

## REPORT OF MINUTES

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING

BAY de NOC COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
Catherine Bonifas Board Room (201D)  
Escanaba, MI

August 15, 2018

Chair, Joy Hopkins, called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. ET.

Members Present: Eric Lundin, Philip Strom, Tom Butch, Terri Mileski,  
Steve Davis, Bill Lake, Joy Hopkins

Members Absent: None

Administration: Travis Blume, Laura Coleman

Guests: Mike Hansen, President of Michigan Community College  
Association

Jordan Beck, *Daily Press*

Recorder: Laura Johnson, Assistant Board Secretary

Introductions were made.

Mike Hansen, President of Michigan Community College Association (MCCA) was present to discuss topics of interest to community colleges with trustees.

- **Fall Election Impact:** MCCA is finding ways to best position community colleges and develop the right messaging and advocacy strategies for the incoming new government and create alliances for community college support.
- **Free College Campaign:** The idea of free college has been around for many years, beginning with Senator Whitmer's campaign. MCCA has taken the official position of encouraging conversation about barriers to access. Removing the financial barrier alone is not the answer for student success. Students have many needs to be supported (i.e., psychological, social, academic). MCCA is working with the Whitmer Campaign and others interested in this conversation to formulate the right message and how to make the case convincing. The message developed will then be shared with MCCA's community colleges to customize.

Trustees discussed concerns about the concept of free tuition.

- **Fall Lame Duck Session Goals:** The MCCA has three priorities they will push for approval during the Legislature's "lame duck session" in November.
  1. A technical change to the Michigan New Jobs Training Program to allow financing of the program sunsets in 2018 has been promised it should pass in the Appropriations Committee. It is important this gets done.
  2. Amending the Act for Capital Outlay projects to include campus safety and security enhancements will be proposed. The State Building Authority limits funding to new construction but has amended the Act in the past for one-time special purchases (e.g., a consolidated amount of equipment). The attention to provide funding for campus security will be on K12s but community colleges also need to be included because it is even more costly to secure open college campuses. Funding would be bondable and there will likely be match dollars required.

Trustees discussed state constitutional language providing Board's ability to maintain jurisdiction over determining campus safety with the open gun carry law. Cyber security was also discussed as an area of security schools have had to become involved in.

3. Developing a fix to Michigan's personal property tax reimbursement formula is necessary because the distribution formula does not account for growth or loss after the base year. The Legislature has been working to redistribute the loss evenly among community colleges because it would be very complicated to fix the formula. The redistribution creates winners and losers among the community colleges which is not fair. Some schools have experienced very large losses they should be reimbursed for. The best solution would be to reimburse for actual loss. MCCA will stand behind what the Legislators decide because a consensus was not reached from the options presented to the community colleges represented. MCCA advocates for the phased-in approach which would help the issue up front.

Other items discussed included:

- **Appropriations Funding:** Tax revenues have declined significantly through the years since the Headlee Amendment.
- **Internet Use Tax:** The State will enforce collection of internet use tax from big internet businesses. It is yet to be determined where the revenue will be allocated. The Governor has proposed it go to roads but there are already other forms of tax revenue that fund road maintenance. This will likely be determined during the lame duck session.
- **Relationships with four-year colleges:** MCCA continues to work with four-year schools on transfer articulations for five big programs. The agreement would allow students to transfer to any public university as a junior. Michigan universities are scheduled to sign the agreements on Community College Day in April.

Dr. Coleman added she would like to see additional work done to align all schools' course numbering systems to ease transfer. Mike agreed this is an additional piece that can be worked on.

Trustees thanked Mike for his visit and sharing information.

It was motioned by Phil Strom and seconded by Eric Lundin to:

**“Adjourn the meeting.”** The meeting adjourned at 5:57 p.m. ET. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

	8/16/2018	
_____ Laura L. Johnson Assistant Board Secretary	Completion Date	Approval Date

_____ Joy E. Hopkins Board Chair	Approval Date
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