

---

## WORK SESSION MINUTES

Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education  
McCook Community College (MPCC)  
East Campus Conference Room #1  
905 East 7th Street, McCook, Nebraska  
Thursday, July 24, 2025  
6:00 p.m. (CT)

### *Public notice of meeting*

Public notice of this meeting was given by posting notice on the Commission's website; posting notice on the State of Nebraska's online public meeting calendar; e-mailing news media; and keeping a current copy of the agenda in the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education's office, listing the date, time, and location of the meeting. A copy of the current Open Meetings Act was posted beside the table containing the documents for the meeting.

### **NOTICE OF MEETING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION WILL HOLD A WORK SESSION ON JULY 24, 2025. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 6:00 P.M.(CT) AND ADJOURN AT APPROXIMATELY 8:00 P.M.(CT)

AN AGENDA IS MAINTAINED IN THE COMMISSION OFFICE, 140 N. 8<sup>TH</sup> STREET, SUITE 300, LINCOLN, NEBRASKA.

TIM DANIELS, CHAIR

### *Work Session called to order at 6:10 p.m.*

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Daniels called the work session to order at 6:10 p.m. and asked for roll call.

### **Commissioners Present**

Tim Daniels  
Dr. Deborah Frison  
Dr. LeDonna Griffin  
Dr. Dennis Headrick

Molly O'Holleran  
Dr. Paul Von Behren  
Tami Weber  
W. Scott Wilson

### **Commissioners Absent**

Mary Lauritzen  
Dannika Nelson

### **Commission Staff Present**

Dr. Michael Baumgartner  
Dr. Kathleen Fimple  
J. Ritchie Morrow  
Helen Pope

Matthew Roque  
Celeste Thompson  
Gary Timm

---

*Dr. Jody Tomanek, North Platte  
Community College*

**Presentation on Academic Program Development from the Institutional Perspective**

Dr. Jody Tomanek, Vice President of Academic Affairs and North Platte Community College, presented an overview of the processes required on the community college side when bringing forward program proposals to the Commission. Dr. Tomanek answered questions from the Commissioners.

*J. Ritchie Morrow and Celeste  
Thompson*

**Presentation on Implementation of Excellence in Teaching, Career-Readiness and Dual Credit Education, Door to College, and Nebraska Career Scholarship Grants**

J. Ritchie Morrow, Financial Aid Officer, and Celeste Thompson, ETA Specialist, provided a handout and explained the Excellence in Teaching Act (ETA) financial aid programs designed for Nebraska teachers. Mr. Morrow also presented an overview of the Door to College Program and the Nebraska Career Scholarship Program.

*Dr. Michael Baumgartner*

**Update on 2025 Legislative Actions**

Dr. Michael Baumgartner, Executive Director, reviewed bills that affect or are of interest to the Commission since the legislature adjourned. He also gave an update on the One Big Beautiful Bill and how it may impact Nebraska colleges, universities, and the GAP assistance program.

*Work Session adjourned at 8:15 p.m.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Daniels adjourned the Work Session at 8:15 p.m.