

**NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MINUTES  
Monday, August 28, 2023  
NMC Hagerty Center, Room C**

**CALL TO ORDER**—Chair Laura J. Oblinger called the regular meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Trustees present:** Laura J. Oblinger, Rachel A. Johnson, Kennard R. Weaver, Chris M. Bott,  
Kenneth E. Warner, Andrew K. Robitshek

**Trustees absent:** Douglas S. Bishop

**Also present:** President Nick Nissley, Lynne Moritz, Diana Fairbanks, Craig Hadley, Jason Slade, Jennifer Hricik, Stephen Siciliano, Mark Liebling, Deirdre Mahoney, Marcus Bennett, Todd Neibauer, Judy Chu

**REVIEW OF AGENDA**—The agenda was accepted as presented.

**STRATEGIC FOCUS: Strategic Initiatives Update**—Jason Slade, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives, summarized the progress of the strategic plan to date and provided an update on the transition from year one to year two.

**REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**Program Focus: Dennon Museum Center**—Craig Hadley, Executive Director, highlighted program distinctions over the past few years include a new Humanities 150 course in the spring of 2024, Milliken lighting and stage upgrades, and spring and holiday artist markets. Hadley noted the increase in grant dollars earned per fiscal year and the updated interactive exhibit in the Discovery Gallery. The Board applauded Hadley for his leadership and commitment to lifelong learning.

**Faculty Report: A Thematic Approach to Teaching Writing and Research in the English 112 Course**—Deirdre Mahoney, Communications Instructor, thanked Chris Hanna and Alex Jones for producing a video including student testimonials. English 112 was first taught with this curriculum last spring and continues again this fall semester. Mahoney described her personal background in caregiving and professional work through sabbatical before showing the previously mentioned video.

**Foundation Report**—Jennifer Hricik, Interim Associate Vice President for Resource Development and Executive Director of Foundation, presented on the FY23 goals and foundation initiatives, including the Aviation hangar expansion project. In response to a question, Hricik stated a measurement dashboard for the strategic plan is in development.

**PUBLIC INPUT**—There was no public input offered.

**UPDATES**

**President's Update**—President Nick Nissley acknowledged trustees for attending the Celebration of Life for Kari Kahler, Benzie annexation, Pitspitters baseball game, MCCA Summer Conference, and volunteering at residence hall move in days. On legislative matters, Nissley highlighted the August 1 visit of U.S. Senator Gary Peters and noted State Representative Carol Glanville will visit campus

tomorrow. On September 19, there will be a meeting in Benzie County of key stakeholders and leaders to discuss annexation; with the intention of town hall sessions in October.

**Board Chair Update**—Chair Laura Oblinger shared points of pride over the past month including visiting the *Selvick* tug boat and touring programs with a prospective student. Oblinger also provided an update on the College and Foundation MOU, 2023 presidential evaluation, and recent news story regarding the partnership with the Northwest Regional Fire Training Center.

**MCCA Summer Conference**—Trustees who attended the annual conference of the Michigan Community College Association in July shared their highlights and takeaways.

**CONSENT ITEMS**—On a motion by Kennard Weaver, seconded by Chris Bott, the following items were approved by a unanimous vote as a group without discussion:

- Minutes of the July 24, 2023, regular meeting
- Financial Report—*Troy Kierczynski, Vice President of Finance and Administration*
- Enrollment Report—*Todd Neibauer, Vice President for Student Services and Technologies*
- PRMC—*Diana Fairbanks, Associate Vice President of Public Relations, Marketing, and Communications*
- Building & Site Committee Minutes—*Ken Warner, Committee Chair*

**ACTION ITEMS**

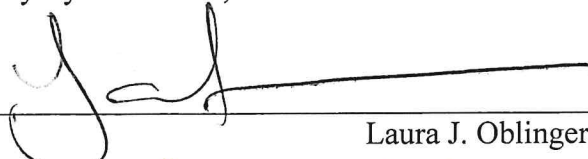
**MCCA Membership Dues**—On a motion by Chris Bott, seconded by Ken Warner, the Board authorized for administration to continue membership with the Michigan Community College Association, which includes membership dues of \$37,500 for FY24. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**Local Strategic Value Resolution**—Andy Robitshek made a motion, seconded by Ken Warner, and the Board unanimously adopted the Local Strategic Value Resolution, as presented, certifying that Northwestern Michigan College meets the best practice standards required by the appropriations law for fiscal year 2024.

**REVIEW OF FOLLOW-UP REQUESTS**—Confirmed requests made by the Board that require administrative follow-up for information to be provided to the Board at a later date.

**ADJOURNMENT**—The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Recorded by Lynne Moritz, Executive Director of the President’s Office and Board Operations.

SIGNED  \_\_\_\_\_  
 Laura J. Oblinger, Chair

ATTESTED  \_\_\_\_\_  
 Andrew K. Robitshek, Secretary