

**BOARD WORK SESSION
IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE
FEBRUARY 17, 2026
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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 7th Street, Estherville, IA, at 4:00 P.M. on Tuesday, February 17, 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 (Phone)
Bob Jennings	Vice President
Janice Lund	
Pat Kibbie	
Jane Nolan Goeken	(Phone)
Curt Petersen	
Kari Batman	

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

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 4:31 P.M.

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
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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, February 17, 2026, beginning at 4:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Arden Kinnander	President (Zoom)
Bob Jennings	Vice President
Janice Lund	
Pat Kibbie	
Jane Nolan Goeken	(Zoom)
Curt Petersen	
Kari Batman	

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

GUESTS

Scott Stokes, Mischelle Dahna, Trudy Ahrens, Robert Leifeld, Kyle Norris, Jeff Soper, Beth Elman, Dan Lutat, Troy Larson, Kim Ventecner, Erin Verschoor, Anna Berg

MEDIA PRESENT

Mike Tidemann

CALL TO ORDER

Prior to calling the meeting to order, Board Vice President Bob Jennings offered condolences on behalf of the Iowa Lakes Community College Board of Trustees to the Carter “Tater” Johnson families, the Iowa Lakes baseball players, coaches, and staff, as well as the College’s students, faculty, staff, and extended Laker community impacted by the recent bus accident. He also expressed appreciation for the College staff for their efforts in supporting families, students, and friends, and in communicating with them during this difficult time. A moment of silence was observed.

Board Vice President Bob Jennings then called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m.

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REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

The vote was called, and the motion was approved unanimously

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Curt Petersen, with a second from Janice Lund, to accept and approve the minutes of the January 20, 2026, regular board meeting as written.

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

DELEGATIONS, PUBLIC COMMENT, AND COMMUNICATIONS

None.

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 Jane Nolan Goeken, with a second by Curt Petersen, 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) Public Hearing, FY 2027 Published Budget

Jeff Soper, Vice President of Finance, held a public hearing on the FY 2027 Published Budget. There were no verbal or written comments, and the public hearing was closed. Following the presentation, a motion was made by Janice Lund, with a second from Pat Kibbie, to approve the FY 2027 Published Budget as presented.

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

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D) Tuition Fees

Jeff Soper, Vice President of Finance, presented the tuition fees for approval. A motion was made by Kari Batman, with a second by Curt Petersen, to accept the tuition fees as listed and presented.

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 Pat Kibbie, with a second by Janice Lund, to approve the consent agenda and supplemental contracts as presented.

Position Changes

Alex Laubenthal moved from PT Cook to FT Dining Services Operation Specialist, effective 2/9/26, \$19.94/hour

New Hires:

Makayla Heim, Custodial/Maintenance, Emmetsburg, FT, \$16.20/hour

Kayla Hicks-Eisenbacher, Success Center Instructional Assistant, EB, FT, \$23.20/hour

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

Mischelle Dahna, Board Secretary	\$10,927.27/year
Kevin Tlam, Lead Adjunct Digital Social and Broadcast	\$2,900/Spring Sem
Kim Venteicher, Lead Adjunct Athletic Training	\$1,450/Spring Sem
Matt Strom TV contract	\$1,030/Spring Sem
Mark Zabawa TV contract	\$1,509/Spring Sem
Michelle Rubel TV contract	\$747/Spring Sem
Denise Reimer TV contract	\$345/Spring Sem
Judy Naber TV contract	\$586/Spring Sem
Rachel Higgins TV contract	\$655/Spring Sem
Abigail Tibken Flight Instructor	\$28.00/hour ground \$38.00/hour flight
Peyton Work Flight Instructor	\$28.00/hour ground \$38.00/hour flight

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

IOWA LAKES REPORT

A) Athletic Training

Troy Larson, Vice President of Student Affairs, introduced the athletic training staff: Kim Venteicher, Director of Sports Medicine; Anna Berg, Athletic Trainer and Adjunct Instructor; and Erin Verschoor, Physical Therapist and Athletic Trainer. Kim provided an overview of the athletic training program and outlined the staff's roles and responsibilities within the athletic department. Anna Berg and Erin Verschoor each introduced themselves and shared information regarding their professional backgrounds and responsibilities. Ms. Verschoor also noted her role as a contract employee with the hospital.

ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS

A) Facilities Update

Robert Leilfeld, Vice President of Administration, provided a facilities update, highlighting recent classroom relocations at the Algona Campus, renovations to the Smith Wellness Center at Emmetsburg, progress on conference room and prairie development at Estherville, and office and athletic space improvements at Spencer. He also noted ongoing infrastructure upgrades, including rooftop unit replacements, lighting improvements, and the replacement of the pool boiler.

IOWA LAKES UPDATE

Beth Elman, Executive Director of Marketing, provided campus and athletic highlights, including the rescheduled Jazz Band Contest, upcoming campus events, and recent athletic achievements and national qualifications. She noted that proceeds from the February 18 basketball games will support impacted baseball players and families.

Beth reviewed the College's coordinated response to the recent bus accident involving members of the Iowa Lakes baseball team. She highlighted centralized, verified communications; coordination with law enforcement; adherence to student privacy requirements; direct outreach to families; structured fundraising efforts; and the establishment of memorial scholarship support. She recognized faculty, staff, and leadership for maintaining operational continuity while prioritizing students and families.

FOUNDATION

A) Donations

Following the information provided by Dan Lutat, Executive Director of Foundations & Governmental Affairs, a motion was made by Curt Petersen, with a second by Kari Batman, to accept the two scholarship donations: the \$10,000 Daryl Madison Memorial Scholarships for basketball and softball athletes and the \$10,000 Construction Technology Scholarships from an anonymous donor, 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 and will hold their first in-person meeting on March 2nd.

B) Community Colleges of Iowa Trustees

Board Vice President Bob Jennings reported that the Community Colleges of Iowa Trustees have not met but are planning to meet in person on March 3rd.

Bob also reported on his attendance at the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) National Legislative Summit in Washington, D.C. He shared that he serves on the Communications and Education Committee and as Iowa's State Coordinator for ACCT. While in Washington, he met with members of Iowa's congressional delegation, along with trustees and presidents from other Iowa community colleges, to discuss federal legislative priorities. Legislative topics included funding for the Pell Grant program to accommodate enrollment growth, making Pell Grants tax-free for low-income students, modifications to the American Opportunity Tax Credit, and appreciation for the passage of workforce Pell legislation. He also discussed conversations with Congressman Randy Feenstra regarding community colleges offering bachelor's degrees, noting the Congressman's support for community colleges as economic development drivers. Bob further reported on his attendance at a legislative forum in Algona with state legislators, who expressed support for Iowa's community colleges and for legislation that would allow them to offer bachelor's degrees. He indicated that the ACCT federal legislative priorities were shared with the Board.

C) Trustee Comments

Trustee Janice Lund shared heartfelt condolences with the families and students affected by the recent bus accident. She expressed appreciation for the leadership and staff of Iowa Lakes for their compassionate and unified response and thanked President Stokes, the Board, and College personnel for their efforts in supporting students and families during this difficult time.

ADJOURNMENT

Following no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 5:19 P.M.

Mischelle Dahna, Board Secretary