

Delta College
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
Virtually via Zoom (1-929-205-6099 Webinar ID 826 5529 3386)
Held virtually in accordance with Public Act 228 of 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic
Tuesday, December 8, 2020
7:00 p.m.

BOARD PRESENT M. Benecke, A. Buckley, R. Emrich, S. Gannon, K. Lawrence-Webster, D. Middleton, M. Nash, M. Rowley, M. Thomas

OTHERS PRESENT D. Allen, N. Bovid, L. Brown, T. Brown, J. Carroll, P. Clark, E. Clement, M. Crawmer, R. Curley, R. Curry, C. Curtis, A. Dickinson, S. DuFresne, J. Foco, P. Fox, J. Garn, J. Goodnow, L. Govitz, S. Harrison, L. Krukowski, S. Lewless, D. McQuiston, K. Rishe, S. Roche, E. Roth, K. Schuler, P. Sturdy, C. Thomas, A. Ursuy, J. Young

PRESS PRESENT None

CALL TO ORDER Board Chair Middleton read a meeting overview at 7:00 p.m.

“I would like to take a minute to explain how I will run today’s meeting.

As I stated earlier this evening, the Board is authorized to hold this virtual meeting with participation through the Zoom platform in compliance with the Michigan Open Meetings Act as amended (Public Act 228 of 2020).

The Zoom platform allows participants to participate virtually via phone or computer and ensures that the public can participate in this meeting.

For those joining us today, we want to ensure everyone can hear the board meeting. To minimize audio feedback, we ask all virtual participants to NOT use any speakerphone options.

All participants are currently muted to prevent any background noise or feedback. Board members will be unmuted to allow full participation during the meeting when recognized by the Board Chair. *For clarity, please state your name prior to speaking.*

- If you are joining via phone and wish to be recognized, please press *9.
- If you are joining via the video option on your computer, please press the “raise hand” option.

I have asked our Assistant Board Secretary, Talisa Brown; and Kay Schuler, Administrative Assistant in the President’s Office, to serve as moderators to assist me with today’s meeting.

Our moderators will note those who wish to address the Board and will unmute your lines one by one, announcing who is being unmuted.

Please note that all votes will be taken via roll call by our Board Secretary, Andrea Ursuy.

In addition, “the amendments (to the Open Meetings Act that went into effect on October 16, 2020) impose a new requirement for any member of the public body participating remotely to publicly announce, at the outset of the meeting, that he or she is participating remotely. If the announcing member's remote participation is for any reason other than military duty, the member must announce his or her physical location "by stating the county, city, township, or village and state from which he or she is attending the meeting remotely." The member's public announcement must be included in the meeting minutes.”

Therefore, our Board Secretary, Andrea Ursuy, will take attendance immediately after I call the meeting to order. When she calls your name, please say “here” and announce the city, township, or village; county; and state from which you are attending the meeting remotely.

If members of the public wish to address the Board, you may do so during the public comment portion of the meeting, which is on our agenda and will be announced by the Board Chair. At that time, those wishing to address the Board should indicate their desire to speak by pressing *9 (star-9) or the “raise hand” option.

Notes on rules for public comment, please press *9 or the “raise hand” option to be recognized by the Board Chair. When you are acknowledged by the Board Chair, we ask that you state your name and you may state your county of residence. As outlined in the Board of Trustees Bylaws, please limit your comments to five minutes.

Again, note all participants have been muted, except for the Board Chair. I will recognize you and you will be unmuted.”

Board Chair Middleton called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**BOARD MEMBER
ATTENDANCE**

Board Secretary A. Ursuy took attendance. Each Trustee indicated their presence, township or city, and county of residence in Michigan from which they were participating in this meeting.

A. Buckley – Present, Midland, Midland County
M. Benecke – Present, Frankenlust Township, Bay County
R. Emrich – Present, Saginaw Township, Saginaw County
S. Gannon – Present, Jerome Township, Midland County
K. Lawrence-Webster – Present, City of Saginaw, Saginaw County
D. Middleton – Present, Williams Township, Bay County
M. Nash – Present, Larkin Township, Midland County
M. Rowley – Present, Hampton Township, Bay County
M. Thomas – Present, Saginaw Township, Saginaw County

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Board Chair Middleton called for approval of the agenda. R. Emrich made a motion to approve the agenda. M. Rowley seconded the motion.

The results of the roll call vote to approve the agenda are as follows:

M. Benecke – Yes
A. Buckley – Yes
R. Emrich – Yes
S. Gannon – Yes
K. Lawrence-Webster – Yes
D. Middleton – Yes
M. Nash – Yes
M. Rowley – Yes
M. Thomas – Yes

Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Board Chair, D. Middleton, called for public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

D. Middleton called for approval of the consent agenda. S. Gannon made a motion to approve the consent agenda with support from R. Emrich.

