

**NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES
Monday, November 21, 2022
NMC Hagerty Center, Room C**

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

ROLL CALL

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

Trustees absent: None

Also present: President Nick Nissley, Lynne Moritz, Diana Fairbanks, Troy Kierczynski, Mark
Liebling, Kyle Morrison, Todd Neibauer, Jennifer Hricik, Stephen Siciliano, Hans
VanSumeren, Brandon Everest, Janet Lively, Glenn Wolff, woman, Taylor Wolf,
Joan Sodini, Jason Slade, Marcus Bennett

REVIEW OF AGENDA—The agenda was accepted as presented.

STRATEGIC FOCUS: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion—Jason Slade, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives and Marcus Bennett, Special Assistant to the President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion presented on the third strategy of NMC Next. Dr. Bennett reviewed the process of developing the current definitions of diversity, equity, and inclusion, which will be key components of the purpose statement. In response to a question, Bennett and Nissley described the development of adding “belonging” to the advisory council title. It was determined the Board Policy Committee should review Policy C-102.00 Values to ensure it complements the definitions developed by the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) advisory council.

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Faculty Report: Embrace the Dream—Brandon Everest, Sociology Instructor, and Janet Lively, Director of the Center for Instructional Excellence (CIE), provided a history of the Embrace the Dream initiative. For several years, faculty proposed changes to the way in which the college recognizes Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, particularly given the focus on DEIB. Changes were implemented in 2021 and 2022. In 2022, the Voices Project highlighted marginalized voices of various programs and disciplines. Rotating exhibitions will continue and engage Visual Communications students for design development. For January 2023, CIE is changing professional development to explore the power of service and learning by replacing the afternoon professional development with three hours of services throughout the month of January. The process will also include planning and reflection, as faculty engage in the experiential learning process. President Nissley highlighted that the project is connecting multiple areas of the strategic plan through community partnerships, DEI, and future-focused education.

PRMC Update—Associate Vice President of Public Relations, Marketing, and Communications Diana Fairbanks thanked PRMC team members Taylor Guarnaccia Wolf, Marketing Director, and Joan Sodini, Graphics Coordinator, for their work as the team has undergone a redesign over the past few years. With new support, clear direction and a collaborative approach, PRMC is making positive progress toward the college’s shared goals. Fairbanks shared the goals envisioned for the future and how the team is taking a collaborative, multi-departmental approach. In addition to highlighting the campaigns PRMC leads, Fairbanks shared creative examples of current and future marketing campaigns. Lastly, Fairbanks explained the integrative marketing strategies and metrics by which the

department will monitor and measure success. There was a request from the Board to provide current baseline metrics for the programs identified in the strategic enrollment management plan and in response to a question regarding developing and assessing needs for new programs, Vice President of Educational Services Stephen Siciliano discussed the various inputs for discovering new curriculum and program opportunities.

Campus Master Plan—Vice President of Facilities and Administration Troy Kierczynski presented the campus master planning framework. In August, the Board requested a proposed process and timeline for a facilities utilization study and update to the campus master plan. Kierczynski confirmed that the objectives and deliverables set forth in this framework meet the Board's expectations. There was discussion regarding whether a consultant is necessary for the process. The intention is to issue a request for proposals in January and seek authorization from the Board in February.

ACCT Leadership Congress—Those trustees who attended the recent ACCT Leadership Congress shared their takeaways from the conference. Trustee Kennard Weaver suggested trustees that attend future conferences take notes and share with fellow trustees because there are so many concurrent sessions to participate in at the Leadership Congress.

PUBLIC INPUT—There was no public input offered.

UPDATES

President's Update—President Nick Nissley shared the following updates:

- Legislative lame duck session at the state level is likely to be uneventful; no movement is expected on the supplemental budget (support for the aviation project) and there is minimal hope that capital outlay funding may still succeed;
- On December 16 more will be known about federal earmarks for geothermal project funding;
- The college released a Request for Information (RFI) for an ADN to BSN Articulation Agreement (i.e., inviting universities to express interest as possible partners). Proposals are due to NMC by November 14, and the College will review proposals and notify submitters by December 12;
- NMC Foundation Strategic Plan—mission and vision have been developed and shared with Foundation Board; draft strategies focus on donor engagement, partnerships, and resourcing innovation; the planning steering committee is now working on objectives.

In closing, President Nissley reviewed a few "Points of Pride" from his monthly written update to the Board.

Board Chair Update—Chair Rachel Johnson shared that planning for an offsite, overnight retreat is underway; topics of the retreat will include enrollment and revenue streams, as well as Board development. Johnson noted the December Board meeting is only a few weeks away and recognized the newly elected legislators representing the Grand Traverse region.

