

Miles Community College
Board of Trustees
Minutes
September 23, 2024

The Board of Trustees of Miles Community College met in regular session at 5:30 p.m., September 23, 2024, in room 106. The following Trustees were present: Jeff Okerman, Tara Andrews, Jamie Ogolin, Jenna Janshen, and Ryan Jones. The following Trustees were excused Garret McFarland and Debbie Morford. Also present were President Ron Slinger, Candy Laney, Richard DeShields, Kylene Phipps, Rita Kratky, Erin Niedge, Jerry Olson, Dirk Schmidt, and Janell Losing-Miller.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

IMPORTANT DATES: President Slinger highlighted the following: Dolly Ferris and President Slinger will be going to the Montana Nonprofit Association conference in Helena and the Executive Team will attend the legislative luncheon at DCC. He and Trustee Andrews will be traveling to Seattle for the ACCT Leadership Congress on October 23 – 26.

REPORTS:

- A. Enrollment Services:** In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, Vice President of Enrollment and Educational Support Services Erin Niedge reported on the following: Kyleigh Heberle is our new Admissions Counselor and is in the western part of the state for college fairs. Part of our Director of Marketing and Communications BeKa Stein Phipps' job in August and September is updating all of our new recruitment publications. The new publications look fantastic and are already being used. Our Financial Aid Department continues to work through the new National FAFSA regulations.
- B. Student Engagement:** In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, Vice President of Student Engagement & Auxiliary Services Richard DeShields reported on the following: VP DeShields reported we have had our students complete all of the federally mandated programs. Next week we will send out our Clery report. Our residence hall occupancy is up two students from last year, which means we have 10 extra beds. We have filled the two open spots in the Student Senate.
- B. a. Athletics:** In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, Athletic Director Olson reported on the following: Athletic Director Olson reported volleyball plays at Dawson tomorrow. On October 8, volleyball has Pack the House in Pink and on October 9 it is Elementary Day at 10:00 a.m. The MCC Rodeo was off last weekend and go to Dillon this weekend. The MCC Rodeo date has been changed to April 24 – 27. Baseball and softball are both in the middle of games. Both basketball teams start on October 1. We raised \$9,800 on the scramble with 23 teams participating. We had our Athletic Hall of Fame last weekend with 146 people attending. September 13, 2025, is our next Hall of Fame. Pioneer Palooza is scheduled for October 19 in the Centra.
- C. Administrative Services and HR:** In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, Vice President of Administrative Services and HR Kylene Phipps reported on the following: An update to the HR report, she was pleased to announce that our contract with our talent acquisition firm, Ironside HR, has provided our first candidate that we are taking a look at to fill the Nursing Instructor role. Highlighted our Pioneer Profiles, Dr. Molly Magestro as the faculty and Danielle Dinges as the staff. She also discussed the updates to room 320.
- D. Academic Affairs:** In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, Vice President Kratky reported on the following: VP Kratky and Associate Dean of Instruction and eLearning Sam Giordanengo attended the Board of Regents meeting last week in Billings.
- E. President's Report:** In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, President Ron Slinger reported on the following: President Slinger continues to do Superintendent outreach. He discussed the proposed legislation that would have incentive funds for public schools that have a certain number of their graduating class graduating with college dual credits. President Slinger just returned from the Rural Community College Alliance (RCCA) conference.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Trustee Janshen moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Trustee Ogolin seconded the motion.

Trustee Okerman asked about the two \$3,000 payments to the same person on the same date. VP DeShields explained during Welcome Wagon we had two different events by the same business.

Motion passed.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A. Introduction of New Employees:** VP Kratky introduced Janell Losing-Miller, the new CRRN for the Nursing Department.
- B. Fall Enrollment Update:** VP Niedge said we are through Census, in general, our degree-seeking students are about the same. We have gained quite a bit in nondegree-seeking and dual enrollment. We are up slightly in resident students. Most of our GEM and WUI students are athletes. She also highlighted retention rates.
- C. Close the Loop Presentation – Employee Satisfaction Survey Results:** VP Phipps discussed the Employee Satisfaction Survey results.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- A. Chair Report:** Trustee Ogolin reported we are doing great. Enrollment is up which increases our revenue stream. They also discussed the upcoming audit and the upcoming travel schedule.
- B. Old Business:**
- C. New Business:**

HUMAN RESOURCE COMMITTEE:

- A. Chair Report:** Trustee Okerman reported they spoke about staffing and were updated on successes. They also discussed Jenzabar, Pioneer Profiles, the Employee Satisfaction Survey, and the professional development program.
- B. Old Business:**
- C. New Business:**

QUALITY AND ADVOCACY:

- A. Chair Report:** Trustee Janshen reported they were given a one-time funding update, an enrollment update, and the Opportunity Realized Program.

ACADEMIC CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Consent Agenda:** VP Kratky discussed the items on the Academic Consent agenda.

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

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- A. Year one strategic plan update**
- B. Unit Assessment Process discussion**
- C. Update on the accreditation cycle**
- D. Meet faculty and staff**

Adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

The next regular Board of Trustee meeting will be held on Monday, October 28, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. in room 106.

Chair

Secretary