

MINUTES OF THE FIVE HUNDRED EIGHTY-THIRD
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE MONROE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Board of Trustees Room Z-203
La-Z-Boy Center
6:00 p.m., February 25, 2019

Present: William T. Bruck, Florence Buchanan, Lynette M. Dowler, Steven Hill, Krista Lambrix, Aaron Mason, and Mary Kay Thayer

Also Present: Samantha Beaudrie (Student Government), Jack Burns Jr., Valerie Culler, Randy Daniels, AJ Fischer, Mark Hall, Ethan Harbaugh (Student Government), Paul Hedeem, Barry Kinsey, Paul Knollman, Robert Krueger (MCMC), McKenzie Lamour (Student Government), Brian Lay, Cassidy Maier (The Agora), Laura Manley, Molly McCutchan, Josh Myers, Therese O'Halloran, Tina Pillarelli, Kojo Quartey, Sarah Richardville (MCMC), Tom Ryder, Dan Shaw, Joe Verkennes, Tracy Vogt, Patrick Wise, Grace Yackee, and Penny Dorsey (recording secretary)

1. Chair Dowler opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.
2. The Board invited Daniel Shaw, Assistant Professor of Humanities and Journalism, to say a few words regarding the awards won by this year's Agora staff at the Michigan Press Association 2019 Conference. Altogether, the Agora staff brought home 13 awards, Six 1st place awards, two 2nd place awards, three 3rd place awards, two honorable mentions and College Newspaper of the Year, taking first place over all the community colleges in the state.
3. The following New Business items were moved to the beginning of the agenda by unanimous consent:
 - C. 2. a. (1) Student Government Report
 - C. 2. a. (2) Monroe County Middle College Ten Year Update
 - B. 4. b. (1) Election of Board Officers (Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary) for Two-Year Terms
- C. 2. a. (1) 4. Ethan Harbaugh, Student Government Communications Liaison and Monroe Middle College student, gave an update on the activities of Student Government (SG) over the past academic year. After introducing himself, he also said that his father is Maintenance Chief, Jeff Harbaugh, and he is often called "Little H" or "Mini H." He, thanked the Board for all that they do to support the college and its students.

Mr. Harbaugh reported that Student government has been very busy since last fall. Their main goal is to create a welcoming environment for all students. Their events began with the one of their largest events, the Welcome Back BBQ, featuring the band, The Crane Wives. The Club was also able to host area tours for the local high schools. The event was a huge success.

Other events include beautification of the campus with various decorating activities for the fall and Christmas. Student Government have also painted the College Spirit Rock with the College mascot.

Noon time events in the cafeteria include the band Car Crash, and Jake "the Human iPod," who could play any requests thrown his way on the spot. Student Government collaborated with the Psychology Interest Group (PIG) Club to sponsor "Furry Finals," where students can take a break during finals week to interact with licensed therapy dogs and enjoy ice cream.

Community service is one of the most important activities Student Government undertakes. The group has sponsored several blood drives, as well as held a bake sale for Breast Cancer Awareness month. Student Government also joined with Monroe County Middle College (MCMC) for a pop tab collection.

Two of their biggest events are the Boo Bash and the Sweet Heart Ball, which was held this past week. They would like to see more administrators, faculty and staff participate in this great event. This year they sold 100 tickets. The club is hosting a movie night on March 14, in the Little theater, located on the basement of the Campbell Learning Center. Everyone is invited to join them for the free movie and

popcorn.

- C. 2. a. (2) 5. Robert Krueger, Principal of the Monroe County Middle College (MCMC), introduced Sarah Richardville, Dean of Students. Both Mr. Krueger and Ms. Richardville have served in their roles for the MCMC over the past ten years.

The founding partners of the MCMC are the Monroe County Intermediate School District, Monroe County Community College, and ProMedica Monroe Regional Hospital. All nine local school districts allow their students to participate in the middle college program. Staff includes Mr. Krueger, Ms. Richardville and 10 full-time teachers. Last year 65 percent of the graduating class left with an associate's degree. MCMC was the ninth school in the State to implement a middle college. Since, there has been a growth explosion of middle colleges throughout state. There are now 21 schools and 125 middle college programs.

