

**NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 13, 2017

EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Carol A. Sibbel, Chairperson	PRESENT
Steven M. Anderson	ABSENT
Don Oelsligle	ABSENT
Dirk A. Petersen	PRESENT
Dr. Terry F. Nelson, ex-officio	PRESENT

STAFF

Dr. Michael Chipps
John Blaylock
Lynne Koski
Derek Bierman
Amanda Nipp
Eric Johnson
Dr. Tracy Kruse
Craig Garrett
Jim Curry
Diane Reikofski
Brenda Sock

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS

Keith E. Harvey	PRESENT
Arlan W. Kuehn	PRESENT
Shirley J. Petsche	PRESENT
Julie Robinson	ABSENT
Jeffrey M. Scherer	PRESENT
Gene L. Willers	PRESENT

MINUTES

1. Carol A. Sibbel, Chairperson of the External Relations Committee, convened the meeting at 11:45 a.m. in Room 1108B of the College Welcome Center.
2. Recommended approval of the Minutes of the March 9, 2017 meeting.
3. Dr. Michael Chipps reported that on Thursday, March 30th, LB376, a bill to donate approximately 43 acres of the Norfolk Regional Center land to Northeast Community College, passed with some floor discussion. The bill proceeds to Select File and if there are no amendments, would move to Final Reading and the Governor's signature. Senator Jim Scheer was commended for his work on carrying this bill through the legislative process.
4. Dr. Michael Chipps and Dr. Tracy Kruse reported that preliminary findings indicate a Phase 1 fundraising greenlight to secure funding in the College's 20-county service area along with an internal College investment of \$10-million to fund Phase 1 projects.

During the feasibility study, there was solid agreement regarding the need to move forward with relocation of the College farm and feedlot operations and to construct a new precision/mechanized ag facility. These needs, coupled with other existing facilities on the old farm, present the highest needs moving forward.

Northeast needs to raise approximately \$13 million, with an additional \$10 million coming from funds reserved and saved by the College, to complete the first phase of buildings. Phase 2 and 3 funding could come from state and national donors once strong local support is demonstrated for Phase 1 in the local 20-county area.

Dr. Kruse stated that in order to kick off the campaign with a bang, over the next few months, staff will work to develop materials and website, recruit volunteers, etc. Dr. Chipps reported that Dr. Kruse has submitted a staff realignment plan and will be adding a staff member to assist with this monumental task.

5. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned 12:03 p.m.