



Southwestern Michigan College Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 10, 2026

Room 2112, David C. Briegel Building

8 a.m. Regular Meeting

General Business

Members of the Southwestern Michigan College Board of Trustees met on June 10, 2026 for a regularly scheduled meeting.

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

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

Members Absent: none

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes of the May 13, 2026, regular convened meeting required no changes and were placed on file.

Tracy Hertsel moved, seconded by Dr. Elaine Foster, to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Becky Moore moved, seconded by Beth Cripe, to open the Budget Hearing at 8:03 a.m. for public input.

One individual was recognized for their service at the College:

Mr. Zac Sartori was recognized for his years of service and Trustee Beth Cripe presented him with a 5-year pin.

Public Input

No individual requested to speak.

Closed Session

Tom Jerdon stipulated: The Board of Trustees is scheduled to consider and review items in connection with the negotiation of Collective Bargaining Agreement which is covered by Section 8 (c) of the Open Meetings Act that necessitates closed session. A motion made by Beth Cripe and supported by Becky Moore to move into closed session. There was no discussion. Beth Cripe took an individual rollcall vote on the motion with Tom Jerdon, Becky Moore, Dr. Elaine Foster, Skip Dyes, Tracy Hertsel, Todd Obren voting yes. Entered closed session at 8:10 a.m.

Following the end of discussion in closed session, Tracy Hertsel made the motion to reconvene in open session seconded by Dr. Elaine Foster. Beth Cripe took an individual rollcall vote on the motion with Tom Jerdon, Becky Moore, Dr. Elaine Foster, Skip Dyes, Tracy Hertsel, Todd Obren voting yes. The Board returned to open session at 8:30 a.m.

Action Item

Skip Dyes moved, seconded by Becky Moore, to approve of the Collective Bargaining Agreement for Full-time Faculty. Motion passed unanimously.

Other

The Treasurer's Report for the month ending May 31, 2026 was received and placed on file.

Michelle Kite, Chief Financial Officer and Stephanie Lyons, Controller presented the 2026-2027 balanced budget.

Dr. Clint Pleasant gave his President's Report. Dr. Pleasant reviewed past and upcoming meetings and speaking events including Team Building Retreats, meeting with various college and community leaders, MCAA summer meeting, and lunch with potential donors. Dr. Pleasant reported that we are currently seeking to fill Dean positions by late summer. Dr. Pleasant stated that summer term enrollment is the highest student headcount on an opening day of a summer term since Summer 2014, a 12-year high. He continued to report that the fall term is trending to be up as well. Student housing indications show housing will be to full capacity this fall.

Mick Valeris, Vice President of Information Technology, shared with the Board of Trustees how the college currently secures the IT infrastructure which includes but is not limited to complex passwords, upgrading all systems to Microsoft 11 and encrypting internal storage on all laptops. Mr. Valeris also shared IT goals for improving the systems.

Discussion Items

Trustees reviewed the list of gifts given to the Foundation, with ten individual donations for a grand total in the amount of \$34,512.34.

Action Items

Becky Moore moved, seconded by Tracy Hertsel, to close the Budget Hearing at 9:36 a.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Beth Cripe moved, seconded by Dr. Elaine Foster, to approve the All-Purpose Millage Resolution (attachment 7B). Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Elaine Foster moved, seconded by Todd Obren, to approve the adoption of the 2026-2027 Budgets as detailed in attachment 5B. Motion passed unanimously.

Beth Cripe moved, seconded by Becky Moore, that individuals to serve as SMC representatives on the MCCA Board of Directors be appointed. Tom Jerdon to serve as Trustee Director and Dr. Elaine Foster to serve as Trustee Alternate (attachment 7D). Motion passed unanimously.

Tracy Hertsel moved, seconded by Dr. Elaine Foster, to accept with gratitude the gifts shown in attachment 7E, with one individual donation in the amount of \$140. Motion passed unanimously.

Review of Follow-up Requests

No follow-up requests were made of the administration.

Adjournment

Becky Moore moved to adjourn at 9:40 a.m. Todd Obren seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Beth Cripe, Secretary

Thomas F. Jerdon, Chairman

Proposed - to be approved August 12, 2026