

**Miles Community College  
Board of Trustees  
Minutes  
April 25, 2022**

The Board of Trustees of Miles Community College met in regular session at 5:30 p.m., April 25, 2022, in room 106. The following Trustees were present: Jeff Okerman, Jamie Ogolin, Jenna Janshen and Tara Andrews. The following Trustees were excused: Ryan Jones, Debbie Morford, and Garret McFarland. Also present were President Ron Slinger, Kylene Phipps, Richard DeShields, Erin Niedege, Nancy Aaberge, Garth Sleight, Rita Kratky, Jay Wiebers, Elizabeth Patten, John Laney, Tom Albers, Curt Almy, and Star Reporter Ashley Wise.

Vice Chair Jamie Ogolin called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** John Laney presented a proposal for the installation of a Welcome to Miles City sign at the far northwest corner of the Ag Advancement Center and reviewed specs. Trustee Ogolin directed Dean Phipps to work with John Laney to get more details. Kurt Almy discussed the Estate of Robert Gotz, which was set-up in a Trust. With Mr. Gotz sister's recent passing, a check was presented to the Foundation in the amount of \$26,241.35. Elizabeth Patten invited Trustees to the Distinguished Alumni dinner at the Town & Country Club on May 6. Carl D. Mottram has been selected as our Distinguished Alumni this year.

**IMPORTANT DATES:** President Slinger discussed the following: President Slinger invited Trustees to join us at these MCC events: HiSET graduation Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. in the Centra, Nurses Pinning on May 6 at 3:00 p.m. in the Centra, Distinguished Alumni dinner May 6 at 5:30 at the MC Town & Country Club, and Graduation May 7 at 10:00 a.m. in the Centra. President Slinger will be defending his dissertation on Wednesday, April 27.

**REPORTS:**

- A. Enrollment Services:** In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, Dean of Enrollment Management and Educational Services Erin Niedege reported on the following: Dean Niedege said she was very proud of the work and travel that Admissions Counselor Jill Olson has done this spring. Fall enrollment is up about 17% compared to last year at this time. Retention is trending strong. Summer enrollment is down from last year and we are seeing a significant decline in non-degree students for summer. At the May Trustees meeting a report will be given on summer enrollment and a good snapshot of where we are at for fall.
- 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 just wrapping up the year. Housing occupancy is up for next fall, currently sitting at 73 compared to 44 this time last year. Finalizing our summer plans with summer conferences and community sporting events. We are working with facilities on upgrades to the Café with new paint, reupholstering benches, and adding new stations.
- B.a. Student Senate:** Dean DeShields said Student Senate is wrapping up their year. They are finalizing elections tomorrow. Two positions have already been elected: the Vice President is Sierra John and Secretary is Johnathan Thornton. Tomorrow they will be filling the president and treasurer's position. They will be celebrating their end of year on Wednesday with a dinner.
- B. b. Athletics:** Dean DeShields said the baseball team will play Dawson this Wednesday and Bottineau this weekend. We will be hosting the 2022 MonDak conference tournament the weekend of May 6 through May 8 at Denton Field. MCC will be holding their rodeo on May 5 & 6. Cowtown classic raised \$21,870. Most of our groups are on track with their fundraising. The Reverse Raffle raised \$23,500.
- 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: Welcomed Dirk Schmidt back to campus in the IT Manager role. Holly Selk was hired as our Learning Center Instructor. This position is a 10-month contract and she will begin in August. Dean Phipps commended our facilities department for keeping up with all of the snow removal during the last two blizzards, working diligently to keep our sidewalks and parking areas clear and free of any buildup as other employees were working remote.
- 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: We had a very successful visit to Big Sky High School in Missoula regarding the Meat Processing Program as well as our CNA program. VP Kratky and Elizabeth Patten are working on the Perkins grant for next year. They will be submitting the grant

application in May, which should be in the amount of approximately \$93,000 for the CTE programs. Tyler Niedege will take over the role of FAR (Faculty Athletic Representative) next fall.

- E. **President's Report:** In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, President Ron Slinger reported on the following: President Slinger highlighted the official professional accreditation letter from ACEN. He thanked the Nursing staff and faculty for all their hard work in accomplishing this. He also thanked faculty and staff for the work they did with the NWCCU accreditation team. MCC had three commendations for excellent work and three recommendations, which the NWCCU accreditation team Chair knows are already being worked on. This is the lowest number of recommendations the college has ever received.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

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

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

- A. **Introduction of Baseball Team:** Baseball team was introduced.
- B. **Spring Semester Recap:** President Slinger gave a snap shot of the spring semester, which was very successful.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:** Trustee Ogolin reported expenses are on track. Revenue is dependent on timing in receiving the Permissive Medical levy and the General Mill levy dollars in May and retirement funds will move at the end of the year. Fall enrollment numbers were down last fall, however are up this semester, which affects the budget now. Enrollment projections for this year were submitted pre-pandemic, even the fact that we had to go through the pandemic with the enrollment numbers submitted pre-COVID, the budget is still within expectations and no critical issues. We held a public open forum on the Permissive Medical Levy on April 12 with no public comment.

- A. **Chair Report:**
- B. **Old Business:**
- C. **New Business:**
  - a. **Permissive Medical Levy Resolution:**

**HUMAN RESOURCE COMMITTEE:** Trustee Janshen reported they were given an update on staffing. Employee satisfaction survey has been sent out. As of today, 56 employees have responded. There is a resolution before Trustees today updating the personnel authorized to sign for the college. The committee was also given an accreditation update.

- A. **Chair Report:**
- B. **Old Business:**
- C. **New Business:**
  - a. **Business Transaction Authorization:**

*Trustee Okerman moved to waive the second reading of the resolution. Trustee Janshen seconded the motion. Motion passed.*

*Trustee Janshen moved to accept the resolution. Trustee Okerman seconded the motion. Motion passed.*

**QUALITY AND ADVOCACY:**

- A. **Chair Report:** The committee was briefed on the ongoing conversation of the funding formula, work and outreach in Scobey and Sidney with Workforce Solutions, and briefed on the accreditation by ACEN and NWCCU.

**ACADEMIC CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. **Academic Consent Item:** VP Kratky discussed the items on the Academic Consent agenda to be voted on this evening.

*Trustee Okerman moved to approve the Academic Consent agenda as presented. Trustee Janshen seconded the motion. Motion passed.*

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

- A. Athletic Department Strategic Master Plan
- B. MCC Strategic Plan
- C. Meat Processing

Adjourned the meeting at 6:26 p.m.

The next regular Board of Trustee meeting will be held on Monday, May 23, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in room 106.

---

Chair

---

Secretary