



# Southwestern Michigan College Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 14, 2024

Room 2112, David C. Briegel Building

## General Business

---

Members of the Southwestern Michigan College Board of Trustees met on February 14, 2024 for a regularly scheduled meeting.

The meeting was convened at 8:00 a.m. by Chairman Tom Jerdon.

Members Present: Tom Jerdon, Beth Cripe, Dr. Elaine Foster, Tracy Hertsel, Todd Obren, Skip Dyes

Members Absent: Becky Moore

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes of the January 10, 2024 regular convened meeting required no changes and were placed on file.

Tom Jerdon moved, seconded Tracy Hertsel, to amend agenda item 6 to Private Session and the following items respectively. Motion passed unanimously.

Three individuals were recognized for their service at the College:

Ms. Courtney Hemenway was recognized for her years of service and Trustee Todd Obren presented her with a 5-year pin.

Mr. Jason Smith was recognized for his years of service and Trustee Dr. Elaine Foster presented him with a 15-year pin.

Ms. Michelle Gibson was recognized for her years of service and Trustee Tracy Hertsel presented her with a 20-year pin.

## Public Input

---

No individual requested to speak.

## Other

---

The Treasurer's Report for the month ending January 31, 2024 was received and placed on file.

Vice President Susan Coulston presented the Quarterly Financial Report for the quarter ending December 31, 2023.

Dr. Odenwald, President, reported that the MCCA's Legislative priorities for 2024 include making community college affordable for all, updating college infrastructure, increasing operational support improving student outcomes and growing Michigan's talented workforce. Dr. Odenwald shared that one of three strategic plan update sessions will take place this week and anyone from the college is welcome to attend. Leadership development will remain a major focus of the college to ensure that every corner of the college understands the sector and moves with it in the years of change ahead. Athletics and the arts remain active with the winter band concert taking place on Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Lastly, WSBT will be on campus today to cover the enrollment growth at SMC.

## Discussion Items

---

A discussion was had regarding the CARMI Design Group, Inc. contract for the residence hall expansion project.

Vice President Susan Coulston discussed the 2024-2025 In District Tuition and Fees.

Trustees reviewed the list of gifts given to the Foundation, with twenty-nine individual donations for a grand total in the amount of \$111,533.70.

## Action Items

---

Beth Cripe moved, seconded by Dr. Elaine Foster, to approve the CARMI Design Group, Inc. contract for the residence hall expansion project. Motion passed unanimously.

Tracy Hertsel moved, seconded by Skip Dyes, to re-set the 2024-2025 In District Tuition and Fees to the appropriate amount not to exceed the State's tuition percentage increase restraint of 4.41%. Motion passed unanimously.

Skip Dyes moved, seconded by Tracy Hertsel, to accept with gratitude the gifts to the College shown in attachment 5C, with two individual donations to the College in the amount of \$1,900. Motion passed unanimously.

## Closed Session

---

Beth Cripe moved, seconded by Tracy Herstel, to enter into a closed session to discuss a real estate matter pursuant to the closed session provisions of the Open Meetings Act under MCL 15.268(d).

A Roll Call vote was taken to enter closed session at 8:25 a.m. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board entered into open session at 9:14 a.m., with a roll call vote. Motion passed unanimously.

## Review of Follow-up Requests

---

No follow-up requests were made of the administration.

## Adjournment

---

Dr. Elaine Foster moved to adjourn at 9:14 a.m. Skip Dyes seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Beth J. Cripe, Secretary

Thomas F. Jerdon, Chairman