MCMC began with 38 students, two administrators, and 2.5 full-time instructors. This year it has 346 students, two administrators, 10 instructors, one counselor, and a part-time secretary. The estimation for next year's enrollment is 370 students and a small increase in staff members.

MCMC is everywhere and there is not a class at the College that does not have or has had a middle college student. Professors report that middle college students are hardworking and at the top of their classes with regard to motivation and engagement MCMC student are very happy with their MCCC professors. The average G.P.A for MCMC students is 3.21, which is substantially higher that of college students.

Mr. Krueger's presentation sis part of the permanent Board file in the President's Office.

- B. 4. a. (1) 6. *It was moved by Mrs. Thayer and supported by Mr. Hill to combine the election of Board Officers (Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary) and approve them in the following motion: that Lynette M. Dowler be elected as Chair of the Board of Trustees; That Mary Kay Thayer be elected as Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees; and that Aaron N. Mason be elected as Secretary of the Board of Trustees.*

The motion carried

- B. 2. a. (1) 7. *It was moved by Mrs. Thayer and supported by Mr. Mason, that the following item on the consent agenda be approved:*

B. 2. a. (1) Approval of the minutes for the February 4, 2019, regular meeting of the Board of Trustees

The motion carried.

- B. 4. a. (1) 8. This item was moved, and approved at the beginning of the meeting

- B. 4. a. (4) 9. *It was moved by Mr. Mason and supported by Mr. Bruck that the Board approve the following resolution for Conveyance of Property and an amendment to the lease for Business and Technical Center, Library and Welding Fastening Project:*

"WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Community College District of Monroe County (the "College") has previously conveyed property (the "Original Site") to the State Building Authority (the "Authority") for the purpose of acquiring and constructing the Community College District of Monroe County Business and Technical Center, Library and Welding and Fastening Project (the "Facility") which was leased to the Educational Institution pursuant to a lease dated as of March 1, 2001, (the "Lease") among the College, the Authority and the State of Michigan (the "State");

"WHEREAS, the Original Site contains land described on Exhibit A (the "Excess Property") which is not needed for the Facility;

"WHEREAS, the College needs the Excess Property for the purpose of construction of a new project, which will be conveyed to and leased from the Authority;

“WHEREAS, the College would like the Authority to convey the Excess Property to the College;

“WHEREAS, INTEGRA Realty Resources – Detroit has stated that the transfer of the Excess Property will not reduce the economic or market value of the Facility to the State and the College and the true rental for the Facility should not be reduced; and

“WHEREAS, the transfer of the Excess Property will require an amendment to the Lease (the “Lease Amendment”).

“NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT OF MONROE COUNTY THAT:

1. *The College authorizes the conveyance of the Excess Property from the Authority to the College for the consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00).*
2. *The College hereby authorizes and approves the Lease Amendment in substantially the form attached as Exhibit B, and any one of the two of the following then seated officers of the College:*

*Lynette M. Dowler, Chair, MCCC Board of Trustees
Suzanne M. Wetzel, Vice President of Administration and Treasurer*

(each an “Authorized Officer”) are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver the Lease Amendment in substantially the form attached as Exhibit B for and on behalf of the College.

3. *The Authorized Officers are severally or jointly authorized and directed to take or cause to be taken all other actions, including, without limitation, making requests of and approving requests from the Authority and the State and signing certificates, documents or other instruments, each on behalf of the College as they deem necessary or desirable under the circumstances to accomplish the purposes of the transactions authorized in this Resolution.*
4. *The College agrees that the Rental for the Facility will not be reduced by the transfer of the Excess Property.*
5. *This resolution shall be effective immediately upon its adoption.”*

The motion carried.

- B. 4. a. (5) 10. *It was moved by Mrs. Thayer and supported by Mrs. Lambrix that Don Gonyea be selected as the recipient of the 2019 Alumnus of the Year.*

Mr. Hill, stated that Mr. Gonyea is a 1976 graduate of MCCC. He is the NPR Whitehouse Correspondent, who helped cover the Afghanistan and Iraqi wars, he was the lead reported covering the entire Obama candidacy. He received a George Foster Peabody award for the NPR’s All Things Considered program.

