

**Miles Community College**  
**Board of Trustees**  
**Minutes**  
**January 26, 2026**

The Board of Trustees of Miles Community College met in regular session at 5:30 p.m. January 26, 2026, in room 106. The following Trustees were present: Tara Andrews, Jenna Janshen, Garret McFarland, Jamie Ogolin, and Ryan Jones. The following Trustees were excused: Debbie Morford and Jeff Okerman. Also present were President Ron Slinger, Candy Laney, Kylene Phipps, Erin Niedege, Richard DeShields, Dimitria Harding, Nancy Aaberge, Jerry Olson, Dirk Schmidt, Jennifer Mannie, Shannon Waldie, Cameron Guevara, MCC Rodeo Team, Coach Sylvan La Cross, and Star Reporter Hunter Herbaugh.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No Public Comment was given.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** President Slinger introduced new employees to the Trustees. The Rodeo team was also introduced. He invited the Trustees to the MCC night at the CCDHS basketball game on February 17 in the CCDHS gym.

**REPORTS:**

- A. Enrollment Services:** In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, Vice President of Enrollment and Educational Support Services Erin Niedege provided additional updates: This is the second consecutive year that MCC will sponsor a CCDHS basketball game, which will be held on February 17. She also took a moment to recognize Financial Aid and Admissions Director Danielle Dinges for her dedication and valuable work on the Jenzabar Financial Aid module.
- B. Student Engagement:** In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, Vice President of Student Engagement & Auxiliary Services Richard DeShields provided additional updates: Housing occupancy for the spring semester stands at 78.1%. MCC also gratefully received a \$5,500 donation from the Town Pump Foundation in support of the Pioneer Pantry. Michele Trimble was recognized as the Blue and Silver Award winner for the fall semester, and Brock Lopez has been named the new Student Senate president.
- B.a. Athletics:** In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, Athletic Director Jerry Olson provided the following updates: A total of 10 boys' and girls' basketball teams participated in Connor's Classic. Elementary Day at the Centra on January 19 was a great success. The gym will also host the 4C loser-out game on February 21. Additionally, Athletic Director Olson announced he will be retiring on June 30.
- 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 provided the following updates: An update on staffing was provided, noting that the head softball coach and athletic director positions will be posted in February. The IT department has been especially busy supporting Jenzabar training, with plans to go live with the system in fall 2026. Additionally, Dr. Mike Hardy will be retiring at the end of the academic year.
- D. Academic Affairs:** Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dimitria Harding provided the following updates: Vice President Harding discussed her onboarding since beginning her role at MCC. She has been working closely with the Nursing Division. Early conversations have focused on improving NCLEX pass rates and creating clearer, more accessible pathways into the nursing program. She also noted that the college is exploring new opportunities to expand its Allied Health program offerings.
- E. President's Report:** In addition to the written report included in the Board packet, President Ron Slinger provided the following updates: Thanked the Executive Team for all the work they are doing with getting Jenzabar ready to go live.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

***Trustee Janshen moved to approve the consent agendas as presented. Trustee McFarland seconded the motion.***

***Motion passed.***

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

- A. Enrollment Update:** Vice President Niedege presented end-of-term data and provided an update on spring enrollment. Year over year, current FTE stands at 517.97, reflecting a 3.60% increase compared to this time last year, while headcount

has grown to 1,083, an 11.08% increase. Much of this growth is attributed to non-degree-seeking students, particularly those enrolling through the Quottly platform, with 200 students enrolled via Quottly at the start of the term. She also shared updates on new partners participating in the Opportunity Realized program. The second-half CDL mini session beginning in March is already full, and some enrollment movement may still occur in the CNA mini session. Vice President Niedge concluded by reporting on the college's current retention numbers.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

- A. Chair Report:** President Slinger reported that the college's finances remain in a strong position. He noted that the institution has received all appropriations, supplemental bonus funds, One-Two-Free funding, and one-time funding in support of the Jenzabar transition.
- B. Old Business:** None
- C. New Business:** None

**HUMAN RESOURCE COMMITTEE:**

- A. Chair Report:** Trustee Ogolin shared that discussions focused on staffing and professional development days. He noted that two resolutions are being brought forward this evening, and that timing will require waiving the second reading for both. The Board also received an update on the Jenzabar implementation and upcoming go-live dates.
- B. Old Business:** None
- C. New Business:**
  - a. Resolution Authorized Signers: This action is being brought forward to remove Rita Kratky and add Dimitria Harding as authorized signers for the college.

***Trustee Jones moved to waive the second reading of the Authorized Signers Resolution. Trustee McFarland seconded the motion. Motion passed.***

***Trustee Ogolin moved to accept the Authorized Signers Resolution as presented. Trustee Janshen seconded the motion. Motion passed.***

- b. Resolution Calling for an Election: Three Trustees, Jones, Ogolin, and McFarland, are up for election. The election is scheduled for May 5, 2026.

***Trustee McFarland moved to waive the second reading of the resolution calling for an election. Trustee Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed.***

***Trustee McFarland moved to accept the resolution calling for an election as presented. Trustee Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed.***

**QUALITY AND ADVOCACY:**

- A. Chair Report:** Trustee Janshen reported that the discussion included the President's updates and an introduction to Dr. Harding.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

- A. NWCCU Accreditation Mid-Cycle Visit**

Adjourned the meeting at 6:16 p.m.

The next regular Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Monday, February 23, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. in room 106.

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Chair

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Secretary