

**Delta College**  
**Board of Trustees Special Meeting**  
**Virtually via Zoom (1-989-205-6099 Webinar ID 858 2632 9250)**  
**Held virtually in accordance with Public Act 254 of 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic**  
**(Due to declaration of a Local State of Emergency by the Bay County Executive on April 6, 2021 and**  
**Bay County Board of Commissioners resolution No. 2021-59 on April 13, 2021, extending the**  
**Local Emergency Order for a three-month period to expire on July 13, 2021.)**  
**Tuesday, June 8, 2021**  
**7:00 pm**

<b>Board Present</b>	A. Baldwin, M. Benecke, A. Buckley, R. Emrich, S. Gannon, D. Middleton, M. Nash, M. Rowley, M. Thomas
<b>Board Absent</b>	None
<b>Others Present</b>	D. Allen, A. Bair, D. Baskind, N. Bovid, T. Brown, D. Carlyon, J. Carroll, T. Caylor, A. Cheek, P. Clark, S. Clauss, M. Crawmer, C. Curtis, A. Dickinson, S. DuFresne, A. Elias, P. Fox, J. Garn, D. Giuliani, J. Goodnow, L. Govitz, W. Harness, S. Harrison, C. Horn, M. Irving, D. Johnson, S. Kontranowski, C. Kramer, S. Lewless, M. McGhee, D. McQuiston, M. Pratt, G. Przygocki, W. Ramirez, P. Randall, S. Raube, K. Rishe, S. Shinkel, K. Schuler, G. Teter, B. Tucker, A. Ursuy, J. Wakefield, B. Webb, C. Wilson
<b>Press Present</b>	R. Antonio (WSGW), R. Murdock (MLive)
<b>Call to Order</b>	Board Chair, M. Nash read a meeting overview at 7:01 pm.

Good 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 254 of 2020) which permits a public body to meet by electronic or telephonic means upon declaration of a local state of emergency if meeting in person would place at risk the personal health or safety of members of the public or members of the public body. On April 6, 2021, the County Executive of Bay County declared a Local State of Emergency. On April 13, 2021, the Bay County Board of Commissioners issued resolution No. 2021-59, extending the Local Emergency Order for a three-month period to expire on July 13, 2021.

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, M. Nash called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

**Board Member Attendance**

Each Trustee indicated their presence, township or city, county and state in which they were participating in this meeting.

- A. Baldwin – Present, Spaulding Township, Saginaw County, Michigan
- M. Benecke – Present, Frankenlust Township, Bay County, Michigan
- A. Buckley – Present, City of Midland, Midland County, Michigan
- R. Emrich – Present, Saginaw Township, Saginaw County, Michigan
- S. Gannon – Present, Jerome Township, Midland County, Michigan
- D. Middleton – Present, City of Midland, Midland County, Michigan
- M. Nash – Present, Larkin Township, Midland County, Michigan
- M. Rowley – Present, Hampton Township, Bay County, Michigan
- M. Thomas – Present, City of Atlanta, Fulton County, Georgia

**Approval of  
Agenda**

Board Chair, M. Nash, called for the approval of the agenda. S. Gannon made a motion to approve the agenda. M. Thomas seconded the motion.

The results of the roll call vote 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.

**Public Comment**

Board Chair, M. Nash called for public comment.

**Deliberate and  
Select First Choice  
Candidate – Delta  
College President  
(BA5393)**

Board Chair, M. Nash started with a brief summary of the process that has been followed thus far for the presidential search. He also expressed a huge thank you to everyone who has been involved along the way.

J. Wakefield, from ACCT, began by saying that she has been highly impressed by everyone that she has met from Delta, including employees, staff, students and Board Members. She did confirm that all of the candidates are still interested in the position. She also noted that there were no red flags discovered during the background checks for any of the candidates.

Board Chair, M. Nash asked each Trustee to provide one or two strengths for each finalist in order of the interviews (Dr. Ty Stone, Dr. Reva Curry and Dr. Michael Gavin).

