

Miles Community College
Board of Trustees
Minutes
June 28, 2021

The Board of Trustees of Miles Community College met in regular session at 5:30 p.m., June 28, 2021, in room 106. The following Trustees were present: Ryan Jones, Jeff Okerman, Debbie Morford, Jamie Ogolin, and Jenna Janshen. The following Trustees were excused: Garret McFarland, and Tara Andrews. Also present were President Ron Slinger, Candy Laney, Kylene Phipps, Erin Niedge, Richard DeShields, Rita Kratky, Jerry Olson, Jay Wiebers, Darin Spence, Diedre FitzGerald, Garth Sleight, Molly Magestro, Elizabeth Patten, and Star Reporter Carol Rangel.

Chair Ryan Jones called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

IMPORTANT DATES: President Slinger discussed the following: We are taking a team to Transco for a tour of their facility on June 30. President Slinger will be attending the Mountain States Association of Community Colleges conference in Denver on July 8 - 10. The MCC Trustee retreat is scheduled on July 13 at the Town & Country Club. President Slinger introduced Head Women's Basketball Coach Darin Spence.

REPORTS:

- A. Enrollment Services:** In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, Dean of Enrollment Management and Educational Support Services Erin Niedge reported on the following: Their office is busy gearing up for fall travel and recruitment. They are looking forward to face-to-face college fairs. An Equine program commercial with Brett Badgett is now airing and Dean Niedge just signed off on the IT program commercial with Nancy Swope.
- 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 have had an increase in our housing occupancy numbers and are currently at 107 students vs 113 students at the same time last year. Two years ago, we brought forward our budget model to create opportunities to purchase furniture for the residence hall. Last year, due to COVID, we held off on purchasing the furniture. We have now purchased a full set of beds, which will be installed prior to students arriving to campus this fall. Three CABA baseball teams and wrestlers who are attending a wrestling camp will be staying in our residence hall this summer. Skyfactor, which is a company of the MacMillan Learning Corporation, has announced seven winners of the 2021 Assessment and Impact Award in Housing from colleges and universities around the country. MCC was one of the seven institutions selected out of the 300 colleges and universities who participate in the benchmark survey. After extensive research regarding student contract modalities, we will be piloting a new text messaging program allowing us to send texts to students to quickly inform students about campus activities. This does not serve as an emergency communication platform. The college uses RAVE as their emergency communication platform.
- C. 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: This summer we have brought back the professional development days for employees. These sessions are being conducted by MUS Employee Assistant Program staff. Title IX training has been scheduled for July 19 and 20. This training will meet our annual Title IX training requirements. We have been working with OCHE and have submitted seven proposals for consideration in regards to the American Rescue Plan Act for potential funding for either capital improvement or waste water projects. We will keep an eye on our prioritization process with our projects and OCHE. Our new automated camera system to livestream events in the Centra will be installed this week. We are still working through our COVID Cares funding and upgrading classrooms.
- D. Academic Affairs:** In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, Vice President of Academic Affairs Rita Kratky reported on the following: VP Kratky gave an update on grants they are working on with Elizabeth Patten and Nancy Aaberge. They are also working on the fall faculty and staff days schedule.
- E. Athletic Report:** In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, Athletic Director Olson reported on the following: AD Olson and Dean DeShields traveled to the CNFR with two of our students who were contestants. Sylvan LaCross has been hired as the new rodeo coach. The Pioneer Golf Scramble is scheduled on August 21. Softball player Autumn Porter was named to the Second

Team All-American. Baseball player Dawson Parry was named to the First Team All-American and NJCAA Player of the Year. AD Olson discussed athletic team GPAs.

