

**Delta College**  
**Board of Trustees Regular Meeting**  
**Virtually via Zoom (1-929-205-6099 Webinar ID 885 9503 1771)**  
**Held virtually in accordance with Public Act 254 of 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic**  
**Tuesday, February 9, 2021**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**BOARD PRESENT** A. Baldwin, M. Benecke, A. Buckley, R. Emrich, S. Gannon, D. Middleton, M. Nash, M. Rowley, M. Thomas

**OTHERS PRESENT** D. Allen, A. Bair, N. Bovid, V. Braxton, L. Brown, T. Brown, J. Carroll, P. Clark, A. Covile, A. Cramer, M. Crawmer, R. Curley, R. Curry, C. Curtis, A. Dickinson, J. Dorcey, S. DuFresne, A. Elias, D. Fairchild, J. Foco, P. Fox, M. Fuerst, J. Garn, D. Giuliani, J. Goodnow, L. Govitz, S. Harrison, B. Haynes, K. Jacques, G. Johnson, S. Lewless, D. McQuiston, K. Rische, S. Roche, E. Roth, K. Schuler, S. Shinkel, C. Thomas, C. Tucker, A. Ursuy, J. Young

**PRESS PRESENT** None

**CALL TO ORDER** Board Chair Nash read a meeting overview at 7:03 p.m.

“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 254 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 NOT to 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.

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, 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."

Board Chair Nash 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 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  
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 Nash called for approval of the agenda.

R. Emrich made a motion to approve the agenda. M. Thomas 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

D. Middleton – Yes  
M. Nash – Yes  
M. Rowley – Yes  
M. Thomas – Yes

Motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Board Chair, M. Nash, called for public comment.

C. Curtis, DCFA President and Midland County resident thanked the Board, especially Board Chair Nash and Committee Chair Benecke, for the collaborative approach to searching for a new president.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

S. DuFresne said that the Board has received the financial statements for the month ended January 31, 2021. She said she has reviewed the information with the College Controller and the College is coming in about 2.5% under budget for tuition and fee revenue. Spring is not billed yet. The College is over budget in revenue from State aid by \$2 million as we did not see the cut that was originally anticipated. The College is trending under budget in student wage expenses. S. DuFresne said that our endowment fund is currently valued at \$31.7 million (in comparison to \$26.6 million at this time last year).

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

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  
D. Middleton – Yes  
M. Nash – Yes  
M. Rowley – Yes  
M. Thomas – Yes

The consent agenda passed unanimously resulting in:

Acceptance of Minutes:

1. Board Special Meeting, DEI Committee, January 7, 2021
2. Board Regular Meeting, January 12, 2021
3. Board Special Meeting, January 25, 2021
4. Board Special Meeting, Vacancy Committee, January 27, 2021

Acceptance of Closed Meeting Minutes:

1. January 25, 2021, Special Meeting

**APPOINTMENT OF SAGINAW COUNTY TRUSTEE**

R. Emrich said that on February 2 and 3, the Vacancy Committee (comprised of Trustee Benecke, Trustee Buckley, Trustee Thomas, and Trustee Emrich) met to

(BA5365)

interview six members of the Saginaw Community who applied to fill the vacancy left when Karen Lawrence-Webster resigned from the Board.

The Committee was thankful to have such a rich pool of applicants. Each one put together an application packet with a cover letter, resume, and responses to a set of questions we gave them.

Each candidate was interviewed.

One candidate received unanimous support from the Board Committee as the person we would recommend to you this evening.

R. Emrich said that is the recommendation of the Board Vacancy Committee that the Board of Trustees appoint Ms. Arshen Baldwin for a two-year term commencing this evening and ending December 31, 2022. He asked for a second on his motion.

M. Thomas seconded the motion.

R. Emrich said that Ms. Baldwin is an instructor for Saginaw Public Schools. She also teaches at Saginaw Valley State University as an adjunct instructor and founded Education Empowerment Solutions, a company that provides supplemental instruction, academic assessment, SAT preparation and support for students.

