

National Western Center Authority Board Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting:	April 16, 2026	Time:	9:00 am – 10:36 a.m.
Minutes Prepared by:	Alexi Palazzari	Location:	Hybrid Meeting via Zoom and In Person
Meeting Description			
National Western Center Authority Board Meeting			
Authority Board Member Attendance at Meeting			
Name	Present (in person or virtual)	Absent	Notes
John Ikard	In person		
Steven McCarthy	In person		
Robb Brown	In person		
Diedra Garcia	In person		
Kelly Leid		X	
Sandra Ruiz	In person		
Tony Frank	Virtual		
Bill Mosher	In person		
Doug Jones		X	
Wes Allison	In person		
Ernest House	In person		
Caroline Acha	Virtual		
Nicole Doheny*		X	
Other attendees including members of the public are as recorded registration for the meeting. Guests: Mark Williams, Mike Bouchard, & Jeremy Davis.			



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Topic	Owner	Time
Call to Order		
Quorum Meeting was called to order by John Ikard, Chair. Quorum present.	John Ikard	9:01 a.m.
Board Business/Action Items		
A Motion was made by Director Steven McCarthy and seconded by Director Wes Allison to approve the Minutes for Mar 19, 2026. One correction will be made to add Diedra Garcia to list of Directors. Motion approved.	John Ikard	9:02 a.m.
Chairman Update		
Chairman John Ikard provided the following updates. The CEO Search Committee will provide an update during executive session. Discussed activity on campus and in the community.	John Ikard	9:03 a.m.
CEO Update		
The CEO provided the following update on facilities: • Equestrian Center/Hotel • FarmBox is growing food • CUP North parking structure – construction is underway • CSU O&M agreement in final review • WSSA Lease amendment for year-round use of M&O building and grounds • Campus composting program The Community update will be provided as the focus topic.	Brad Buchanan	9:04 a.m.
Partner Reports		
NWCO Update provided as part of the board packet with the following additional updates: NTP for Pedestrian Bridge is close. Anticipate groundbreaking this year. Triangle vision plan is underway, and an update will be provided at the next Board Meeting.	Mike Bouchard	9:12 a.m.
CSU: Update provided as part of the board packet with the following additional updates: Groundbreaking for parking garage was last week. 2 nd Saturday attendance is high will full campus activation at CSU Spur.	Jeremy Davis	9:15 a.m.
WSSA: WSSA shared the additional following updates: WSSA Activities:	Wes Allison	9:16 a.m.



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- Legacy Events - Wilson Art Gallery - Member Lunches & Activities Report on Legacy Total Events & Legacy Rental Revenue provided. Wilson Art Gallery opens May 15. Looking ahead to 2027 - Membership Luncheons & Events - Programming for Legacy - Scholarship Development - Youth Leadership Development - Stock Show Planning		
COMMUNITY UPDATE: The following community updates were provided: - Triangle project orientation occurred. Flyers have been distributed to the community. Training event on Saturday. - Networking event – Bloom in Blue coming up. - Tortillas for Tepeyac on May 28.	Caroline Acha & Sandra Ruiz	9:25 a.m.
Community Update		
A community update was provided and included the following information: Core mission-aligned events: - Market at the Center - o Campus Collaboration with CSU Spur's Second Saturdays and The Legacy. - o Supports local entrepreneurs and small businesses with culturally rooted food, art, and traditions. - o Provides free, family-friendly entertainment and activities, creating a welcoming community presence. - Stock Show Community Engagement - o Garden Place Academy and Swansea Elementary. - o 300+ Free community tickets distributed to GES families. - o Reception and rodeo event hosted for CAC participants. - Cultural Access & Community Ticket programs - o In 2025, 2,500 tickets were distributed to GES Community 932 Tickets have been distributed YTD - o Partnership opportunities with March Pow Wow, Denver Center of Performing Arts,	Lori Laurita	9:28 a.m.



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Denver Museum Nature Science and Campus Events - Community resource distribution and GES-led events support - o We Don't Waste serves over 400 families each month through a Mobile Food Market. Diverting over 28k lbs. of food from landfill this year. - o Compost Colorado provides free compost every Food Market. - o WeeCycle distributes - Community Committee Meetings - o CAC Community Advisory Committee & EQC Equestrian Center, Hotel and Housing Taskforce Annual financial contributions to CIF report provided. Reporting platform for community provided.		
Committee Reports		
Finance & Audit Update provided as part of the board packet with additional information provided during the board meeting.	Mitzi Kissel	9:55 a.m.
Campus Services & Partnerships No meeting this month, no update provided.	Joe McCullough	9:57 a.m.
Community Benefits Update provided as part of the board packet with the following additional information: CBC discussions on structure of the CBC meeting have been productive. Proposed changes to the agenda were highlighted. NWCO highlighted that Sandra is a block captain for the Triangle project.	Lori Lorita & Ernest House	9:57 a.m.
Public Comment		
There was no public comment.	John Ikard	10:07 a.m.
Executive Session		
A Motion was made by Director Steven McCarthy and seconded by Director Robb Brown to enter Executive Session. Motion Approved. During Executive Session, Director Diedra Garcia recused herself.	John Ikard	10:08 a.m.
A Motion was made by Director Wes Allison and seconded by Director Ernest House to exit Executive Session. Motion Approved.	John Ikard	10:34 a.m.
Adjourn		
There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting.	John Ikard	10:36 a.m.



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Next Board of Directors Meeting					
Date:	May 21, 2026	Time:	9:00 a.m.	Location:	Hybrid via Zoom * NWCA offices

Submitted by: Alexi Palazzari

Approved by: Board of Directors

Date: 5/21/2026



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