



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING**

**May 14, 2026
MINUTES**

Board of Trustees
Jim Reames, Chair
Nicole Bradshaw, Vice Chair
Molly Lentz, 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 Academic Building
Room 122
3:00PM**

ATTENDANCE:

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. April 2026 Minutes
- B. Treasurer's Report
- C. COP Intent to Renew
- D. Audit Engagement Letter
- E. Capital Projects Budget to Actuals Report
- F. Conflict of Interest Disclosure

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

III. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Jones highlighted recent external engagement efforts to strengthen the college's visibility, including participation in regional and national conferences where he emphasized AI integration and innovative, workforce-aligned programs. He also reported on a well-attended campus town hall that provided updates on academic progress, facilities, and strategic investments, while allowing for open dialogue with faculty and staff. Looking ahead, the President noted the upcoming commencement at the Ford Idaho Center, celebrating 1,826 graduates earning approximately 2,300 credentials (a 15% increase), including a significant rise in dual credit graduates. The event will also recognize the first Idaho Launch cohort, with Lieutenant Governor Bedke invited to speak.

Vice Chair Bradshaw - Question: Can you elaborate on the importance of the 92 dual credit students?

President Jones - Answer: These students will graduate from high school while simultaneously earning their Associate of Arts (AA) degree, completing the equivalent of two years of college by high school graduation.

Secretary/Treasurer Lentz - Question: When are we expecting our first Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) to graduate?

Provost Aberle-Cannata - Answer: We are anticipating Spring Semester of 2027.



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IV. FY24-26 STRATEGIC PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

President Jones reviewed the institution's current three-year strategic plan that is nearing completion. The plan has been largely successful and we are pursuing a refreshed plan rather than a full redesign. The updated plan will build on existing strengths, incorporating new priorities, and will be presented to the board later this summer. Performance under the current plan has been strong, with 74% of indicators considered "At, Near or Meeting" targets. More specifically, we have seen steady enrollment growth over 11 consecutive semesters, and graduation rates rising 13 points, to approximately 36%, now above the national average. Overall, leadership affirmed that the institution remains on track and well positioned for continued progress.

Vice Chair Bradshaw - Question: Knowing that the school is above the national average, what does the next goal look like for a community college?

President Jones - Answer: At a presidential level we are always striving for continuous improvement. We continue to look at how the best community colleges in the country are operating and strive to match them on these measures.

Executive Director of Institutional Research Malepeai-Rhodes - Answer: We are always looking to improve student success.

Trustee Bishop - Question: How are we getting our outcomes done internally at CWI to outside sources such as the State Legislature, and Board of Education?

President Jones - Answer: We share this information through standard reporting and in person at our State Board of Education meetings.

Secretary/Treasurer Lenty - Question: Are the non-degree seeking students included in our numbers?

Executive Director of Institutional Research Malepeai-Rhodes - Answer: Yes.

V. COOPERATIVE PURCHASING

General Counsel Fontaine discussed the current cooperative purchasing authorized by the Idaho Legislature in 2019, which allows the organization to utilize contracts already competitively bid by other entities to improve efficiency. Although the board approved cooperative purchasing in April 2020, additional clarity is needed to meet statutory requirements.

Two action items were presented: approval of cooperative purchasing with Idaho governmental entities, and broader approval for participation in other cooperative programs, with oversight delegated to the procurement officer to ensure compliance. This delegation aligns with current practice and would formally clarify authority, strengthen compliance, and support continued use of cooperative purchasing.

Trustee Buckner-Webb - Question: Have we confirmed that we are following proper compliance?

General Counsel Fontaine - Answer: Yes, our procurement officer has many years of experience in Idaho standards and believes we are following best practices.

Secretary/Treasurer Lenty - Question: The state's process isn't viewed as universally positive by the private sector. Do we have the ability to create our own process to ensure that we are mitigating risk and creating efficiencies?



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General Counsel Fontaine - Answer: The way we are currently operating - we are adhering to the state law for political subdivision, which have been recently raised, and are well below the threshold to mitigate the risks in question.

Vice Chair Bradshaw - Question: Who is the procurement group that your second motion is referring to?

General Counsel Fontaine - Answer: Currently, we have one procurement officer, but we do anticipate having more in said group at a later date.

Vice Chair Bradshaw - Question: If that said one person where to leave, do we have processes in place that will allow us to continue to operate and be consistent?

General Counsel Fontaine - Answer: Yes, we do have a team that would be able to understand these principles very well.

Trustee Buckner-Webb - Question: Do you have a system of checks and balances in place when it comes to concerns on dollar amounts?

General Counsel Fontaine - Answer: Yes, we have monthly meetings to bring up any issues or concerns that are coming up in either contract or purchasing.

MS (Lenty / Buckner-Webb): To approve cooperative purchasing with all Idaho governmental entities. The motion carried.

MS (Lenty / Buckner-Webb): To approve CWI's participation in cooperative purchasing programs approved by the Procurement Group. The motion carried.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Vice Chair Bradshaw reported on the initial Ford Idaho Center Advisory Group meeting, which included representatives from the college and the City of Nampa. The group discussed its purpose and emphasized a results-driven approach focused on expanding educational opportunities and revenue generation. She then gave an update on the Foundation Board highlighting its continued growth and increased impact, with new members expected to join soon. The Foundation Board is also working with a consultant to develop a formal alumni association to strengthen engagement and visibility. She concluded by highlighting some upcoming events.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:46pm.

Signed by:

7682780DB59342F...

Molly Lenty

Board Secretary

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Molly Lentz

mollylentz@cw.edu

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Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:

Accepted: 7/16/2026 10:12:06 AM

ID: 767cf9aa-1d13-42e9-9d2a-57aa9d50e2bd

In Person Signer Events

Signature

Timestamp

Editor Delivery Events

Status

Timestamp

Agent Delivery Events

Status

Timestamp

Intermediary Delivery Events

Status

Timestamp

Certified Delivery Events

Status

Timestamp

Carbon Copy Events

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Witness Events

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Notary Events

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Timestamps

Envelope Sent

Hashed/Encrypted

6/18/2026 1:19:39 PM

Certified Delivered

Security Checked

7/16/2026 10:12:06 AM

Signing Complete

Security Checked

7/16/2026 10:12:24 AM

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7/16/2026 10:12:24 AM

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