

Marion Technical College  
**Board of Trustees**  
Regular Board Meeting  
Tuesday, April 18, 2023  
Health Technologies Center Auditorium

**Call to Order**

Chair Somerlot called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

**Roll Call**

The Recording Secretary called the roll. Trustees present were Chair Roxane Somerlot, Mr. Tim Anderson, Mr. Kit Fogle, Ms. Jude Foulk, Ms. Vidya Iyengar, Dr. Michael McCleese, and Mr. Greg Moon.

Mr. Don Plotts and Ms. Nicolle Wampler were absent.

**Introduction of Guests**

Guests present included MTC employees Dr. Ryan McCall, Ms. Rhonda Ward, Dr. Amy Adams, Dr. Bob Haas, Dr. Matt Hollander, Mr. Mike Stuckey, Ms. Christy Culver, and Ms. Laura Woughter. Mr. Jack Hershey, Ohio Association of Community Colleges, and Ms. Holly Welch, Ohio Attorney General's Office, were also present.

**Major Discussion Topic**

Mr. Hershey presented to the Board on the legislative environment in Ohio, legislation directed at higher education, and the state operating budget process. The Ohio House introduced their substitute budget bill on April 17<sup>th</sup>, and OACC is still reviewing the changes made to the Governor's proposals. Some of the known changes include:

- Reduction of SSI increase, from 3% to 1.5% in each fiscal year.
- Maintained authority to increase tuition \$5 per credit hour in each fiscal year.
- Large reduction of Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG) increase.
- Removed the Ohio College Access Grant (OCAG) and replaced with Ohio Work Ready Grant, which will provide \$3,000 in need-based aid for students at community colleges or university regional campus for enrolling in an in-demand program.
- Removed the Governor's merit scholarship program, which would've provided \$5,000 scholarships for high school students in the top 5% of their class to attend a public college or university.

- Removed the mentoring scholarships program, which would've provided mentoring students with \$2,500 scholarships.
- Maintained the second chance grant program to reenroll students with some college credit and provide financial assistance.
- Maintained Choose Ohio First Scholarship funding.
- Removed the requirement for graduating high school students to complete the FAFSA as a condition of graduation.
- Reduction of Super RAPIDS funding increase to \$100 million, allowing institutions to purchase equipment, expand facilities, etc.
- Removed WorkFORCE OHIO, which allocated funds to increase Ohioans pursuing certificate, credentials, or degrees that lead to critically high-demand jobs.
- Maintained funding for TechCred, short-term certificates, and the commercial truck driving program.
- Removed funding (\$40 million each fiscal year) for the Access Challenge, which would've provided flexible funding for institutions to provide wraparound services.
- Maintained funding for mental health supports (\$10 million each fiscal year).
- Officially eliminated the Ohio Board of Regents.

Mr. Hershey also presented on Senate Bill 83, the Ohio Higher Education Enhancement Act, which includes a significant number of provisions directed at public community colleges and universities.

### **Consent Agenda**

1. Approval of preceding meeting minutes

Mr. Anderson motioned to approve the consent agenda, and Mr. Fogle seconded the motion. By a roll call vote, the consent agenda was unanimously approved.

### **President's Report**

Dr. McCall highlighted the following from his President's Report:

- The College's coach in the Rural Guided Pathways Project was on campus to meet with stakeholders and discuss areas for improvement.
- The College was awarded its second NSF grant for virtual reality instruction in engineering.
- The golf outing is sold out, with numerous event sponsors, and a large number of hole sponsors.
- A number of program graduation celebrations are being hosted for Marion Tech graduates, including pinnings, end of course presentations, and more.

Ms. Iyengar asked about the College's involvement on a number of Intel-related committees, and whether the new NSF grant would prepare the College in providing curriculum geared towards Intel's needs. Dr. McCall noted the NSF grant will likely play some role in instruction for engineering students interested in Intel. Additionally, the number of graduates the College needs to produce will need to increase eight times, which will require more faculty, space, funding, etc. Dr. Feng Hua, Engineering Faculty, is involved with curriculum development at the state level. It is estimated 40 new suppliers for Intel will need to locate in Ohio, and likely within a 60 mile radius of the plant.

## **Monitoring Reports**

### EL 4.5 Financial Condition

Ms. Ward highlighted the following items from her full report:

- Ms. Ward reviewed the College's investment account with STAR OHIO.
- Tuition revenue is exceeding budget, with substantial revenue from College Credit Plus enrollment.
- Expenses year to year are flat, however the distribution between HEERF and operating are shifting.
- Repaid funds from Ohio State Marion from a capital project in 2016-2017 was realized this year, approximately \$114,000.
- Ms. Ward sought to increase to the College's HEERF spending to the legal allowable limit, approximately \$170,000 to finance large IT infrastructure upgrades and to pay down the College's health care renewal increase cost (from 14% to 7%), as well as other miscellaneous expenses. These items will expend the remainder of the College's HEERF funds.

Ms. Iyengar moved to approve the financial report and Mr. Moon seconded the motion. By a unanimous roll call vote, the report was approved.

## **Policy Review/Governance Issues**

### Ends 1.2 Student Success

Mr. Anderson reviewed the policy with the Board, citing evidence from the March report, including graduate wage data, student success in course completion, and transfer rates. He highlighted the success of the Connections Center in supporting students in need of wraparound services and successful fundraising by the Foundation. He felt the policy was sufficient and no changes were needed.

## EL 4.5 Financial Condition

Ms. Wampler was absent. The policy will be reassigned to the May meeting.

### **Informational Items**

Ms. Wampler's term ends at the end of the month. Dr. McCall will present her commemorative plaque at a later date.

Mr. Anderson motioned to name Mr. Fogle the Vice Chair and Dr. McCleese seconded the motion. By a unanimous vote, Mr. Fogle was approved as the Vice Chair.

### **Executive Session**

Vice Chair Fogle motioned to convene to executive session at 6:48 p.m. to discuss matters regarding the compensation of a public employee and to discuss pending or imminent court action. Ms. Foulk seconded the motion. Chair Somerlot – aye, Mr. Anderson – aye, Mr. Fogle – aye, Ms. Foulk – aye, Ms. Iyengar – aye, Dr. McCleese – aye, Mr. Moon – aye, Ms. Wampler – aye.

The Board reconvened in open session at 8:28 p.m.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Anderson motioned to adjourn and Mr. Moon seconded. The Board adjourned at 8:29 p.m.