As part of her interview Ms. Baldwin said her vision for Delta is to form greater collaborative partnerships with local school districts in drawing students to dual enrollment and post-secondary education.

“I am invested in the Saginaw County community and always seek opportunities to make it better, not only for my children, but the children I serve daily,” she said.

Ms. Baldwin earned a bachelor’s degree in exercise physiology from Central Michigan University, a master’s degree in special education from the University of Phoenix and a master’s degree in educational leadership from Saginaw Valley State University. She holds several certifications in the areas of learning disabilities and restorative practices.

The members of the committee noted her strong commitment to the community and her passion for student success when she interviewed with us.

M. Rowley thanked the committee for their work.

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  
D. Middleton – Yes  
M. Nash – Yes

M. Rowley – Yes

M. Thomas – Yes

**OATH OF OFFICE – SAGINAW  
COUNTY TRUSTEE**

The motion passed unanimously.

Board Secretary, Andrea Ursuy, administered the oath of office to Arshen Baldwin, Saginaw County Trustee. A. Baldwin was appointed to a two-year term beginning February 9, 2021 and ending December 31, 2022.

**ATTENDANCE – A. BALDWIN**

A. Ursuy asked Trustee Baldwin to indicate her presence, township or city, and county in Michigan from which she was participating in this meeting for the record.

A. Baldwin said that she was participating from Spaulding Township, Saginaw County, Michigan.

**A/P, SUPPORT STAFF,  
CORPORATE SERVICES STAFF,  
AND PRESIDENT  
COMPENSATION  
RECOMMENDATION  
(BA5366)**

It is the recommendation of the Administration that the Board of Trustees approve an increase of 2.3% on base salaries, including the performance management calculation for the Administrative/Professional Staff, Support Staff, and Corporate Services Staff.

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

J. Goodnow made the following comments regarding the recommendation:

“Due to the uncertainty the pandemic would play on our finances at the College, all employees groups that had contract agreements in place for a salary increase beginning July 1, 2020, agreed to wage freezes.

In addition, all other employees that receive annual compensation increases (President, Administrative/ Professional Staff, Support Staff and Delta Corporate Services Staff) were also frozen at the same time. The only exception were the compensation components of the faculty agreement which included promotion, longevity, course work, and experience moved forward on July 1, 2020.

All employees agreed that a freeze would help the College prepare for a very difficult financial situation and they wanted to be part of a solution. Delta committed with both the faculty and maintenance groups that the financial circumstances would be re-evaluated beginning in 2021.

We now have more information than we had in June. We did not receive a reduction in state funding for this fiscal year. Enrollment projections are slightly below our targets, but manageable. In addition, the College has received additional federal funding through COVID-19 stimulus to assist the institution and our students through these trying times. Our current fiscal position is better than we anticipated.

We have reaffirmed our commitment with both the Faculty and Maintenance groups to implement the approved salary agreement language which would

provide for an increase of 2.3% on base salaries. The annualized 2.3% increase will be paid over the remaining pays in the fiscal year beginning with the payroll date of March 5, 2021.”

M. Nash made a motion to amend the original motion and said that he would like to recommend that Dr. Goodnow receive the 2.3% on her base salary, including the performance management calculation.

R. Emrich seconded the motion.

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

A. Baldwin – Yes  
M. Benecke – Yes  
A. Buckley – Yes  
R. Emrich – Yes  
S. Gannon – Yes  
D. Middleton – Yes  
M. Nash – Yes  
M. Rowley – Yes  
M. Thomas – Yes

Motion passed unanimously.

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

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

Motion passed unanimously.

**PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH  
UPDATE**

Search Advisory Committee Chair, M. Benecke, said that the presidential search is moving forward. The Board approved the timeline and search advisory committee membership on January 25, 2021.

Public Forums will be held February 10 and 11 for the purpose of soliciting input to inform the drafting of the Presidential Profile. In addition, members of the community are invited to fill out a survey to provide input. She welcomed all to attend and encouraged participation.

