

**BOARD WORK SESSION  
IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
JANUARY 20, 2026  
PAGE 1**

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**BOARD WORK SESSION**

**CONFERENCE ROOM**

**4:00 P.M.**

The Iowa Lakes Community College Board of Trustees met in the Conference Room at the Iowa Lakes Community College, Administration Building, 19 South 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Estherville, IA, at 4:00 P.M. on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, prior to the regular monthly board meeting. This public meeting and work session reviewed the agenda for the regular monthly meeting and briefly discussed related topics.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

|                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Arden Kinnander | President |
| Janice Lund     | (Zoom)    |
| Curt Petersen   |           |
| Kari Batman     |           |

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

|                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Bob Jennings      | Vice President |
| Pat Kibbie        |                |
| Jane Nolan Goeken |                |

**GUESTS**

|                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Scott Stokes    | College President |
| Mischelle Dahna | Board Secretary   |

**DISCUSSION**

College President Stokes reviewed the regular monthly board meeting agenda and briefly discussed those items. No decisions were made, and no action was taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The work session adjourned at 4:32 P.M.

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
JANUARY 20, 2026  
PAGE 2**

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The Board of Trustees of Iowa Lakes Community College met in regular session in the Board Room at the Administration Building, 19 South 7th Street, Estherville, IA, on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, beginning at 4:30 P.M.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

|                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Arden Kinnander | President |
| Janice Lund     | (Zoom)    |
| Curt Petersen   |           |
| Kari Batman     |           |

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

|                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Bob Jennings      | Vice President |
| Pat Kibbie        |                |
| Jane Nolan Goeken |                |

**GUESTS**

Scott Stokes, Mischelle Dahna, Trudy Ahrens, Robert Leifeld, Kyle Norris, Jeff Soper, Beth Elman, Troy Larson, Will Heidorn, Kendra Webb, Laurie Pearson, Anastasiia Makarenko, Mattie Frederick, Whytnie Goerndt

**MEDIA PRESENT**

Mike Tidemann

**CALL TO ORDER**

Board President Arden Kinnander called the meeting to order at 4:35 P.M.

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
JANUARY 20, 2026  
PAGE 3**

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**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion was made by Arden Kinnander, with a second from Curt Petersen, to amend the agenda to defer the Foundation donation approval item to the February 17, 2026, Board meeting.

The vote was called, and the motion was approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Curt Petersen, with a second from Kari Batman, to accept and approve the amended agenda as written.

The vote was called, and the motion was approved unanimously

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Kari Batma, with a second from Janice Lund, to accept and approve the minutes of the December 9, 2025, regular board meeting as written.

The vote was called, and the motion was approved unanimously.

**DELEGATIONS, PUBLIC COMMENT, AND COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

**APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES**

Arden Kinnander, Board President, presented the appointment of trustees to serve on the following board committees.

*Community Colleges of Iowa Board:*

Bob Jennings, Arden Kiander (Sub)

*Audit Committee:*

Jane Nolan Goeken, Chair, Curt Petersen, Bob Jennings

*Building Committee:*

Janice Lund, Chair, Pat Kibbie, Bob Jennings

*Farm Laboratory Committee:*

Pat Kibbie, Chair, Jane Nolen Goeken, Kari Batman

*Financial Oversight Committee:*

Curt Petersen, Chair, Arden Kinnander, Kari Batman

*Presidential Evaluation Committee:*

Arden Kinnander, Chair, Janice Lund, Bob Jennings

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
JANUARY 20, 2026  
PAGE 4**

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Following the presentation, a motion was made by Arden Kinnander, with a second by Curt Petersen, to approve the committee appointments.

The vote was called, and the motion was approved unanimously.

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

**A) Resignations / New Hires / Contract**

Following the information provided by Trudy Ahrens, Executive Director of Human Resources, a motion was made by Janice Lund, with a second by Curt Petersen, to approve the consent agenda and supplemental contracts as presented.

**Resignation:**

Laura Matthews, PT Success Center Instructional Assistant, effective Jan. 30, 2026  
Susan Pietz, FT Campus Store Coordinator, effective Jan. 30, 2026.

**New Hires:**

Ian Schell, Custodial/Maintenance, Estherville, FT, \$16.33/hour  
Scott Olk, Dining Services Operation Specialist, Estherville, FT, \$19.94/hour

**Supplemental Contracts, Adjuncts, Clinical, Temporary, On-Call**

|                                                       |              |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Jessi Strom, Theater Club Co-Sponsor                  | \$325/year   |
| Anna Veltri, Theater Club Co-Sponsor                  | \$325/year   |
| Elizabeth Jensen, EMS Instructor                      | \$32.50/hour |
| Denise Reimer mentor Amanda Beurskens SP and FA 2026  | \$1,770      |
| Tanner Metz, Faculty Chair, summer 2025               | \$1,048.41   |
| Tifani Stevens, Talent Search Success Club Instructor | \$25.00/hour |

The vote was called, and the motion was approved unanimously.

**B) Early Retirement Applications**

Trudy Ahrens, Executive Director of Human Resources, presented a list of five (5) early retirement applications. Following the presentation, a motion was made by Kari Batman, with a second by Arden Kinnander, to approve the early retirement applications as presented.

Tony Condon, Institutional Advancement Coordinator, Administration.  
Steve Pelzer, Financial Aid Director, Emmetsburg.

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
JANUARY 20, 2026  
PAGE 5**

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Teri Schmeling, Assistant to the Director of Continuing & Professional Development, Emmetsburg.

Mike Nichols, Spanish and English Professor, Estherville.  
Beth Brown, Human Resources/Payroll Coordinator, Administration

The vote was called, and the motion was approved unanimously.

**IOWA LAKES REPORT**

**A) Cosmetology**

Kyle Norris, Vice President of Academic Affairs, introduced Kendra Webb, Cosmetology Instructor, and Laurie Pearson, Cosmetology Program Coordinator and Assistant Professor, who presented information on the Cosmetology Program. Cosmetology students Mattie Frederick and Whytnie Goerndt shared why they chose Iowa Lakes Community College, their experiences in the program, and their plans following graduation. Alumni Anastasiia Makarenko shared why she chose Iowa Lakes Community College, her experience in the program, and her career path since graduating.

**FINANCE**

**A) Financial Reports**

**B) Monthly Bills**

Jeff Soper, Vice President of Finance, presented the financial report and the monthly bills for approval. A motion was made by Kari Batman, with a second by Bob Jennings, to accept the financial report and to approve the payment of the monthly bills as listed and presented.

The vote was called, and the motion was approved unanimously.

**C) Set Date for Public Hearing, FY 2027 Published Budget**

Jeff Soper, Vice President of Finance, requested approval to set February 17, 2026, at 4:30 P.M. as the public hearing date for the FY 2027 Published Budget. Following the presentation, a motion was made by Curt Petersen, with a second from Arden Kinnander, to approve the FY 2027 Published Budget Public Hearing date as presented.

The vote was called, and the motion was approved unanimously.

**ORAL REPORTS**

**A) Community Colleges for Iowa Presidents**

College President Scott Stokes reported that the Presidents have not met.

**B) Community Colleges of Iowa Trustees**

Community Colleges of Iowa Trustees have not met.

**Trustee Comments**

Board President Arden Kinnander shared that he recently spoke with Congressman Randy Feenstra, who expressed strong support for community colleges. He noted that Congressman Feenstra also voiced support for community colleges offering baccalaureate degrees and did not see a reason why such programs should not be available at the community college level.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Following no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 5:01 P.M.

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Mischelle Dahna, Board Secretary