

**Cowley College  
Board of Trustees**

**Official Minutes**

**February 10, 2018**

A Retreat of the Board of Trustees of Cowley College was called to order on February 10, 2018, at 9:00 am in the Board of Trustee Conference Room, McAtee Dining Center on the Cowley College main campus, 200 South 4th Street, Arkansas City, Kansas.

**Trustees**      Present      JoLynn Foster - Chair  
Nancy Burger  
Jill Long  
Brian Sanderholm  
Gary Wilson  
Glennis Zimmerman

**Staff & Guests**

Dr. Dennis C. Rittle, President  
Tiffany Vollmer, Board Clerk  
Dr. Harold Arnett, VP of Academic Affairs  
Shane Larson, Athletic Director  
Chris Hollon, Exec. Director of Institutional Effectiveness  
Dr. Michelle Schoon, Natural Science Department Chair/HLC Liaison  
Janet Grace, Sumner Campus Operations Officer  
Stacy Davis, Sumner Co. Economic Development Center Director  
Kelly Ford, Wellington Area Chamber of Commerce Director  
Cheri Hulse, Agora Architecture  
David Herlocker, Agora Architecture  
Wayne Winklebauer, Conco Construction  
Craig Nelson, Conco Construction

**Work  
Session**

Dr. Rittle shared, with the support of a PowerPoint presentation, the College's Mission Statement, Vision Statement, Core Values, Strategic Theme, and Strategic Priorities/Plan.

- The Board reviewed the data results from the recent community and stakeholder survey which was completed by 95 respondents aged 25-64.
- The Board reviewed the results of the most recent employee satisfaction survey. The overall employee satisfaction is now considered normative to our peers at 3.71 which is up by .62 from the last survey. Overall, the majority of the areas reviewed have improved from the last survey in 2015-2016.
- Chris Hollon and Dr. Michelle Schoon elaborated on the progress of the College Strategic Planning process for the upcoming three-year cycle. The Strategic Planning team goal is to bring the new Strategic Plan forward for approval at the May Board Meeting.

Dr. Rittle discussed with the Board of Trustees the anticipated chief initiatives of the College for the upcoming year, as well as the current challenges and opportunities.

- Conco Construction will be offering a tour of the Sumner Campus construction site for the Board of Trustees on Wednesday, February 21 at 10:00.
- Stacy Davis, addressed the economic impact that the College is beginning to have on the County. Many new businesses are showing interest in the area because of the College.
- Kelly Ford thanked the College for their constant representation within the community at local meetings and events. Wellington Citizens are excited, yet cautious, but the college is facing the concerns head on and answering any questions that are raised.
- Agora Architecture and Conco Construction shared an update on the progress of the Sumner Campus Construction, including photos. In addition, the group discussed the cost analysis of adding a state of the art catering kitchen into the construction of the Short General Education Center. The kitchen is estimated to cost roughly \$500,000 and will be more cost effective to complete now while the original construction is taking place. The College is working on a partnership with Great Western Dining in hopes of sharing in some of that cost.
- Dr. Rittle shared the cost structure of the Sumner Campus.
- Dr. Rittle explained some of the key challenges for the College, which include budget constraints, campus identity, housing options, mergers and affiliations, thin staffing, community image due to media and new Board member acculturation.
- The Board heard Dr. Rittle share the current opportunities for the college, ranging from the opening of the Sumner Campus, a partnership with the National Guard for ROTC, Barbering, New Programs, Bowling and Carver Park.
- The Board received clarification on the current funding stream for the College.

The Board of Trustees and Dr. Rittle discussed the process for completing his Annual Presidential Evaluation.

Six of the eight Trustees signed the Affirmation of Service Agreement.

JoLynn Foster, Chair of the Board of Trustees, declared the Retreat adjourned at 11:58 am.

Tiffany Vollmer  
Board Clerk