The Alumnus of the Year selection committee noted that all of the candidates were wonderful.

The motion carried.

- B. 4. a. (6) 11. *It was moved by Mr. Hill and supported by Mr. Mason that the Board approve Policy 3.05, Tuition and Fees as presented.*

Dr. Randell Daniels, Vice President of Student and Information Services, stated that the changes to the tuition and fees schedule put the college in compliance with the state law, as the state of Michigan has granted in-county tuition rates to veterans who are on the GI Bill no matter what their residency is.

The motion carried.

- C. 2. a. (1) 12. This item was moved to the beginning of the agenda by unanimous consent.
- C. 2. a. (2) 13. This item was moved to the beginning of the agenda by unanimous consent.

- C. 3. a. (1) 14. Andrew Fischer, Director of Financial Services, reported that all finances are in line with where they are supposed to be at this time of the year. Property taxes may appear to be behind on paper compared to last year, but they are coming in steadily, and are currently at \$9,357,661.37.

Expenses are also in line with last year's expenses. The Personal Property Tax reimbursement is expected this week. This will be the Tier I and Tier II money. This year, new legislation has effected how the Tier III funds are being awarded back to the colleges. Tier III is expected at the end of May. This week the College expects to receive \$285,071.43. At the end of May the College expects to receive around \$250,000-\$350,000. Mr. Fischer and his team will bring the tuition and fees study and proposal to the Board for its review and decision.

- C. 3. a. (2) 15. Dr. Joshua Myers, Executive Director of The Foundation, gave a presentation on his recent Sabbatical. The title of his dissertation is *Transforming Community Colleges Through Philanthropy: A Strategic Framework for Institutionally Related Foundations*. Dr. Myers explained the genesis of community college philanthropy, which arose in the early 1900's as "pass through entities. Fundraising remained a passive activity until the 1990s when community college foundations began actively raising funds when community college leaders looked at their budgets and asked what they could do to keep from sacrificing affordability.

Dr. Myers had the option of traditional research or a Product Dissertation. He chose the latter, which is formatted the same way, but research can come in form of a product. Dr. Myers developed a framework that can help optimize institutional resources, focus foundation priorities on institutional needs, and to move from a transactional donor relations model to a transformational institutional impact (see Resource efficiency model in PowerPoint).

Dr. Myers methodology included assessment and pre-planning, strategic plan development and operationalization. His Organizational Toolkit facilitates and reinforces Board/staff alignment. The Implementation Toolkit allows users to be staff centered, to articulate goals, to act strategically, and to define the case for investment.

Community College foundations are unique because they do not provide direct services, they have no line authority, they are liberated from operational funding concerns, and they inherit the cultural peculiarities of the institution.

Dr. Myers explained that vision does not originate from foundations, rather it permeates through it. Foundations can elevate from transformational to transactional if empowered by the vision of the institution. He stated, "Fundraising is not simply why we exist, it's what we do."

Dr. Myers expressed his appreciation for the latitude Dr. Quartey and the Board gave him to complete his dissertation. He noted this was an enlightening experience and that he is a more informed person because of it. His complete presentation is part of the permanent Board file in the President's office.

- C. 3. a. (3) 16. President Quartey discussed his revised President's Goals and Measurable Outcomes. President Quartey will add categories. The new version is very specific and focused compared to the previous versions, which had too many actions items and was not as targeted. The Board agreed he did a great job of pairing his goals down.

- C. 3. b. (1) 17. President Quartey summarized his reports to the Trustees, which he sends every other week.

Dr. Quartey noted that Governor Whitmer, in her State of the State address, indicated that she is in favor of a debt-free education for Michigan students. Last week, 22 Community Presidents met with the governor in Lansing. The issue is that free community college is a Democratic idea and the legislature is republican, so free community college may not happen. The Presidents were encouraged to advocate with their republican legislators. Several community college Presidents were invited to meet with Governor Whitmer to discuss the concept further. Dr. Quartey has also invited the Governor to visit the campus within the next couple months.

