NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF GOVERNORS

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Thursday, March 11, 2021

FINANCE COMMITTEE		**STAFF**
Gene Willers, Chairperson	PRESENT	Dr. Leah Barrett
Del Ames	PRESENT	Scott Gray
Donovan Ellis	PRESENT	Paul Feilmeier
Carol Sibbel	PRESENT	Amanda Nipp
Steve Anderson, ex-officio	PRESENT	Dr. Michele Gill
		Dr. Tracy Kruse
OTHER BOARD MEMBERS		Dr. Karen Severson
Arlan Kuehn	ABSENT	Jim Curry
Terry Nelson	PRESENT	Diane Reikofski
Dirk Petersen	PRESENT	
Julie Robinson	ABSENT	
Jeff Scherer	PRESENT	
Nicole Sedlacek	PRESENT	

MINUTES

1. Gene Willers, Chairperson of the Finance Committee, convened the meeting at 1:26 p.m. via Zoom video conferencing.

2. Recommended approval of the Minutes of the February 11, 2021 meeting as distributed.

3. Scott Gray reviewed the Monthly Financial Report for February 28, 2021 and paid bills for the month of February 2021, highlighting non-typical monthly payments.

   Inquiry was made regarding the frequency of letting bids for selecting the College auditor. Mr. Gray advised that McMill CPAs served as auditor until one of the auditors became the investment advisor for the Northeast Community Foundation. Gene Willers stated that while he has no problems with the work that Dana F. Cole has done, there might be some value in changing auditors from time to time. Mr. Gray stated that the College will need to do its due diligence but at this time the College is currently invoiced favorably for all audits.

   The full report of paid bills will be provided to all board members for review in the future.

   A consensus was reached by the Finance Committee members to recommend to the Board of Governors to approve the Monthly Financial Report for February 28, 2021 and paid bills for the month of February 2021.

4. Paul Feilmeier, Vice President, Technology Services, provided an overview of the cybersecurity posture progress. Northeast is a member of the National Institute of Standings

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Mission
Northeast Community College is dedicated to the success of students and the region it serves.

and Technology (NIST). NIST's cybersecurity framework is based on existing standards, guidelines, and practices for organizations to better manage and reduce cybersecurity risk. In addition to helping organizations manage and reduce risks, NIST was designed to foster risk and cybersecurity management communications amongst both internal and external organizational stakeholders.

An assessment of Northeast's current cybersecurity posture reveals that there are many areas where Northeast has made progress but are still not at the full adherence to the NIST framework. Technology Services is currently working on several initiatives that will advance the progress in the implementation of the NIST framework. Access control is part of the NIST framework and initiatives are currently underway to begin to address this. Several projects that will further enhance Northeast's security posture are awaiting resources.

President Barrett indicated that this is an example of a monitoring report that will be provided to the Board of Governors on an annual basis.

5. An overview of Northeast's data center was provided by Paul Feilmeier. Northeast's existing data center has recently been decommissioned due to age and failure of equipment, power fluctuations, brown outs, cooling challenges, temperature fluctuations, ability to address fires, etc. The new data center is located in Union 73 and has access control, dual battery backups, full-on alerts, security cameras, dual generators, temperature controlled, redundant paths to most of our buildings, redundant paths to our disaster recovery site, etc.

Discussions are being held regarding opportunities to utilize the data center to its full capacity and work strategically to support the region.

6. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:18 p.m.