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COLLEGE OF WESTERN IDAHO	BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING **August 13, 2026** **AGENDA**	**Board of Trustees** Jim Reames, Chair Nicole Bradshaw, Vice Chair Molly Lenty, Sec/Treas Cherie Buckner-Webb David Bishop

CWI MISSION

The College of Western Idaho is committed to empowering students to succeed by providing affordable and accessible education to advance the local and global workforce

CWI Nampa Campus Administrative Building
Room 200B President's Conference Room
3:00PM

ATTENDANCE:

Nicole Bradshaw, Vice Chair
Molly Lenty, Secretary/Treasurer
David Bishop, Trustee
Cherie Buckner-Webb, Trustee

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Bradshaw called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Secretary/Treasurer Lenty recited the CWI mission statement. No visitor introductions were made, and no public comments were received.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. July 2026 Minutes
B. Treasurer's Report
C. Capital Projects Budget to Actuals Report

MS (Bishop / Lenty): To approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion carried.

III. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Jones thanked the Board of Trustees for supporting his summer leave, noting that the time allowed him to recharge, spend time with family, and visit numerous higher education institutions across the western United States. Through these experiences, he observed the important role community colleges play in serving their communities and returned with renewed enthusiasm for CWI's continued growth and impact.

President Jones highlighted the ongoing partnership with Micron and progress on the new Micron Training Center. The additional classroom space will support growing workforce demands in mechatronics and advanced manufacturing, allowing CWI to double program capacity. He also recognized faculty and staff who contributed to the success of the partnership.

He reported that the Fall Semester is expected to mark CWI's 12th consecutive semester of enrollment growth, reflecting the college's commitment to meeting the educational needs of the region. He also provided updates on several strategic initiatives, including the Ford Idaho Center RFP process, campus master planning efforts, and foundation planning activities.

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In closing, President Jones thanked faculty and staff for their dedication and contributions to the college's success and expressed optimism and excitement for the year ahead as CWI continues to serve a rapidly growing community.

IV. STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW AND APPROVAL

President Jones presented a refresh of CWI's strategic plan, explaining that the college chose to update its existing three-year plan rather than undertake a complete rewrite. The refreshed plan continues to emphasize core priorities such as student success, retention, graduation rates, and affordability, while refining objectives, terminology, and performance metrics. The update was informed by campus feedback, leadership discussions, and accreditation considerations, and will require Board approval.

Two new focus areas were added to the strategic plan. The first, Community Engagement, includes measuring community support through fundraising and philanthropy, as well as supporting the launch of recreation, intramural, and intercollegiate athletics programs to strengthen connections between the college and the broader community. The second addition was Financial Sustainability, which emphasizes responsible stewardship of institutional resources to support both current priorities and the college's long-term future. The plan includes formal tracking of key financial metrics to ensure CWI remains well-positioned to serve future generations of Idaho students.

Trustee Bishop expressed appreciation for the additions to the initiative and noted interest in tracking progress over time against the established baseline. It was emphasized that implementing KPIs will help measure improvement, maintain accountability, and drive continued progress.

Secretary/Treasurer Lenty – Question: Once the strategic plan is finalized and put into action, how will it be shared with the campus community?

President Jones – Answer: Our strategic plan is a public document that we regularly reference. We communicate through our leadership structure rather than having multiple senior leaders send messages directly to everyone. Department leaders are expected to share the relevant parts with their teams and create operating plans that align with the strategic plan.

Provost Aberle-Cannatta – Answer: I'll defer to Alexis, but we do post this on SharePoint and share it with our staff. It's also available online, and they had input into everything that's on the strategic plan. But Alexis, you might want to tie it to the operational unit and division plans.

Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness Malepeai-Rhodes – Answer: The strategic plan is not just a high-level document. It is publicly posted and progress will be measured and reported annually through KPIs, a dashboard will show results, and every department's annual operational plan is aligned to the strategic plan to ensure its goals are implemented and tracked.