To narrow the discussion and ensure that time focused on the candidate(s) with the most support, Board Chair, M. Nash asked each Trustee to rank each candidate by how well they met the presidential profile. Their first choice would receive 5 points, second choice, 3 points; and third choice, 1 point. The Trustees viewed the results of the ranking (not an official vote) to see which candidates had more support. The ranking resulted in Dr. Reva Curry receiving 9 points, Dr. Michael Gavin receiving 37 points and Dr. Ty Stone receiving 35 points. The Board Members engaged in an open discussion about the candidates before taking an official vote.

M. Rowley made a motion to offer the position of President for Delta College to Dr. Michael Gavin, subject to a successful negotiation of a contract and a virtual or physical visit to his current community college. R. Emrich seconded the motion.

Trustees offered further support for each of the two candidates, Dr. Michael Gavin and Dr. Ty Stone.

The results of the roll call vote 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 – No

Motion passed.

**Direct the Board Chair, Working with Counsel, to Negotiate Terms and Conditions to be Approved by the Board (BA5394)**

R. Emrich made a motion to direct the Board Chair working with counsel and the Board Treasurer, to negotiate terms and conditions of the presidential contract to be approved by the Board. M. Benecke seconded the motion.

The results of the roll call vote 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.

**Trustee Comments**

M. Rowley noted that if needed he would be willing to do an in person visit to Dr. Michael Gavin's current community college. He thanked everyone for all the feedback, every candidate that applied, his fellow Trustees for their hard work as well as Board Chair Nash. He also thanked M. Benecke and the Presidential Search Advisory Committee, the whole community, ACCT and everyone else who made this process much easier.

R. Emrich noted that there is still one issue that needs to be addressed in the contract, the Farmhouse.

S. Gannon thanked all participants who gave feedback as it was incredibly important. No matter what your role (faculty, staff, etc.) everyone played a part in this very important decision. She thanked the IT department for all of their work. She also shared her appreciation to Board Chair, M. Nash for his dedication and leadership in this endeavor as well as M. Benecke, M. Thomas and Dr. Wakefield and her team. She thanked Dr. Goodnow and noted that although her work isn't done yet she will leave an incredible legacy. S. Gannon thanked all of the candidates and especially the finalists as they are tremendous people who openly shared their love, support and dedication to this endeavor as well as the College. Finally, she congratulated the Lady Pioneers for winning the national championship in soccer.

A. Buckley thanked all the candidates that applied and the community for all of their public comments. He said that it has been a lengthy process and that everyone's help was greatly appreciated. He also thanked Trustee Benecke, Trustee Thomas and Trustee Nash for their leadership as well as Dr. Wakefield. Finally, he thanked President Goodnow, noting we have some big shoes to fill.

D. Middleton said that this is a bittersweet process in recruiting a new President. She also noted that Dr. Goodnow is leaving a wonderful legacy for Delta College. In reviewing all the materials and notes that she has, she came across a quote from one of the candidates that she shared with the Board, "It is our moral imperative to ensure that those who are disadvantaged can succeed." She asked that we keep that in mind as we move forward noting that Delta's future is looking bright.

M. Thomas gave thanks for all the feedback that was received. She said that our work is not done but just beginning. She is hopeful that Dr. Michael Gavin will accept. She asked that everyone be empathetic to our own internal candidate. We need to build and make sure that we come together as one unit again. Finally, she thanked everyone for all the work that has been done.

M. Benecke also said that the work is just starting. She appreciated the dedication and the joy that this Board brings to the work they do for Delta College and she is looking forward to it. She also thanked Dr. Wakefield.

**Chair Comments**

M. Nash also emphasized that the work is just now starting. He noted that the Board really came together during this time and worked as a unit. In the process we have gotten to know each other better and have built off one another's strengths. We will need to keep that energy moving with the onboarding of the new President and forming that vision going forward. He said that there will be several more special board meetings coming up. He asked Trustees to be flexible in their schedules moving forward with the President coming on board. M. Nash noted that all of the candidates will be notified this evening following the meeting. Finally, he thanked all the Trustees and the community.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Board Chair, M. Nash adjourned the meeting at 8:16 pm.

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Talisa Brown, Assistant Board Secretary