

**NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES**

**Monday, December 12, 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, Andrew K. Robitshek

Trustees absent:

Trustees participating remotely: Kenneth E. Warner (from Bainbridge, WA)

Also present: President Nick Nissley, Lynne Moritz, Hollie DeWalt, Jason Slade, Marcus Bennett, Kyle Morrison, Todd Neibauer, Jennifer Hricik, Stephen Siciliano, Alex Bloye, Glenn Wolff, Tony Jenkins, Rachel Nickerson, Madison Blough, Lizzie Brown

REVIEW OF AGENDA—The agenda was accepted as presented.

STRATEGIC FOCUS: Community Partnerships and Engagement—Jason Slade, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives, is the champion for this strategy, which is on track with 4 of the 4 objectives currently classified as “green.” The objectives are focused on community partnerships, workforce and technical training, Extended Educational Services optimizations, and access to needed 4-year pathways. Year 1 activities focused on inventorying current states, performing gap analyses, implementing training programs, and identifying stakeholders. Year 2 work is being developed to continue momentum and focus on the metrics associated with the objectives. With many of the objectives tied to the Community Awareness and Attitude Survey (CAAS), leading performance indicators were added to objectives 2 and 4 to monitor progress. Slade described several mutually beneficial partnerships that span a broad spectrum of community services and needs, such as Grand Valley State University, Team Elmer’s, Sara Lee, and Munson Healthcare.

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Faculty Report: NMC Magazine and Freedom—Glenn Wolff, Art Department Head, presented on behalf of Caroline Schaefer-Hills and Alissia Lingaur, faculty advisors to the student magazine. Wolff highlighted that the magazine is published entirely by students. Lizzie Brown, co-editor, and Rachel Nickerson, design editor, presented their roles in the process, and Brown celebrated the first place regional award received for the Spring 2022 Anxiety issue. In response to a question, Brown described the call for submission process, which is also when the theme of the magazine (e.g., freedom) and parameters for submissions are announced.

NMC Foundation Strategic Plan Update—Chair Rachel Johnson recognized the work of Trustees Kennard Weaver and Laura Oblinger representing the full Board on the Foundation’s Strategic Planning Steering Committee. Oblinger and Weaver commended the process, citing broad engagement from various stakeholders. Jennifer Hricik, Interim Associate Vice President for Resource Development and Executive Director of Foundation, summarized the planning process before sharing the mission, vision, and three strategy statements, which will be presented to the Foundation Board for their approval on December 14, 2022. Once approved, these guiding

statements will be operationalized through objectives and action plans; in addition, the approval of the guiding statements will also inform the ongoing review of Foundation governance documents. President Nissley commended Hricik for taking on the strategic planning work amidst her transition into the role of Interim Executive Director of the NMC Foundation, the alignment with the college's strategic plan, as well as her work in donor engagement and revenue generation.

PUBLIC INPUT—There was no public input offered.

UPDATES

President's Update—President Nick Nissley updated the Board on legislative issues, including planning for a January gathering with northern Michigan legislators and funding requests at both the state and federal levels. Nissley emphasized the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion work at the college, citing that as GLMA cadets compete for berths ships, cadets applying for highly desirable opportunities with Crowley were evaluated on essay questions focusing on diversity, inclusion, anti-bullying and cultivating a harassment-free environment. Lastly, as college auxiliary operations grow post-pandemic, Nissley shared that despite staffing challenges, year-to-date sales at Hawk Owl Cafe are up 35% and Hagerty Center sales have increased 300%. Trustee Laura Oblinger commended President Nissley and Jason Slade for their recent presentation at the Community Development Speaker Series.

Board Chair Update—Chair Rachel Johnson directed trustees to a high level agenda for the February Board Retreat included in the meeting packet before reflecting on the year and the accomplishments in 2022. Johnson shared her appreciation for the trustees, President Nissley, executive staff and all the college accomplished this year.

All unanimous votes recorded below refer to those trustees physically present. Trustee Ken Warner participated remotely due to travel, and therefore did not count toward the quorum, nor did he have the authority to vote on consent or action items.

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

Minutes of the November 21, 2022, regular meeting and closed sessions

Enrollment Report—*Todd Neibauer, Vice President for Student Services and Technologies*

Foundation Report—*Jennifer Hricik, Interim Associate Vice President for Resource Development and Executive Director of Foundation*

Presidential Performance and Compensation Report—*Rachel Johnson, Committee Chair*

ACTION ITEMS


Aircraft Purchase—On a motion by Chris Bott, seconded by Andy Robitshek, the Board authorized for administration to enter into an aircraft purchase agreement with Textron Aviation, Inc. for the purchase of a new 2024 Cessna Skyhawk 172 at the amount of \$526,560 for delivery by September 30, 2024. Alex Bloye, Director of Aviation, discussed the supply chain challenges regarding

previous authorization in the spring for another aircraft. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of those trustees present in person.

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. No follow-up requests were noted.

ADJOURNMENT—The meeting adjourned at 6:25 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