

Miles Community College
Board of Trustees
Minutes
September 28, 2020

The Board of Trustees of Miles Community College met in regular session at 5:30 p.m., September 28, 2020, via Zoom/face to face. The following Trustees were present: Ryan Jones, Sue Morlock, Debbie Morford, Jeff Okerman, Garret McFarland, Jamie Ogolin, and Tara Andrews. The following Trustees were excused: none. Also present were President Ron Slinger, Candy Laney, Richard DeShields, Kylene Phipps, Erin Niedege, Rita Kratky, Nancy Aaberge, Jerry Olson, Garth Sleight, Jay Wiebers, Pauline Flotkoetter and Star Reporter Ashley Wise.

Chair Ryan Jones called the meeting to order at 5:41 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

IMPORTANT DATES: President Slinger discussed the following: ACCT Leadership Congress will be via Zoom and he will be attending multiple sessions in his office. We will not have individual committee meetings in October due to the Board of Trustee retreat on October 20.

REPORTS:

- A. Enrollment Services:** In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, Dean of Enrollment Management and Educational Support Services Erin Niedege, reported on the following: We have concluded two weeks of our virtual online college fairs with South Dakota coming up next week. Montana used a different vender from the other states. She has not been pleased with the lead generation from this vendor.
- B. Student Engagement:** In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, Dean of Student Engagement & Auxiliary Services Richard DeShields reported on the following: We are moving forward with student involvement and will announce our new ASMCC Student Officers next week. Dining and housing numbers are strong. We have more students than we budgeted for this year for our dining program, however we will have 80 students who will end their meal plan at Thanksgiving and 64 will continue through the end of the semester.
- D. Administrative Services and HR:** In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, Dean of Administrative Services and HR Kylene Phipps reported on the following: Elizabeth Patton has been hired as the Director of Institutional Advancement and will begin October 1. We are completing the final portion of our roofing projects. In the Academic Affairs report, VP Kratky announced we received the Governor's GEER Grant for the paramedic partnership with Flathead Community College. Our facilities department is currently looking at space in the Career Technical building and making plans for the remodel to accommodate this program.
- E. Academic Affairs:** In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, Vice President of Academic Affairs Rita Kratky reported on the following: We have reached a milestone with the NCLEX and Nursing program. We will be over the 80% pass rate benchmark for the NCLEX. We did receive a GEER grant with FVCC to move forward with the paramedicine partnership in the spring. In October we will report the amount of funds received through the Perkins Reserve grant.
- F. Athletic Report:** In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, Athletic Director Olson reported on the following: Rodeo is the only sport competing this fall, however other teams will have scrimmages throughout the semester. The Rodeo team attended their first rodeo on September 11 and 12 at Cody, WY. Cruz McNulty finished 2nd in the bareback both Friday and Saturday. Olivia Grimsley finished 6th in barrel racing. They traveled to Dillon on September 18 and 19. Cruz McNulty won the bareback. Baseball held their alumni game the weekend of September 12 and ended up splitting the doubleheader. Over 40 alumni players came back for the weekend. September 19 and 20 they played AAU teams and won all 8 games. Softball went to Gillette and played AAU teams and won their three games with 9 home runs. Volleyball has been performing very well in their scrimmages. Basketball has not yet started scrimmaging. MonDak will meet again in January to discuss COVID details.

G. President's Report: In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, President Slinger reported on the following: Fundraising is continuing for the meat processing program. Community college funding formula passed through the Legislative Finance committee 9 to 3. It is still an FTE based formula which leaves a lot of concern. It also has four different tracking mechanisms, CTE, Transfer, Dual Enrollment taught by us, and Dual Enrollment taught by high schools. Good news is that this funding formula will not go into effect until FY 25. We have time to run these next two years numbers so we can show the legislators how this funding formula will work. Board retreat will be held on October 20 in room 106. Foundation is working on revamping their loan for the Ag Advancement Center. The new loan will combine the existing loan balance for the building with new money for the purchase of the BLM land. This new loan will extend the maturity date and lower the interest rate. Commissioner Christians from OCHE sent a memo to MUS universities and colleges indicating they will be using spring break as instructional time and will not take a break. We are going to be surveying our faculty and getting as much input from the entire campus before bringing this to our Trustees.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Trustee Morlock moved to approve the August consent agenda. Trustee Ogolin seconded the motion. Motion passed.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A. Fall Enrollment Update:** Dean Niedege discussed enrollment numbers as of today. We are at 409 compared to 424 at census last year. We are down 3.4% FTE, which is much better than the 10% we were budgeting for. Despite FTE being down, head count is up .5% with 3 more students than last year. Dean Niedege feels that enrollment numbers are pandemic related. Our overall retention rate is down a little at 52% compared to 55% last year. She is very pleased with our retention numbers. A lot of hard work was done by MCC staff and faculty advisors.
- B. Nursing Program Update:** VP Kratky reported out of 27 graduates, 25 have tested thus far and will have the remaining students test by November. The NCLEX pass rate will be over 80%. We will have an update with the State Board of Nursing in October via conference call. We will also be moving forward with our ACEN process. ACEN will have their final decision in spring of 2022. We will have two graduating classes that the ACEN additional accreditation can be retroactive for.
- C. COVID 19 Update:** Dean DeShields reported we have been pleasantly supported by our students, faculty, and staff with everyone wearing masks/face coverings. We are monitoring illnesses and managing those student cases. We will continue to assess the differing needs with athletics. We are still at 75% occupancy for events on campus. We are doing surveillance testing, which means we are just testing people who are symptomatic or have been exposed to COVID, so we do not overwhelm the state labs. The county currently has 12 active cases and we do not want to impact the county any more than necessary. We are adding extra precautions with our athletes.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- A. Chair Report:** Trustee Ogolin said the committee discussed the budget, expenses were trending as usual with no concerns. Stimulus funding is coming in and needs to be spent by December 31. There will be General Fund expenses that can be reimbursed with these funds. Discussed the Proximity Card Lock System.
- B. Old Business:** None
- C. New Business:** Proximity Card Lock System for Campus Resolution: Dean Phipps said she would like to bring this resolution forward for first reading and consideration for the purchase and installation of a keyless lock system. The proximity card lock system will allow us to manage the system remotely and allow us to reduce risk exposure. This system will provide people with cards or fobs instead of keys. This project will cost approximately \$55,143. We will initially purchase and install this through the building fee fund and plan to submit it to the CARES Higher Education Relief Fund for reimbursement. Additionally, this project supports our Facilities Strategic Plan by updating the lock system which has also been identified as one of the priority projects on campus.

HUMAN RESOURCE COMMITTEE:

- A. **Chair Report:** Trustee McFarland said that they discussed staffing, policies that will be coming to Trustees in the near future, and discussed the key lock system.
- B. **Old Business:** None
- C. **New Business:** None

QUALITY AND ADVOCACY:

- A. **Chair Report:** Trustee Ogolin said the committee was updated on response to COVID, Nursing program and ACEN accreditation, legislative update on funding model.

ACADEMIC CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Academic Consent Items: VP Kratky discussed the changes to the academic consent items.

Trustee McFarland moved to accept the academic consent agenda items. Trustee Andrews seconded the motion. Motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Trustees went into Executive Session at 6:51 p.m.

Trustees reconvened the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

Trustee Jones adjourned the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: VA, AAC update from Foundation, Student conduct Process & BIT, Anne Anderson and the Learning Center: Trustee Morlock would like to know more about volleyball and softball and have a chance to have coaches come in.

The next regular Board of Trustee meeting will be held on Monday October 26, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in room 106 and/or Zoom.

Chair

Secretary