

**Miles Community College
Board of Trustees
Minutes
October 25, 2021**

The Board of Trustees of Miles Community College met in regular session at 5:30 p.m., October 25, 2021, in room 106. The following Trustees were present Ryan Jones, Debbie Morford Garret McFarland, Tara Andrews, and Jenna Janshen. The following Trustees were excused: Jeff Okerman and Jamie Ogolin. Also present were President Ron Slinger, Candy Laney, Kylene Phipps, Richard DeShields, Nancy Aaberge, Deidre FitzGerald, Erin Niedge, Rita Kratky Jerry Olson, Elizabeth Patten, Jay Wiebers, and Star Reporter Ashley Wise.

Chair Ryan Jones called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

IMPORTANT DATES: President Slinger discussed the following: President Slinger attended the ACCT congress and is discussing how to implement some of the items he brought back with the Executive Team. He will be attending the Montana Chamber of Commerce board meeting in Billings. Next week he will be attending the AACC Small Rural College Commission meeting in Arlington, VA. Recognized Dean DeShields for being selected as the 2021 NASPA Region V Community College Professional of the Year award. NASPA (National Association of Student Personnel Administrators) is a large national organization with 13,000 members at 1,400 campuses nationwide, it also serves in 25 countries. Region V includes the state of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Utah, and Canadian provinces of Alberta and British Columbia.

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: Thank the whole enrollment team for their hard work during the College Fairs. Jill Olson, Danielle Dinges and Val Hyatt came back with over 900 leads. College Application weeks wrapped up October 15. Val Hyatt got over 300 applications entered within 24 hours.
- 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 in the midst of adding a lot of events and activities for students including cancer awareness and smoking cessation. On Wednesday they will be hosting a volleyball night in the commons to watch the MCC Volleyball team play in the Region tournament. Richard also discussed the peer health educators' program. We receive a \$5,000 grant through NASPA for programs for our students about chronic health conditions. We have three MCC student peer health educators.
- B.a. ASMCC:** In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, ASMCC President Molly Cockburn reported on the following: ASMCC held a book drive during Welcome Wagon, collecting over 600 books, which were donated to the Miles City Public Library. They also collected over \$700 for the Imagination Library. Indigenous Persons day was held on October 11, with a speaker and 40 people attendees. Campus Activities hosted a trivia night. This week ASMCC will hold the Reverse Trick or Treat. As of today, they have 317 kids signed up for candy delivery. They are also hosting Pumpkin carving tomorrow at the commons for MCC students. Next week they will be having a canned food drive at the first home basketball game. The ASMCC is also working on getting a women's self defense class at the Miles City Wrestling building for MCC students. Student volunteers have been solicited for all the committee across campus. ASMCC is renewing their membership with Montana Associated Student group.
- B.b. Athletic:** In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, Athletic Director Jerry Olson reported on the following: Volleyball goes to play a ranked team Wednesday, the #1 seed in the region. If we win, we will host the next game on Sunday. Basketball begins November 2 at home. Preseason conference tournament will be held at New Town the weekend of November 6.
- C. Administrative Services and HR:** In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, Dean Phipps reported on the following: Dean Phipps discussed the open full-time and part-time staff positions. We are going through a conditions assessment with the Centra roof. Dean Phipps thanked staff, faculty, and students for participating in the IT assessment meetings with our IT consultant Chris Gill, last week.
- 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: Kim Gibbs

and Tina Sackman had a great visit in Bozeman and Missoula regarding our Meat Processing and Ag programs. We will be meeting with faculty members from Flathead Valley regarding the EMT and Paramedicine program. Kim Gibbs helped set-up our AI class on November 3 - 5, which is full.

- E. **President's Report:** In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, President Slinger reported on the following: Highlighted various enrollment initiatives we have going on across the state. We have a partnership with Big Sky High School in Missoula and our meat processing program. Continuing our discussions with Transco regarding management training for their employees. He also discussed conversations we are having with the Montana Health Care industry. Visiting communities with a Grow Your Own campaign with existing staff at hospitals and clinics, and engage local high school pathways into health care. MCC is trying to be a robust partner with our K-12 partners across eastern Montana by President Slinger reaching out to school administrators in the area. Executive team decided to offer free game passes to first responders in the community.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Trustee Andrews moved to approve the consent agenda. Trustee McFarland seconded the motion. Motion passed.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A. **ASMCC Introduction:** Richard DeShields introduced Student Senate members for 2021/2022. Only two of the ASMCC member are returning students.
- B. **Institutional Advancement:** Director of Institutional Advancement Elizabeth Patten reported how they have revamped how the Foundation tracks donations and how they work with donors. They are also working on connecting and engaging with alumni. She also shared successes with the Foundation creating new scholarships. She would like to add more named scholarships to the Foundation. Our first alumni news letter will go out the week of Thanksgiving. Just kicked off another round of fundraising for the AAC, stewardship, and alumni events.
- C. **Nursing Program Update:** President Slinger reported the ACEN accreditation process is in a holding pattern and we should be notified about their decision in April. Currently we are at an 84% pass rate with three students left to take the NCLEX test. MCC received a \$58,000 grant to purchase three simulators for clinical sites in Glendive, Sidney, and St. Johns.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- A. **Chair Report:** Tara said they discussed COVID funding that will be finalized in February. The general fund budget is on target.
- B. **Old Business:** No Old Business
- C. **New Business:** No New Business

HUMAN RESOURCE COMMITTEE:

- A. **Chair Report:** Trustee McFarland reported Chris Gill was the IT consultant and we are waiting for his report. We are looking at November 15 or 16 for the Mini Trustee Retreat. Asked Trustees to contact President Slinger or Candy Laney regarding their availability on those dates.
- B. **Old Business:** No Old Business
- C. **New Business:** No New Business

QUALITY AND ADVOCACY:

- A. **Chair Report:** President Slinger said they had a great enrollment discussion. Senator Tester's staff contacted President Slinger regarding the VA Property. He said that they will reach out to him regarding where they are in the process. President Slinger will let the Trustees know what Senator Tester's staff has to report on the VA property.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- A. Athletic Department Strategic Master Plan
- B. MCC Strategic Plan
- C. VA Property

- D. Presentation by Coaches
- E. Foundation

Adjourned the meeting at 6:29

The next regular Board of Trustee meeting will be held on Monday, November 22, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. in room 106.

Chair

Secretary