

**NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES
Monday, August 18, 2025
Timothy J. Nelson Innovation Center
Room 106/107**

CALL TO ORDER—Vice Chair Mark B. Keely called the regular meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Trustees present: Mark B. Keely, Kennard R. Weaver, Jody N. Lundquist, Pamela T. Horne, Kenneth E. Warner, Andrew K. Robitshek

Trustees absent: Laura J. Oblinger

Also present: President Nick Nissley, Lynne Moritz, Diana Fairbanks, Troy Kierczynski, Todd Neibauer, Stephen Siciliano, Jason Slade, Hollie DeWalt, Katharine Marvin, Molly Norville, Becca Richardson, Jay Smith, Jim Peress

REVIEW OF AGENDA—The agenda was accepted as presented.

STRATEGIC FOCUS

Mission & Values in Action—2023 Alum Matt Haelterman shared his NMC story, highlighting his time as a Michigan Reconnect student and participating in hybrid and remote classes while also working full-time. Haelterman earned his Associate in Science Engineering degree through NMC and went on to earn his bachelor's degree in Engineering from the University of Michigan and is currently pursuing his master's degree there as well.

Strategic Initiatives Update: Year 3—Jason Slade, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives, presented a summary of the third year of the NMC Next strategic plan.

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Faculty Report: Planetary Astronomy Online (revisited)—Dr. Jerry Dobek, provided an update on the online astronomy course he began two years ago. Dobek noted students' preferred course mode has changed throughout the past two years, with some preferring online and others wanting to meet in person. The course has also drawn students from outside of the Grand Traverse County area.

PUBLIC INPUT—There was no public input offered.

UPDATES

President's Update—President Nick Nissley thanked trustees for attending the MCCA Summer Conference and highlighted NMC's accolades including Chair Oblinger and AVP Fairbanks for their presentation on brand strategy and Kristy McDonald receiving the Outstanding Faculty Award at the conference. President Nissley congratulated Public Relations, Marketing, and Communications on their work with the brand refresh, noting the full launch will occur at the August Conference for employees. The college hosted the staff of U.S. Senator Gary Peters and State Representatives Roth and Glanville earlier this month. Other notable college events and recognitions include the return of the NMC Foundation Scholarship Open, a \$1.2 million gift from a donor, which will go toward renovation of the Osterlin Building into a Student Services Hub and endowment of the food pantry.

Board Chair Update—Vice Chair Mark Keely commended the level of NMC talent and success showcased at the MCCA Summer Conference and noted the upcoming Welcome Week events to begin the fall semester.

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

- Minutes of the July 21, 2025, regular meeting and closed sessions
- Enrollment Report
- Financial Report
- Public Relations, Marketing, & Communications Report
- Advancement Report
- Building and Site Committee Minutes
- Audit Committee Minutes

ACTION ITEMS

Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Delegation of the Sale of Bonds—On a motion by Kennard Weaver, seconded by Ken Warner, the Board approved the Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Delegating the Sale of Bonds as prepared by bond counsel, and as presented by the Administration, and that the Secretary of this Board be authorized to sign the same. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Bond Proceeds Banking Recommendation—Pam Horne made a motion, seconded by Jody Lundquist for the administration to establish a new account with, and invest in, the Michigan Liquid Asset Fund Plus ("MILAF+") for the purpose of holding the proceeds from NMC's 2025 facilities bonds anticipated in October 2025. The account will remain active until the bond proceeds are fully utilized for their intended purpose. The motion passed with a majority vote, with Trustee Robitshek abstaining.

REVIEW OF FOLLOW-UP REQUESTS—No requests were 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 6:26 p.m.

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

SIGNED _____

Mark B. Keely, Vice Chair

ATTESTED _____

Pamela T. Horne, Secretary

Andrew Robitshek