

**NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES
Monday, February 28, 2022
Timothy J. Nelson Innovation Center, Room 106/107**

CALL TO ORDER—Chair Rachel A. Johnson called the regular meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Virtual: Douglas S. Bishop (from Bonita Springs, Lee County, FL)

Trustees absent: None

Also present: President Nick Nissley, Rebecca Teahen, Troy Kierczynski, Todd Neibauer, Lindsey Lipke, Stephen Siciliano, Jason Slade, Scott Powell, Sarah Montgomery-Richardson, Diana Fairbanks, Amanda Clark, Kari Kahler, Nancy Schulte, Tony Jenkins, Mark Liebling, Lynne Moritz, Kyle Morrison, Jeremy Heinlein, Sally Smarsty, Patti Burgess, Cliff Murie, Denny Nguyen, Amber M. Kristina U., Emma G., Amanda H., John M., Rachel C., Kamsang Riddell

REVIEW OF AGENDA—The agenda was accepted as presented.

SPECIAL REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Strategic Initiatives—Jason Slade, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives, showcased the implementation process and methodology, reviewed the monthly reporting structure, and the rotating update schedule pertaining to the college’s five strategic goals. Slade also presented an example progress tracker. At the March regular meeting, the first strategy of Future-Focused Education will be the topic of the report.

Phi Theta Kappa—Amber, President of PTK for this academic year, introduced her fellow SGA officers and an overview of the honor society. The PTK officers reviewed their Honors in Action project, which focused on “Expressions of Truth.” For their college project, “You Belong,” they held various Welcome Week activities, implemented the Rotaract student group, and created the Blair Elementary School mentoring project & leadership academy. The chapter has received numerous awards in the past two years, including: Distinguished Chapter 2021. Kari Kahler, PTK Chapter Advisor, shared news that Amber will be recognized as one of the top 30 officers in the country at the Catalyst Convention in April.

Faculty Report—Oh the Places You’ll Go (On Zoom) Scott Powell, GLMA Instructor, and Sarah Montgomery-Richards, Philosophy & Communications Instructor, began the presentation by noting the increased demand for online learning and how it has expanded what can be offered to students. Powell collaborated with the Educational Technology department to upgrade a classroom at the Great Lakes Campus with a Zoom-kit, and highlighted that through Zoom he can incorporate a polling technique to get immediate feedback from students. Montgomery-Richards began offering experiential virtual extra credit opportunities with various participation options. In response to a question, Powell noted that while many students are utilizing videos of lessons, some lessons such as how to use a sextant, do require in-person participation.

Enrollment Report—Todd Neibauer, Vice President for Student Services and Technology, provided the Spring 2022 enrollment report. Neibauer reviewed the items of note from the written report provided in the meeting materials packet.

Financial Report—Troy Kierczynski, Vice President of Finance and Administration, reviewed the financial report for the period ending January 31, 2022. Early projections indicate the college will finish FY22 with a surplus. Educational & General Costs. Kierczynski also highlighted the report included on reserves, while some peer colleges do not have reserve policies. Next month, Kierczynski will begin the first presentation to the Board regarding the FY23 budget process.

Audit Committee Report—Kennard Weaver, Chair of the Board Audit Committee, discussed the purpose of the committee and noted a request for proposals for audit services was released on Monday, February 7, 2022. The committee will bring a recommendation to the full Board at the March regular meeting.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS—The following written reports were provided in the packet of materials: PRMC and Foundation.

PUBLIC INPUT—There was public input offered by Cliff Murie.

UPDATES

President's Update—President Nick Nissley provided updates on the following topics: recent changes to masking policy on campus, the state budget and capital outlay submissions, and community college BSN legislation. Nissley also noted the NMC Foundation is beginning their strategic planning process.

Board Chair Update—Chair Rachel Johnson encouraged lifelong learning exemplified by the trustees, including upcoming opportunities at the MCCA Summer Institute and ACCT Leadership Congress.

Presidential Performance and Compensation Committee—Committee Chair Rachel Johnson provided background for the action item later in the agenda regarding hiring a consultant for the presidential review process.

CONSENT ITEMS—On a motion by Kennard Weaver, seconded by Chris Bott, the minutes of the regular meeting on January 24, 2022, were unanimously approved without discussion.

ACTION ITEMS

Manufacturing Apprenticeship Certificate—On a motion by Chris Bott, seconded by Andy Robitshek, the Board approved of Manufacturing Apprenticeship Certificate, effective Fall 2022. Passed with unanimous support.

Presidential Performance Review Process Consultant—On a motion by Ken Warner, seconded by Laura Oblinger, the Board authorized for administration to enter into a contract with the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) for presidential review process consultant services not to exceed the amount of \$7,500. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

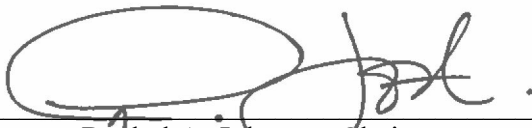
Closed Session—Laura Oblinger made a motion, seconded by Ken Warner, that the Board convene in closed session as permitted by Section 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act, MCL 15.268(h), to consider one privileged legal memo prepared by the college’s outside counsel, Miller Canfield, PLC, which are materials exempt from discussion or disclosure under state or federal statute as written attorney-client communications in connection with Section 13(1)(g) of Michigan’s Freedom of Information Act, MCL 15.243(1)(g). The motion passed with the following roll call vote: Yes—Chris Bott, Laura Oblinger, Ken Warner, Andy Robitshek, Kennard Weaver, Rachel Johnson; No—none; and the Board went into closed session at 6:56 p.m.

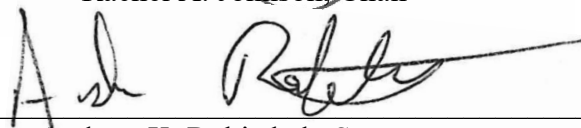
Reconvene Regular Meeting—On a motion by Andy Robitshek, seconded by Laura Oblinger, the closed session was adjourned and the open session was reconvened at 7:43 p.m. with the following roll call vote: Yes—Rachel Johnson, Kennard Weaver, Ken Warner, Laura Oblinger, Andy Robitshek, Chris Bott; No—none.

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 7:43 p.m.

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

SIGNED 
Rachel A. Johnson, Chair

ATTESTED 
Andrew K. Robitshek, Secretary