

Marion Technical College
Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, June 22, 2021

Call to Order

Vice Chair Somerlot called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

Roll Call

The Recording Secretary called the roll. Trustees present were Vice Chair Roxane Somerlot, Mr. Kit Fogle, Ms. Jude Foulk, Dr. Justin Hamper, and Mr. Don Plotts. Vice Chair Somerlot led the meeting.

Chair Tim Anderson and Mr. Greg Moon were absent.

Introduction of Guests

Guests present included Dr. Ryan McCall, Dr. Bob Haas, Dr. Amy Adams, Ms. Rhonda Ward, Mr. Mike Stuckey, Ms. Lori Makilagi, Ms. Kristy Taylor, Ms. Deb Stark, and Ms. Laura Woughter.

Major Discussion Topic

Ms. Woughter, Chief of Staff and Government Relations Officer, presented to the Board on the Higher Learning Commission, accreditation, and the College's upcoming assurance review. Ms. Woughter, who serves as the Accreditation Liaison Officer (ALO), provided a brief summary of MTC's accreditation pathway, the most recent visit in 2019 to review additional locations, and the upcoming assurance review (due July 12, 2021). The assurance review, established in year four of the open pathway, requires the College to update the narrative and evidence of its assurance argument and submit it to a team of peer reviewers. No onsite visit is conducted, as is customary during the reaffirmation process in year ten. Ms. Woughter applauded the work of the Accreditation Leadership Team (ALT), led by the ALO and comprised of three faculty, three administrative staff, and three professional staff, as well as Dr. Haas, the past ALO and current HLC peer reviewer. The ALT began the process of updating the assurance argument in fall 2019, working diligently to update with information, data, and evidence from the past four years. The College will learn the outcome of the review approximately six weeks after the submission date.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of preceding meeting minutes

Dr. Hamper motioned to approve the consent agenda, and Ms. Foulk seconded the motion. By a unanimous vote, the consent agenda was approved.

President's Report

Dr. McCall shared that the Surgical Technology program received its initial programmatic accreditation, and applauded the efforts of Director Jerad Claytor for getting the program through the process.

Dr. McCall thanked Vice Chair Somerlot for volunteering at the College's Big Tent Event, a 50th anniversary celebration on June 12th. State Representative Tracy Richardson presented the College with a commendation in honor of Marion Tech's 50th anniversary. The event attracted a large crowd throughout the campus to enjoy a fishing derby, petting zoo, bounce houses, food trucks, and live music. MTC's new mascot, the MTC Leaders, was embodied by huskies as lead dogs. The Leaders replaces MTC's previous mascot, the Chameleons.

Dr. McCall reviewed the College's weekly enrollment report with the Board, explaining how the trends are analyzed, improvements on trend tracking, and thoughts on the upcoming academic year. He noted the addition of College Credit Plus (CCP) at Pickerington Local Schools will impact enrollment and balancing the budget for the upcoming year; in the future, the College hopes to establish the revenue from Pickerington as an auxiliary budget.

Board members asked questions related to CCP, including the aspects of credentialing high school faculty to teach CCP courses as adjunct faculty.

Monitoring Reports

EL 4.5 – Financial Condition

Chief Financial Officer Rhonda Ward presented the finance report as of May 30, 2021, as evidence of compliance with EL Policy 4.5 - Financial Conditions. She provided an overview of revenues and expenses, cash position, and also referred the Board to the following items in her written report.

- Expenses are relatively flat to FY20, and anticipated increases by the conclusion of the fiscal year are related to CARES spending.

- CARES expenditures are being compared year to year to establish justifications for spending; one example is increasing the number of course sections to accommodate social distancing.
- Through conversations with OSUM, a reduced cost share agreement is anticipated. The current cost share is approximately \$1.2 million, and Ms. Ward anticipated sharing more about a reduction at the next Board meeting.
- A table of all federal stimulus funds, including CARES, CRSSA, and ARP, was included with award amounts, planned uses, and end use date.

EL 4.6 – Financial Planning

Ms. Ward presented to the Board on the proposed FY22 budget, with separate budgets for operating, grants, and CARES. Included in the presentation were assumptions used to model revenue and expenses, including (not exhaustive):

- Enrollment expectations for general, early college, and prison students.
- Lab fee revenue.
- Lost revenue charged to CARES federal funding.
- A reduction in state subsidy amounting to \$220,688 due to a change in the performance-based funding model related to developmental education. Original projections from the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) projecting a subsidy increase based on the change were incorrect. The College will receive bridge funding through GEERS federal funding (\$124,382) to support institutions harmed by the change.
- Related to expenditures, eight vacant positions are being held open. Vacant positions are continually reevaluated to ensure positions being filled are strategic. Additionally, an employee pay increase was not included in the budget.

Ms. Foulk questioned how the College was eligible for a Title III grant, and Dr. McCall explained the application process and eligibility criteria established by the federal government. The College has seen grant writing success through awards like Title III and National Science Foundation due to a collaborative partnership with Columbus State Community College, which provides contract grant writing for the College.

The College will apply for an extension to FY23 for CARES spending to continue to address lost revenue.

The budget requests for FY22 included a \$5 per credit hour increase beginning in spring term 2022, reinstate use of capital reserve funds to fund equipment and IT requests that cannot be funded through CARES or operational funds.

Mr. Fogle motioned to approve the monitoring reports, and Dr. Hamper seconded the motion. By a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Policy Review/Governance Issues

EL 4.9 – Treatment of Students

Mr. Plotts reviewed the policy and shared with the Board he had no suggestions for adjustments of the policy, citing sufficient evidence of significantly revised student conduct and grievance policies. Mr. Plotts was pleased with the actions of the College.

EL 4.10 – Treatment of Staff

Vice Chair Somerlot noted the odd verbiage in the policy related to not treating employees in an “inhumane, unfair, or undignified” manner, and Mr. Plotts noted the nature of executive limitations is to determine what cannot be done. The Board agreed to allow revised language to be presented at the August Board meeting.

Informational Items

Dr. McCall shared upcoming conference opportunities for Board members:

The Board will welcome a new trustee, Vidya Iyengar (Marion Community Credit Union), in the fall following approval by the Marion Education Caucus.

Dr. McCall suggested hosting a Board retreat during the October 2021 Board meeting in Columbus.

Board members were provided

Executive Session

No executive session was held.

Adjournment

Ms. Foulk motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Mr. Fogle seconded the motion. There being no further business to come before the Board, the Board adjourned at 7:03 p.m.