Dr. Quartey also met with Senator Dale Zorn to discuss the issue of cross-border dual enrollment. The Senator would like more collateral language in the legislation. Work continues to effect an amendment of the legislation. Senator Zorn is looking into the issue.

Work on the new Strategic Plan continues under the leadership of Dr. Randell Daniels, Vice President of Student and Information Services. Bids are out on the East and West Tech Buildings. This project should be completed in 2020. Grant efforts continue for Agriculture and Student Services. Faculty negotiations are set to begin with the full-time faculty. The College and the President continue to support numerous community organizations and activities.

- C. 4. a. (1) 18. The Board discussed the presidential evaluation process. Newer Trustees will not rate the president at this time, but will enter comments as appropriate. The evaluations are due Penny Dorcey, Executive Assistant to the President/Secretary to the Board of Trustees, by March 14, 2019. She will compile the results into one form and distribute them for discussion at the March Board meeting.
- C. 4. a. (2) 19. Vice Chair, Mary Kay Thayer, gave a brief update on the 2019 Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Legislative Summit, held in Washington D.C. Meetings began on Saturday for the Board of Directors. Board members discussed and shared their decisions regarding their various committees. Dr. Walter G. Bumphus, President of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC), gave a report outlining the need for trustee and student participation at the National Legislative Summit (NLS). The newly appointed Deputy Assistant Secretary for Community Colleges, Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education, US. Department of Education, Casey Sacks, spoke regarding the need for input from community colleges across the nation. Mrs. Thayer was able to speak at length with Ms. Sacks and believes it would be beneficial for her and Dr. Quartey to meet with Ms. Sacks regarding grants.

Other activities included a presentation by Brian Sponsler, VP of Policy at Education Commission of the States, and Director of the Post-secondary and Workforce Development Team. He spoke on higher education policy, with a focus on college access and student success.

Ms. Thayer was also able to speak with the staff of Senators Stabenow and Peters, who were in Michigan for the funeral of Congressman John Dingle. The issues discussed included short-term Pell Grants; increasing the maximum Pell Grant award; Second Chance Pell Grants; Government funding of higher education and workforce development; additional support and access for student success; the need to bolster job training; and career and technical education; new risk sharing penalties, and transparency and data sharing. Additionally, the government wants to make colleges responsible for students who default on their student loans.

- C. 4. b. (2) 20. Chair Dowler explained the purpose and the process for Board Self-evaluations Completed evaluations are due to the President's office by February 18, 2019. Penny Dorcey, executive Assistant to the President/ Secretary to the Board of Trustees, will compile the documents and have them ready for review at the February 25, 2019 Board meeting. Chair Dowler noted that comments can be more valuable than the boxes.
- C. 4. b. (3) 21. The Board discussed their self-evaluations. Some results were skewed, so Ms. Dorcey will recalculate the final results and send them out to the Board. For the President's evaluation, new trustees should select N/A, and then enter comments if appropriate.
- C. 4. b. (2) 22. The President and the Board held a brief discussion on enrollment strategies. Kojo and Cabinet will conduct some research on the topic and create a Board Study out of the data that they collect.
- C. 4. b. (2) 23. The Board discussed community connections and posed the following questions, what does the board look like to the community; what is the administration's role in community connections; how far do those connections reach and where do they end; what is the message the College wants to convey to the community; where do we show up and how do we show up, etc. Each person at the College of us is a recruiter and a representative of the College. The College needs to focus on how it

communicates to the newspaper and how it gets the word out to the community and keeps people engaged.

Joe Verkennes, Director of Marketing and Communication, said that the annual report went to every household last year, but not this year due to budget constraints. All College news begins with a press release, but only those who get the newspaper are reading it.

The dilemma is money. The College spends about \$100,000 per year on media. The power of social media is great and it is an easy way to reach out to the public, but it costs money. Getting around the town personally is another thing and it allows the College to stay on top of the minds of state and county officials and helps the College to control any misunderstandings floating around in the public.

- C. 4. b. (5) 24. Chair Dowler noted the upcoming events.
- 25. *It was moved by Mr. Mason and supported by Mr. Bruck that the meeting be adjourned.*

The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynette M. Dowler
Chair

Aaron N. Mason
Secretary

/prd