CONSENT ITEMS—On a motion by Doug Bishop seconded by Ken Warner, the following items were approved by a unanimous vote as a group without discussion:

Minutes of the October 24,, 2022, special, regular meeting and closed
Enrollment Report—*Todd Neibauer, Vice President for Student Services and Technologies*
Financial Report—*Troy Kierczynski, Vice President of Finance and Administration*
PRMC Report—*Diana Fairbanks, Associate Vice President of Public Relations, Marketing, and Communications*
Foundation Report—*Jennifer Hricik, Interim Associate Vice President for Resource Development and Executive Director of Foundation*
Scholarship and Financial Aid Report—*Linda Berlin, Director of Financial Aid*
Audit Committee Report—*Kennard Weaver, Committee Chair*
Policy Committee Report—*Chris Bott, Committee Chair*

ACTION ITEMS

NMC Resource Guidelines—On a motion by Doug Bishop, seconded by Laura Oblinger, the Board unanimously approved the NMC Resource Guidelines for 2023-2024 as presented. Trustee Chris Bott requested a report on reserve balances be presented at a future meeting.

Water Quality and Environmental Technology Degree Laura Oblinger made a motion, seconded by Ken Warner, to approve an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in Water Quality & Environmental Technology effective Fall 2023. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Policies—On a motion by Doug Bishop, seconded by Laura Oblinger, the Board unanimously adopted the following amended Board policies on a second-reading basis:

- B-102.00 Monitoring Presidential Performance
- B-103.00 Communication and Counsel to the Board
- D-100.00 Learning Outcomes
- D-200.00 Enrichment
- D-202.00 Public School Academies

Closed Session—Doug Bishop made a motion, seconded by Laura Oblinger, that the Board convene in closed session as permitted by Section 8(1)(h) of the Open Meetings Act, MCL 15.268, 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, Doug Bishop, Andy Robitshek, Kennard Weaver, and Rachel Johnson; No—none; and the Board went into closed session at 7:22 p.m.

Reconvene Regular Meeting—XXX made a motion by, seconded by XXX, to adjourn the closed session and reconvene the open session. The motion passed with the following roll call vote: Yes—Andy Robitshek, Doug Bishop, Chris Bott, Kennard Weaver, Ken Warner, Laura Oblinger, Rachel Johnson; No—none; and the Board reconvened in regular open session at 7:43 p.m.

Closed Session—Laura Oblinger made a motion, seconded by Ken Warner, that the Board convene in closed session as permitted by Section 8(1)(e) of the Open Meetings Act, MCL 15.268 to discuss specific pending litigation. The motion passed with a roll call vote: Yes—Kennard Weaver, Ken Warner, Doug Bishop, Andy Robitshek, Laura Oblinger, Chris Bott, Rachel Johnson; No—none; and the Board went into closed session at 7:44 p.m.

Reconvene Regular Meeting

Recommend the closed session adjourn and the open session of the regular meeting be reconvened.

Closed Session—Doug Bishop made a motion, seconded by Laura Oblinger, that the Board adjourn the open session and convene in closed session as permitted by Section 8(1)(c) of Michigan Open Meetings Act, MCL 15.268, to discuss strategy connected with the negotiation of collective bargaining agreements between the College and the SEIU. The motion passed with a roll call vote: Yes—Andy Robitshek, Doug Bishop, Chris Bott, Kennard Weaver, Ken Warner, Laura Oblinger, Rachel Johnson; No—none; and the Board went into closed session at 8:10 p.m.

Reconvene Regular Meeting—Ken Warner made a motion that the closed session adjourn and the open session of the regular meeting be reconvened. Doug Bishop seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote: Yes—Kennard Weaver, Ken Warner, Doug Bishop, Andy Robishek, Laura Oblinger, Chris Bott, and Rachel Johnson; No—none; and the regular open session reconvened at 8:22 p.m.

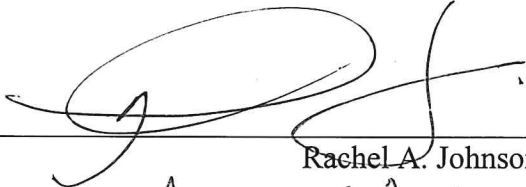
SEIU Collective Bargaining Agreement—Laura Oblinger made a motion, seconded by Ken Warner, to authorize administration to enter into an agreement with Service Employees International Union Local covering three years, beginning January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2025. Chris Bott abstained from voting, and the motion passed with a majority vote.


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.

- Values policy review
- Report on reserve balances
- Finalizing Board retreat date

ADJOURNMENT—The meeting adjourned at ___ 8:24 ___ 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