



Southwestern Michigan College Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 12, 2025
Room 2112, David C. Briegel Building
8 a.m. Regular Meeting

General Business

Members of the Southwestern Michigan College Board of Trustees met on March 12, 2025 for a regularly scheduled meeting.

The meeting was convened at 8:00 a.m. by Board Chairman Tom Jerdon.

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

Members Absent: Beth Cripe, Todd Obren

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes of the February 12, 2025 regular convened meeting and the February 26, 2025 special meeting required no changes and were placed on file.

Tracy Hertsel moved, seconded by Dr. Elaine Foster, to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Input

One individual requested and was given an opportunity for public input: Julie Dye.

Other

The Treasurer's Report for the month ending February 28, 2025 was received and placed on file.

Dr. Odenwald gave his President's Report. He spoke first about the success of the Grady Scholarship Program. This was followed by comparisons between current and five years ago, at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. SMC has seen improvements in the following areas:

- Recovery of enrollment losses caused by COVID-19 including six straight semesters of enrollment improvement.
- The movement from 0% to 25% of contact hours fully online.
- The three-year return of athletics and awards and titles achieved.
- The addition of 36 dorm beds without additional college debt.
- The doubling of the budget stabilization fund.
- Retention, persistence, and graduation rates higher.

Additional capital projects including a modern chemistry lab at the Niles campus, renovated 1st Source Fieldhouse, wrestling center, upgrades to the Lyons Building, adjacent acreage added and enhanced technologies.

Career Development Office preparing students for post-college success.

Institutional Advancement Office generating support for the foundation and the college.

Discussion Items

Trustees reviewed the list of gifts given to the Foundation, with twelve individual donations for a grand total in the amount of \$10,525.

Action Items

Dr. Elaine Foster moved, seconded by Tracy Hertsel, to approve the Credential in Certified Medication Aide program. Motion passed unanimously.

Becky Moore moved, seconded by Skip Dyes, to accept with gratitude the gifts to the College shown in attachment 5B, with two individual donations to the College in the amount of \$600. Motion passed unanimously.

Review of Follow-up Requests

No follow-up requests were made of the administration.

Adjournment

Tracy Hertsel moved to adjourn at 8:27 a.m. Skip Dyes seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Becky Moore, Acting Secretary

Thomas F. Jerdon, Chairman

Proposed - to be approved April 9, 2025