The results of the roll call vote to approve the consent agenda are as follows:

M. Benecke – Yes
A. Buckley – Yes
R. Emrich – Yes
S. Gannon – Yes
K. Lawrence-Webster – Yes
D. Middleton – Yes
M. Nash – Yes
M. Rowley – Yes
M. Thomas – Yes

The consent agenda passed unanimously resulting in:

Acceptance of Minutes:

1. Board Dinner Meeting, November 17, 2020
2. Board Regular Meeting, November 17, 2020
3. Board Special Meeting, Nominating Committee, November 23, 2020

Acceptance of Closed Meeting Minutes

1. November 17, 2020, Regular Meeting

TREASURER'S REPORT

S. DuFresne said the Board has received the financials for the month ended November 30, 2020. She said that general fund tuition and fee revenues for the winter semester are behind in comparison to our projected budget. The College has been working very hard across the campus to continue to enroll students which hopefully brings this gap much closer to anticipated levels. We will continue to monitor the progress.

In addition, the College has continued to use Federal Cares Act grant dollars to cover the online course fee for our students, for those courses that were originally scheduled as being offered online before the pandemic. To date, the grant has covered since Spring 2020 over \$918,000. This does not include winter semester, as this is not final.

As we continue to navigate the uncertainty of COVID, it is still too early to determine what the overall impact will be on our bottom line. We don't have any clear indication yet from the State if our appropriations will remain flat or if we could see a future reduction yet this year. While there may be some savings from a reduced presence on campus in areas for example as utilities and supplies, some of these savings may be necessary to offset areas that we are seeing a shortfall such as tuition and fees if we don't meet our enrollment targets, or interest income on investments and other revenues that have been impacted by COVID.

Our auxiliaries continue to be impacted by the pandemic. Food service operations have been completely shut down. Currently, the fitness and recreation center has been closed due to the recent State pause with COVID restrictions. We have reassigned some of the full time staff in these areas to assist the college as COVID Entrance health screeners and in working in our bookstore to help with online shipments. We are monitoring the situation closely for these operations.

BOARD ACTION

Preliminary Approval of the Board of Trustees 2021 Regular Meeting Schedule
(BA5353)

It is the recommendation of the administration that the Board approve the preliminary Board of Trustees 2021 Meeting Schedule.

S. Gannon made a motion to approve the recommendation. M. Nash seconded the motion.

The results of the roll call vote to approve the motion are as follows:

M. Benecke – Yes
A. Buckley – Yes
R. Emrich – Yes
S. Gannon – Yes
K. Lawrence-Webster – Yes
D. Middleton – Yes
M. Nash – Yes
M. Rowley – Yes
M. Thomas – Yes

Motion passed unanimously.

REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

M. Rowley, Chair of the Nominating Committee, said the committee has met twice to discuss who should be nominated for the Board Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. No action will be requested at this meeting. This is a report of what the committee intends to recommend at the January Organizational Meeting of the Board.

M. Rowley said that the Committee spent a great deal of time discussing the talented candidates. He said that ultimately the guidance from the Bylaws to rotate the Chair position between the three counties helped the Committee make their decision.

In addition to the rotation between the counties, candidates' willingness to serve in this leadership role and availability were also taken into consideration.

M. Rowley said that the Nominating Committee will be recommending the following:

Chair – Trustee Mike Nash (Midland County)
Vice Chair – Trustee Marcia Thomas (Saginaw County)
Secretary – Andrea Ursuy
Treasurer – Sarah DuFresne

M. Rowley said that prior to the committee making this recommendation, he had a discussion with Vice Chair Benecke who understood the importance of rotating between the three counties for the leadership positions on the Board.

M. Benecke said that she is in full support of this slate. She said that Trustee Nash has served as the Vice Chair in the past and he will make a wonderful Chair of the Board.

R. Emrich said he is pleased to hear that M. Nash will take on the role of Chair.

D. Middleton reminded the group that the vote will be in January to approve the slate. She thanked all who served on the Nominating Committee.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Enrollment Report

The Fall Semester ends on December 20, 2020.

Winter 2021 registration is underway. As of today, 5,860 students are registered.

We projected 69,078 contact hours for the winter semester and are currently at 87.71% of projection. Winter semester begins on January 9, 2021.

Personnel Report

A complete report of hires, promotions, and separations for the month of November can be found in Board packets this evening.

Information Sharing

- Following the Governor's press conference yesterday, the administration has reexamined the issue of community use of our Fitness Center and how best to handle our Athletics programs. We sought the counsel of the Bay County Health department, as well as gathered information on what actions other institutions in our athletic conference may be taking. We continue to be very diligent in discussing all factors that impact us, which has led us to make some hard decisions.

We have decided to keep the Fitness Center facilities closed for the remainder of the year. Also, we will put all in-person athletic activities on hold until at least Monday, January 4, 2021.

Delta College has again used the greatest measure of caution when reviewing how best to move forward with both the Fitness Center and our Athletics programs. It

is important that we continuously evaluate these two areas simultaneously, since they have a great deal in common and share facilities as well. Our goal is to give the same consideration to both population of users – community members and students.

