



Southwestern Michigan College Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 13, 2024

Room 134, Niles Campus

General Business

Members of the Southwestern Michigan College Board of Trustees met on November 13, 2024 for a regularly scheduled meeting.

The meeting was convened at 8:00 a.m. by Board Chairman Tom Jerdon. Becky Moore will act as acting secretary in the absence of Beth Cripe. No objections were made.

Members Present: Tom Jerdon, Becky Moore, Tracy Hertsel, Dr. Elaine Foster, Skip Dyes

Members Absent: Beth Cripe, Todd Obren

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes of the October 9, 2024 regular convened meeting required no changes and were placed on file.

Dr. Elaine Foster moved, seconded by Tracy Hertsel, to amend the agenda with the addition of item 4C – Possible Solar Development Tax Revenue. Motion passed unanimously.

One individual was recognized for their service at the College:

Dr. Don Ricker was recognized for his years of service and Trustee Becky Moore presented him with a 10-year pin.

Public Input

No individuals requested public input.

Other

The Treasurer's Report for the month ending October 31, 2024 was received and placed on file.

Michelle Kite, Interim Chief Financial Officer, presented the Quarterly Financial Report for the quarter ending September 30, 2024. The presentation included a review of the balance sheet, revenue and expense quarterly comparisons.

Dr. Odenwald gave his President's Report reminding the Board that it is now only one month until the end of the fall semester, and sharing updates on the various sport team accomplishments. The fall band and choir events were outstanding and the Holiday Concert is scheduled for December 7th at 7:30 pm.

SMC's 60th Anniversary Founder's Day event was a success. The Senior Leadership Team is progressing in a positive direction and the HLC Team continues progress on its affirmation argument due on June 30th.

January 8, 2025 was proposed as a Strategic Planning Meeting date to be followed that same day by a

regular meeting. Items on the agenda will include the College Scorecard, Economic Impact Study and presentation of the final construction drawings and bids for the Athletic, Band and Choir improvements.

Discussion Items

Trustees reviewed the list of gifts given to the Foundation, with seven individual donations for a grand total of \$14,825.

Chairman Tom Jerdon advised the Board of the solar fields that are being developed and projected to come to the College District including, Hamilton Township in Van Buren County as well as Marcellus and Volinia Townships in Cass County. Chairman Jerdon asked Interim Chief Financial Officer Michelle Kite to obtain any follow-up tax revenue information that might be available.

Action Items

Kenley Penner, CPA, Partner, Plante & Moran, PLLC presented the results of the College Audit Report of the Annual Financial Statements for the Year Ended June 30, 2024. The College was given a "clean, unmodified opinion" signifying the best assurance rating. Mr. Penner thanked Interim Chief Financial Officer Michelle Kite, Controller Stephanie Lyons and staff for their cooperation and assistance with the audit process.

Tracy Hertsel moved, seconded by Dr. Elaine Foster, that the Board of Trustees receive the College Audit Report of the Annual Financial Statements for the Year Ended June 30, 2024. Motion passed unanimously.

Becky Moore moved, seconded by Tracy Hertsel, to adopt the Fiscal Year 2026 Five Year Capital Outlay Master Plan shown in attachment 5B. Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Elaine Foster moved, seconded by Skip Dyes, to accept with gratitude the gifts shown in attachment 5C, with two individual donations to the College in the amount of \$405. Motion passed unanimously.

Review of Follow-up Requests

No follow-up requests were made of the administration.

Trustee Dyes informed the Board that Dan Stenberg, who was a longtime faculty and administrator at SMC, had passed in August of 2024. This had gone without notice and will be recognized by Dr. Odenwald.

Adjournment

Dr. Elaine Foster moved to adjourn at 9:11 a.m. Skip Dyes seconded. Passed unanimously.

Becky Moore, Acting Secretary

Thomas F. Jerdon, Chairman