



# ACCREDITATION EVIDENCE

**Title:** Need for Budget Reduction Work Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

**Evidence Type:** Circumstantial

**Date:** 10 September 2020

**WAN:** 22-0512

**Classification:** Presentation

**PII:** No

**Redacted:** No





### Agenda Item Details

Meeting	Sep 10, 2020 - REVISED: Board of Trustees Regular Workshop and Meeting
Category	12. Recommended Action - New Business
Subject	A. Declaration of Financial Emergency - Dr. Kim Dale
Type	Action
Recommended Action	That the Board of Trustees declares a financial emergency as a result of the withdrawal/reduction of general funding during the 20-21 fiscal year by the Wyoming Community College Commission, mandated by the Governor of the State of Wyoming; and, That as a result of the withdrawal of funds allocated to Western Wyoming Community College by the State of Wyoming, the Board of Trustees directs the College President to reduce Western's FY21 general fund budget by \$875,000. In addition, the College President is directed to prepare a plan to reduce an additional \$935,000 from the FY21 general fund budget in the event there are further funding reductions/withdrawals by the State of Wyoming.

The state of Wyoming is currently enduring an unprecedented economic crisis. Communications from the state indicate a \$1.5 billion shortfall due to what some are calling a double "black swan" event. The first "black swan" event was the reduction of income from extraction industries including coal, oil and natural gas. The second "black swan" event was the emergence of COVID-19.

At the request of Governor Mark Gordon, Western will be reducing its FY21 general fund budget to align with reductions in funding mandated by the State of Wyoming. It is recommended that the Board of Trustees directs the College President to reduce Western's general fund budget by \$875,000. In addition, it is recommended that the Board of Trustees directs the College President to prepare a plan to reduce an additional \$935,000 from the FY21 general fund budget in the event there are further funding reductions/withdrawals by the State of Wyoming.

As Western evaluates how to accommodate the budget reductions, the College President and her Cabinet are analyzing the following areas for budget reductions and efficiencies:

1. Labor
2. Organizational Design
3. Academic Affairs
4. Technology and IT Support
5. Facilities and Auxiliary Services
6. Spending and Contracts

The Presidents' Cabinet is asking the Board to declare a financial emergency. It should be noted that a declaration of a financial emergency is not an indication of financial exigency, a distinction recognized by the Higher Learning Commission.

#### Recommendations:

That the Board of Trustees declares a financial emergency as a result of the withdrawal/reduction of general funding during the 20-21 fiscal year by the Wyoming Community College Commission, mandated by the Governor of the State of Wyoming; and,

That as a result of the withdrawal of funds allocated to Western Wyoming Community College by the State of Wyoming, the Board of Trustees directs the College President to reduce Western's FY21 general fund budget by \$875,000. In addition, the College President is directed to prepare a plan to reduce an additional \$935,000 from the FY21 general fund budget in the event there are further funding reductions/withdrawals by the State of Wyoming.