M. Benecke said the first meeting of the search advisory committee will take place next week, February 18, on Zoom with Jill Wakefield of ACCT.

M. Benecke thanked the College staff members who are working to assist with the process including Andrea Ursuy, Kay Schuler, Talisa Brown, Pam Clark and her marketing team, and OIT.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

### **Enrollment Report**

The Winter Semester began on January 9. As of this morning, 6,682 students are registered (1941FT, 4741PT).

We projected 69,078 contact hours for the winter semester and are currently at 96.87% (66,916 contact hours) of projection.

### **Personnel Report**

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

### **Information Sharing**

- Effective February 2021, we have a NEW Articulation Agreement with the University of Michigan - Flint, College of Arts and Sciences

Transfer Guides for two programs in the College of Arts and Sciences were created to implement this articulation agreement:

- Delta's Associate in Science to UM-Flint Bachelor of Science in Green Chemistry
- Delta's Associate in Arts to UM Flint-Bachelor of Science in Psychology.

#### *Benefit to students:*

- *BS in Green Chemistry*
  - *The entire Associate in Science will transfer towards the Bachelor's degree.*
  - *Delta's science and math courses will transfer and apply in the major.*
  - *Students can get involved in research as an undergraduate at UM Flint.*
  - *BS in Green Chemistry prepares students for high demand careers.*
  - *Students will work with a faculty mentor for Green Chemistry.*
- *BS in Psychology*
  - *The entire Associate in Arts, up to 70 credits will transfer.*
  - *21 Delta Psychology credits will transfer and apply toward the major.*
  - *UM - Flint BS program can be completed entirely online or face-to-face.*
  - *Student will be paired with a Psychology faculty mentor.*

*Agreement will have an annual administrative review and will renew in five years.*

- Congratulations to all the recipients of the Endowed Teaching Chair Awards who were recognized last month. They are:
  - Aurelian Balan, Associate Professor, Physics – recipient of Robert DeVinney award for *“Developing New Astronomy Teaching Materials to support Open Source textbooks”*
  - Pete Carlson, Professor, Mathematics – recipient of Robert R. “Dr. Bob” Zimmerman Faculty Professional Development award for *“Teaching Mathematics in a blended, hybrid, or online environment”*
  - Steven Gormley, Instructor, Computer Aided Design – recipient of Donald and Betty Carlyon award for *“Video Tutorials for CNC Waterjet”*
  - Christine Yaroch, Associate Professor, Foreign Languages; Connie Sitter, Adjunct Instructor, Spanish; and Laurence Lacreuse, Adjunct Instructor, French – recipients of Karen MacArthur award for *“Aligning Spanish and French Curriculum with Best Practices in Online and Face-to-Face Learning”*
  
- Congratulations to Renee Hoppe, Professor of Lifelong Wellness; Dr. Kimberly Klein, Professor of Political Science; Dr. Lisa Lawrason, Professor of Political Science; and Andrea Ursuy, Executive Director of Administrative Services and Institutional Effectiveness. All four are recipients of the League Excellence Award. They will be recognized at the League for Innovation in the Community College’s Innovations Conference taking place virtually March 1-4. The excellence awards, previously called the John and Suanne Roueche Excellence Awards, recognize faculty and staff who exemplify exceptional teaching and leadership.
  
- A special town-hall meeting will be held on Friday, February 12, at noon for all faculty and staff. Three Delta faculty will provide background information on the COVID-19 vaccine to help members of the Delta Community determine if getting the vaccine is the best choice for them. Michael Pressler, Associate Professor of Biology; Daisy McQuiston, Associate Professor of Nursing; and Dr. David Bailey, Professor of Biology will offer a discussion panel through Zoom about the safety of mRNA vaccines, the data from the vaccine trials, herd immunity and accessing the vaccine. At the conclusion of the faculty presentation, Dr. Karl Rishe will answer any questions specifically related to the Delta College vaccination clinic. They will conduct another town hall on Friday, February 19, specifically for our students. This information along with the meeting link will be sent out on the Delta-L tomorrow.
  