President Jones – Answer: While not every employee may be able to quote the strategic plan, the institution is clearly operating according to it. The evidence is that approximately 74% of our strategic objectives are meeting or exceeding expectations. The plan is actively used, publicly shared, and informed by community input rather than being a document that only matters during accreditation reviews.

Vice Chair Bradshaw – Question: In higher education, are community relations typically measured by donor engagement and financial contributions?

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President Jones – Answer: This is a reasonable starting framework for measuring progress in the strategic plan. We should remain open to adding metrics, particularly around community perception and school reputation, as we continue learning and improving. I can't say whether this exactly matches what other schools do, but it seems appropriate.

Trustee Buckner-Webb commented that regardless of how we decide to measure it, these two things influence each other. Because of that, they will significantly affect our reputation and performance ratings, both in the community and in the school.

President Jones also commented that our current metrics help us measure engagement, but they don't tell the whole story. Community relationships develop over time, and there are multiple ways to assess how connected people are to the organization.

Secretary/Treasurer Lenty – Question: Yes, this is an internal guiding document. However, it's also something that we provide for review. It's reviewed by our accrediting bodies, so some of the content included here is written with accreditation requirements in mind, rather than how we might write it in a private business setting. Is that correct?

President Jones -Answer: You are correct.

MS (Lenty / Buckner-Webb): To approve the 2027-2031 Strategic Plan as presented. The motion carried.

V. ACADEMIC UPDATE: THREE-YEAR PROGRAM PLAN

Provost Aberle-Cannata reported that the college successfully met or exceeded all performance metrics required for its Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) program, marking a significant milestone following the program's approval in 2023. She credited the achievement to the collaborative efforts of faculty, staff, and administrators and noted that the institution is now positioned to pursue additional degree offerings

The Board reviewed CWI's proposed three-year academic program plan, which was developed with input from advisory committees, faculty, and industry trends. Proposed programs include Aviation Pilot Training, Food Science, Mortuary Science, and Veterinary Technician, with several of these initiatives expected to be developed through strategic partnerships to reduce startup costs and leverage external expertise.

An update was also provided on the approved Dental Hygiene program, which is currently in the implementation phase with hiring underway. In addition, following recent workforce discussions with Micron, CWI is exploring a Bachelor of Applied Science in Mechatronics Engineering Technology to provide graduates with expanded career advancement opportunities. She also indicated a preference for pursuing partnership-supported models for future program development whenever possible.

Secretary/Treasurer Lenty – Question: Once these changes have been approved will there be any celebratory announcement regarding them?

Provost Aberle-Cannata – Answer: Yes, when the time is right.

Vice Chair Bradshaw – Question: There was mention potential partnerships with Food Science and

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Veterinary Technician, are those partnerships something that can be shared at this time?

Provost Aberle-Cannata – Answer: The Food Science program is not a partnership at this time. We are working with BATEC in Altoona, Pennsylvania for the Veterinary Technician program. The aviation program pilot training will also be a partnership, but we have signed an NDA, so at this time, we cannot disclose that information.

Provost Aberle-Cannata reviewed the programs that are designated to be discontinued due to low enrollment such as; Business analytics certificate, Fermentation certificate, and Medical Administrative support.

President Jones commented that when we decide to discontinue a program, we should remember and honor the people who invested their time and talent in building it. Those decisions are difficult and involve real loss. However, if resources become available, we should view that as an opportunity to support new faculty ideas and future initiatives, ensuring that the value created by the original program continues to benefit the institution in a new form.

MS (Bishop / Buckner-Webb): To approve the three-year academic plan, including program discontinuations as presented. The motion carried.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Vice Chair Bradshaw expressed enthusiasm for the start of the new academic year and the renewed energy brought by the return of students and faculty. She highlighted the importance of the institution's strategic plan as a roadmap for continued progress and shared appreciation for the college's positive impact on the community, strong vision, and effective leadership. She then commended President Jones, faculty, and staff for consistently delivering on commitments and achieving institutional goals.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:52pm.

Signed by:

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9/16/2026

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Molly Lenty
Board Secretary