** Deven Deegan, Marcus Evans, Lexi Schmidt, and Michael Valdivia.

**Guest(s):** None.

### Call to Order

Chairperson Thornton called the meeting to order at 5:10 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. Joel Schleusner reviewed the Professionals of America State Leadership Conference results with the District Board members. Deven Deegan, Marcus Evans, Lexi Schmidt, and Michael Valdivia, BPA students, introduced themselves to the District Board.
3. Dr. Tracy Pierner presented the 2026 Strategic Plan: Strategic Priorities and Metrics.

### 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 Ms. Barrington-Tillman and seconded by Mr. Marshick. **Ayes: 6; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**

1. Draft February 18, 2026 District Board Regular Meeting Minutes.
2. Current Bills for February 28, 2026, include starting check #00308350 and ending check #00309294, totaling \$4,528,411.22 for the month.
3. Training Contracts for March: The number served is 213 for an actual contract amount of \$40,034.
4. Confirmation of Instructional Employment Contract issued to Eric Hazeltine, Welding Instructor.
5. Confirmation of Annual Contract Issued to Violet Lara, Respiratory Therapy Instructor.

### Committee Reports

Chairperson Thornton called for Committee Reports.

1. The Personnel Committee did meet on March 18, 2026. Chairperson Rich Deprez provided a brief overview of the Personnel Committee meeting.

### Action Items

Chairperson Thornton called for Action Items.

1. It was moved by Ms. Tillman and seconded by Mr. Marshick to approve Modifications to the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budget. **Ayes: 6; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**



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The roll was called. The following members voted affirmatively: Ms. Barrington-Tillman, Mr. Deprez, Mr. Hendrickson, Ms. Holland, Mr. Marshick, and Mr. Thornton. **Ayes: 6; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**

2. Dr. Tracy Pierner reviewed with the District Board members the details of the Blackhawk Technical College land lease with W. Hughes Farm GP.

It was moved by Mr. Marshick and seconded by Mr. Deprez to approve the lease of Blackhawk Technical College land from W. Hughes Farm GP. **Ayes: 6; 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, and Mr. Thornton. **Ayes: 6; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**

### Policy Review

Chairperson Thornton called for Policy Review.

1. Dr. Tracy Pierner reviewed policy B-305 – Annual Meeting of the District Board with the District Board members.

It was moved by Ms. Barrington-Tillman and seconded by Mr. Marshick to approve policy B-305 – Annual Meeting of the District Board. **Ayes: 6; Opposed: 0. The motion carried.**

### Information / Discussion

Chairperson Thornton called for Information/Discussion items.

1. Jim Nemeth reviewed the February Financial Statement 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. Dr. Tracy Pierner provided an update on the Insurance Trust to the District Board members.

### Future Agenda Items

Chairperson Thornton called for Future Agenda items; none were provided.

### Adjournment

Chairperson Thornton called for the adjournment of the March 18, 2026, District Board meeting.

Mr. Marshick moved and was seconded by Mr. Deprez to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 p.m. **Ayes: 5; Opposed: 0. The motion was carried.**

Rich Deprez,

Secretary