- Ben Nemtin, best-selling author, will be speaking virtually on Wednesday, February 17, at 7:00pm as part of the President’s Speaker Series. Mr. Nemtin and his three childhood friends started *The Buried Life* in 2006. They made a list of *“100 things to do before you die”* and for every list item they accomplished, they helped a stranger cross something off their bucket list. Since then, they have published a New York Times best-selling book, made a TV show based on their project and crossed off 91 of 100 dreams. Ben and



his friends are currently filming The Buried Life documentary film. Kay will be sure to send you the link so you can register for this event.

- Dr. Goodnow said that she, Pam Clark, and three of our Trustees have been attending many sessions as part of the ACCT's National Legislative Summit that started yesterday and continues through tomorrow. Representatives from the College will also be in a meeting with senior members of Senator Debbie Stabenow's Washington, DC staff which is scheduled for Friday morning.
- The Achieving the Dream Conference will be taking place virtually February 16-19. Thirty-four individuals from Delta are registered to participate in this inspiring event. Delta has been designated as a Leader College which means we need to provide the data to show student success.

## TRUSTEE COMMENTS

S. Gannon congratulated A. Baldwin on her appointment and said the Board looks forward to working with her. She also congratulated the other candidates that expressed interest in the vacancy and thanked the Vacancy Committee for their work.

S. Gannon said she was very impressed with Delta's vaccination site.

A. Buckley welcomed Ms. Baldwin to the Board. He said he looks forward to everything she will bring to the Board. He thanked her for serving her community.

D. Middleton expressed her gratitude to M. Nash, M. Benecke, and the College staff who are working on the presidential search.

D. Middleton said she is attending the ACCT National Legislative Summit this week. She said the Federal landscape is demonstrated renewed excitement for community colleges, although it is tempered by the challenges we face due to COVID. She said she believes that there is synergy between community colleges and lawmakers to support students and get through this together.

D. Middleton said that on February 11, the Midland Business Alliance will host the annual "State of the Business Community" event on Zoom. She said that it will highlight the challenges and victories that our community has faced this year. In addition, Delta College will be recognized for expanding in the community with the new Downtown Midland Center.

M. Benecke congratulated and welcomed Trustee Baldwin to the Board. She thanked R. Emrich for his leadership on the Vacancy Committee. She also said "great news" about the new articulation agreements with U of M.

M. Rowley thanked R. Emrich and M. Benecke for their leadership on the two special committees. He also thanked M. Nash for getting the presidential search process moving. He welcomed Trustee Baldwin to the Board.

M. Thomas welcomed Arshen. She said that the Board is happy to have Trustee Baldwin and is looking forward to her contributions.

M. Thomas said she is excited to be participating in the search committee for the next president of Delta College. She added that the U of M partnership is awesome.

R. Emrich welcomed Trustee Baldwin to the Board and challenged her to help Delta College serve our Saginaw population.

R. Emrich said he is attending the ACCT National Legislative Summit and said that it has been a great experience so far. He added that he is seeing tremendous bipartisan support for community colleges.

R. Emrich thanked the members of the Vacancy Committee. He also thanked Talisa Brown, Kay Schuler, and Andrea Ursuy for helping to facilitate the process.

A. Baldwin thanked the Board for the appointment. She said she is excited to serve her community, adding that education is the vehicle out of poverty. She told R. Emrich that she “accepts his challenge.”

#### **CHAIR COMMENTS**

Chair Nash welcomed Trustee Baldwin to the Board. He thanked the members of the Vacancy Committee and all of the applicants who came forward to apply for the position.

Chair Nash thanked R. Curry, A. Bair, and N. Elder for their great presentation regarding the STEM Explorer.

Chair Nash thanked M. Benecke for her leadership on the Presidential Search Advisory Committee. He also thanked Andrea, Talisa, and Kay for their help with the process.

Chair Nash also noted that bipartisan support for community colleges that is evident through the ACCT Legislative Summit program.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Board Chair Nash adjourned the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

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Andrea Ursuy, Board Secretary