NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES
Monday, July 20, 2026
Timothy J. Nelson Innovation Center
Room 106/107

CALL TO ORDER—Chair Mark B. Keely called the regular meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Trustees present:	Mark B. Keely, Laura J. Oblinger, Kennard R. Weaver, Kenneth E. Warner, Andrew K. Robitshek, Jody N. Lundquist, Pamela T. Horne
Trustees absent:	
Also present:	President Nick Nissley, Lynne Moritz, Diana Fairbanks, Troy Kierczynski, Todd Neibauer, Stephen Siciliano, Jason Slade, Paul Schoppe, Joan Sodini, Kathryn DePauw, Becca Richardson, Emma Dyer, Alex Bloye

REVIEW OF AGENDA—The agenda was accepted as presented. No conflicts of interest were disclosed.

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Mission & Values in Action–Emma Dyer, Certified Flight Instructor, told the story of competing in the Air Race Classic, a transcontinental female air race with two current students and support team. Dyer noted the support from Aviation staff and the NMC community and the comparison of her experience at other aviation programs. The team was commended for their decision making skills.

Faculty Report–There was no faculty report prepared or presented for the month of July 2026.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Living the Brand—Jason Slade, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives, and Diana Fairbanks, Associate Vice President of Strategic Communications and Change Initiatives, presented on the first of four strategic drivers, which are a new element of the Anchor and Edge Strategic Plan. Joan Sodini, Creative Director, is the champion of the strategic driver. As an example, in Strategy 1, this strategic driver helped to focus college efforts around AI so that the strategy intentionally serves to prepare students for what transfer universities and community employers are seeking in terms of AI skills and fluency.

PUBLIC INPUT—There was public input offered by Fred Bimber.

UPDATES

President's Update—President Nick Nissley commended Vice President of Student Services and Technology for an annual cybersecurity tabletop before highlighting college-wide updates included in his monthly written update.

Board Chair Update—Chair Mark Keely emphasized the Board's role in continuing to learn about Artificial Intelligence, noting he looks forward to planning future study sessions.

CONSENT ITEMS–On a motion by Kennard Weaver, seconded by Pam Horne, the following items were approved by a unanimous vote as a group without discussion:

- Minutes of the June 22, 2026, regular meeting
- Enrollment Report—*Todd Neibauer, Vice President for Student Services and Technologies*
- Financial Report—*Troy Kierczynski, Vice President of Finance and Administration*
- Quarterly Investment Memo
- Public Relations, Marketing, and Communications Report—*Diana Fairbanks, Associate Vice President of Strategic Communications and Change Initiatives*
- Advancement Report—*Katharine Marvin, Vice President of Advancement*
- Policy Committee–*Pam Horne, Committee Chair*
- Executive Committee–*Mark Keely, Committee Chair*

ACTION ITEMS

Board Policies–On a motion by Laura Oblinger, seconded by Ken Warner, the Board adopted the following policies unanimously on a first-reading basis:

- A-100.00 Board of Trustees Bylaws
- A-102.00 Board of Trustees Governing Style
- A-109.00 Board of Trustees Vacancy (eliminates separate policy, content now included in A-100.00)

Second Reading of Board Policies–Jody Lundquist made a motion, seconded by Laura Oblinger, to adopt the following policies on a second-reading basis:

- A-103.00 Board of Trustees Committees
- D-501.01 Dennos Museum Code of Ethics
- D-504.05 Dennos Museum

Dennos–On a motion by Kennard Weaver, seconded by Ken Warner, the Board unanimously adopted a resolution in support of the Dennos Museum's American Alliance of Museums Accreditation Application.

Snow Removal Contract–On a motion by Laura Oblinger, seconded by Jody Lundquist, administration was authorized to enter into a contract with Quality Seal Coating for snow removal for FY27, FY28, and FY29 school years. The motion passed unanimously.

Top Coating and Sealing–Laura Oblinger made a motion, seconded by Jody Lundquist, to authorize administration to enter into a contract with Quality Seal Coating Inc. in the amount of $52,777 to complete top coating and sealing described in the accompanying memo.

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.

- **Scholarship data**

ADJOURNMENT—The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

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

SIGNED____
Mark B. Keely, Chair

ATTESTED____
Pamela T. Horne, Secretary