These decisions will not be easy for our patrons or our athletes to hear, but we feel it will continue to keep our entire Delta community safe. We will continue to stay in touch with the area health departments, as well as follow guidance from the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services, throughout the remainder of the year. Prior to January 4, we hope to determine whether we will be able to again offer public use of the Fitness Center, especially to our annual paying patrons, or resume Athletics activities. We will be sure to communicate updates regarding these issues, as the decisions are made.

- Effective Fall 2020, Delta College renewed the Articulation Agreement with Siena Heights University. The Associate of Applied Science (AAS), in 26 different majors, articulates to Siena Heights University - Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) or the Bachelor of Applied Science, Health Care Management (HCM) major.

Some benefits to students include:

- *BAS programs are delivered entirely online or at Siena campuses.*
 - *Provides students a seamless option to complete a bachelor degree.*
 - *With the agreement, up to 90 credits from Delta will transfer and apply.*
 - *Only 30 credits need to be completed for the BAS.*
 - *With this agreement, Delta students and employees are eligible for a tuition discount.*
- Included as information in BoardBook was the 2020-2021 Fact Sheet. Please review and keep this fact sheet for your reference. It contains a great deal of information about Delta College.
 - Yesterday Dr. Goodnow participated in a joint press conference to announce a partnership with the Environmental Protection Agency, City of Flint and Flint Public Schools to run a cohort of our Water Environmental Technology (WET) program. Students have the opportunity to earn an associate's degree and potentially pursue a career at the Flint Public Water System. Accolades to everyone at Delta College that helped develop and support this partnership including Ginny Przygocki, Stephanie Harrison, Emily Clement, Patrick Tobin, Dr. Reva Curry, Dr. Karl Rishe, Colleen Thomas, and Paul Reinsch, adjunct faculty member and WET Advisory Committee Community Co-Chair.
 - Dr. Goodnow wished all a happy and safe holiday season.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS

M. Benecke asked J. Goodnow about the results of the employee wellness survey that she administered. J. Goodnow said that she received nearly 500 responses. She provided a brief overview. J. Goodnow noted that the overall results were positive, noting feedback that was received on the College's communication efforts. She also acknowledged that there are areas that the College will continue to work to improve. J. Goodnow said she will be communicating the results of the survey to the College community at a town hall meeting on Friday, December 18.

M. Thomas said she was glad to hear about the press conference for the water program in Flint.

A. Buckley wished all a safe and healthy holiday.

M. Nash echoed A. Buckley's statement. He also thanked the Nominating Committee for bringing his name forward and thanked M. Benecke for her leadership and support.

S. Gannon thanked Dr. Emrich and his wife Carol. They recently endowed a Delta College scholarship and were recognized at the last Foundation Board Meeting.

S. Gannon thanked M. Rowley for his leadership on the Nominating Committee. She congratulated the College on the Flint Water program partnership. She wished all a safe and happy holiday.

S. Gannon gave her condolences to D. Middleton on the recent loss of her father.

M. Rowley thanked the Trustees for their kind words. He also congratulated the administration for their work during this time.

CHAIR COMMENTS

Chair Middleton said she appreciates the work that has been done on the diversity webpage. She also said she is excited about the Flint partnership and the collaboration that is occurring.

Chair Middleton extended her gratitude to all the staff and faculty who are working to increase the enrollment for Winter 2021.

She said she is grateful to Dr. Goodnow and her team as well as every employee for their work in navigating through this pandemic.

R. Emrich thanked D. Middleton for demonstrating excellent leadership as the Chair of the Board for the last two years. He thanked her on behalf of the Board.

J. Goodnow said that D. Middleton continues to personify a great leader. J. Goodnow noted the way that Chair Middleton consistently appreciates the work and service of our faculty and staff. J. Goodnow also said that she appreciates the guidance and direction that D. Middleton has given her. It has been a true pleasure working with her.

**VOTE TO GO INTO
CLOSED SESSION**

D. Middleton made a motion that the Board *enter into closed session to discuss with the College's attorney trial and/or settlement strategy in the specific pending lawsuit Mr. Sunshine and Jason Andrich v Delta College Board of Trustees, Saginaw County 20-043053 CZ pursuant to MCL 15.268(e) as a discussion on the open record would be detrimental to our position.*

R. Emrich seconded the motion.

The results of the roll call vote to go into closed session are as follows:

M. Benecke – Yes
A. Buckley – Yes
R. Emrich – Yes
S. Gannon – Yes
K. Lawrence-Webster – Yes
D. Middleton – Yes
M. Nash – Yes
M. Rowley – Yes
M. Thomas – Yes

Motion passed unanimously.

The Board went into closed session at 8:04 p.m.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Board returned to open session at 8:21 p.m.

Board Chair Middleton said that the Board is returning to open session after discussion of the specific pending litigation Mr. Sunshine and Jason Andrich v Delta College Board of Trustees, Saginaw County 20-043053 CZ. The Board is taking no action.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Board Chair Middleton adjourned the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

Andrea Ursuy, Board Secretary