- F. President's Report:** In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, President Slinger reported on the following: President Slinger has held 31 one-on-one meetings with employees, with 9 more scheduled and 26 left to schedule. Dickinson State University team visited MCC and discussed opportunities and pathways for our students. The Executive Team has identified topics for the Trustee retreat on July 13.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A. Summer/Fall Enrollment Update:** Dean Niedege said the summer end-of-term enrollment numbers are down about 5.5% and running approximately 59 FTE. Fall enrollment, as of today, is just shy of 143 FTE. Enrollment is tracking down for fall. SOAR was well attended, but there were a number of students that had holds on their accounts so we should see an 8 or 9 headcount bump once those are removed. Freshmen nursing students have not registered yet. We are relatively on track from last year with new first-time transfers and returning readmit students. Compared to 2019 our enrollment is still down. We do have more applications this year compared to prior years. Student Services staff is working diligently to have these students sign-up to attend SOAR and register.
- B. Nursing Update:** Admissions for the new Fall 2021 Nursing class was held with 31 invitations being extended. Two out of our 29 Nursing graduates have taken their NCLEX test and passed. We still have one student with a T grade that should be converted into a final grade next week. Nursing Program Director Deidre FitzGerald and VP Kratky met with the Rosebud Medical Clinic staff in Forsyth. They discussed Rosebud Medical Center becoming a clinical site for our Nursing students. They visited City College in Billings to get some ideas of how their Nursing program is using the state curriculum, the CRRNs, and utilizing their simulation labs. They also met with St. John's staff in Billings and toured their facility. SBON quarterly meeting will be held virtually in July. Nursing Program Director FitzGerald is working very diligently on the reports that will be submitted for the SBON site visit. Katrina Luther and Rose Mary Malloy are working with our 2021 Nursing graduates to study for the NCLEX. A large percentage of our Nursing students do take the practice exam; however, once the students have graduated, we are unable to make this mandatory.
- C. Institutional Advancement Update:** Elizabeth Patten discussed the donations received through the Foundation. She also discussed scholarship balances and scholarships that have been established.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- A. Chair Report:** Trustee Ogolin reported the budget is on track with no concerns. We will owe a reversion; however, we do not know what the reversion amount will be. We were also presented with the 2022 budget.
- B. Old Business:** None
- C. New Business:**
- a. **Motor Pool Vehicle Purchase Resolution:** Trustee Ogolin said there is a proposal to replace the 2013 Ford Edge fleet vehicle with a 2019 Ford Edge. We are asking Trustees to waive the second reading.

Trustee Ogolin moved to waive second reading. Trustee Morford seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Trustee Morford moved to approve the Motor Pool Vehicle Purchase resolution. Trustee Ogolin seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

HUMAN RESOURCE COMMITTEE:

- A. Chair Report:** Trustee Okerman reported the committee was briefed on staffing, Trustees were notified that the Trustee Self Evaluation survey was sent today, and the President's performance evaluation has been collected.
- B. Old Business:**

C. New Business:

- a. **Faculty Master Agreement (first reading):** Dean Phipps said representatives from the MCC Faculty Association and the Administration met on May 17 and 18 to negotiate the Faculty Master Agreement for Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023. The parties agreed that all working conditions and terms of the Master Agreement shall not be opened, negotiated, or re-bargained with the singular exception that the parties may open, negotiate, or re-bargain for changes in the terms of the Master Agreement that are set forth in the Appendix A – Salary Schedule. MCC Faculty Association President Molly Magestro attended via Zoom if there were any questions. Dean Phipps discussed the changes that were agreed upon.

QUALITY AND ADVOCACY:

- A. **Chair Report:** Trustee Okerman said the committee was briefed on a number of items. HB 102 and the legal challenge is ongoing. President Slinger had meetings with staff members from US Senator Tester’s office. MSUB Chancellor Hicswa visited campus and discussed partnerships between the two colleges. Dickinson State University visited the campus to also discuss potential partnerships and pathways for MCC students. President Slinger met with Transco staff. He also talked about the Montana Chamber of Commerce workforce development proposal, touched on the nursing program, and also talked about the Board of Trustees retreat agenda.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. VP Kratky discussed the items on the consent agenda. The CDL program fee and Nursing Testing fee increases are both in reflection to the increases of the program operations as well as increases from our supplier for services.

Trustee Okerman moved to accept the Academic Affairs Consent agenda. Trustee Ogolin seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Trustees went into Executive Session at 7:02 p.m.

Trustee Jones adjourned the meeting at 8:44 p.m.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- A. Athletic Department Strategic Master Plan
- B. MCC Strategic Plan
- C. VA Property
- D. Student Conduct Process & BIT
- E. Presentation by Coaches

The next regular Board of Trustee meeting will be held on Monday, July 26, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. in room 106.

Chair

Secretary