

## **MID MICHIGAN COLLEGE Board of Trustees Meeting**

**March 4, 2025 – Esther C. Conference Room – Harrison Campus**

Present: Jane Zdrojewski, Board Chair; Dr. Michael Jankoviak, Vice Chair; Dr. Karen Moore, Treasurer; Richard S. Allen, Jr., Secretary; George Gilmore, Trustee; Nathan Weisenburger, Trustee; Lois Pittsley, Trustee; Tim Hood, President

Guests: Dr. Scott Mertes, Provost; Lillian K. Frick, Vice President of Finance & Administration; Matt Miller, Vice President of Student Services & Advancement; Lori Fassett, Associate Vice President of Human Resources; Diane Miller, Faculty Senate President; Jacob Hamric, Incoming Faculty Senate President; Sherry L. Kyle & Annette Sturdavant, Exec. Assts. to the President & Board of Trustees; Tara Mager and Eric Johnson, Clare-Gladwin RESD Presenters

### Agenda Item I: CALL TO ORDER

The Board Chair called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### Agenda Item II: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Trustee Weisenburger and supported by Trustee Allen to approve the evening's agenda as reflected in the board packet. Motion carried with all ayes.

### Agenda Item III: PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments from the public.

### Agenda Item IV: APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

A motion was made by Trustee Pittsley and supported by Trustee Jankoviak to approve the consent items in the board packet. All ayes – motion carried.

### Agenda Item V-A: MOREY TECH CENTER RENOVATION PROJECT UPDATE

Vice President Frick informed Trustees that the bus ducts have still not arrived. It is expected that they will be received and the project can be completed and ready for the start of the next semester. Trustees expressed a desire to have a tour of the facility during the Board Retreat which will be hopefully scheduled in April at the Mt. Pleasant Campus.

### Agenda Item V-B: EVENT CENTER UPDATE

Vice President Miller provided an in-depth review of the budget for the Event Center project at the Mt. Pleasant Campus. The project in its original design came in at \$15.6 million. This baseline design was refined several times to cut costs and be funded at this time as efficiently and effectively as possible. Miller shared with trustees downscaled renditions which would come in at \$14.4M and \$13.5M. These result in loss of space, loss of one side of bleachers, loss of some features, but maintains function. The \$13.5M design sacrifices core functions and leaves many areas empty to be finished in the future. The downscaled options result in a total loss of 5,047 square feet. It also affects the exterior quality of the center. The \$13.5 version would result in the loss of design work, architect, construction manager and/or civil engineering. The contractor would handle all of these applications and the structure itself would be a pre-engineered metal building but still retain attractiveness.

Trustee Moore shared that she felt the Event Center loses so much in downscaling the project and asked if there was any way we could revisit funding the original design. A discussion took place and other trustees agreed. Future growth may cause a downsized version to be too small very soon.

A discussion took place concerning renting the facilities in a variety of ways to obtain revenue to use for alleviating costs in funding the original design. The Board requesting bonding possibilities information from Vice President Frick. A question and answer session followed.

Board Chair Zdrojewski stated that a special meeting of the Board may have to be scheduled to look at this possibility more in-depth. If warranted, a motion could be made and the project could proceed on a timely basis versus waiting until the April regular meeting. The Office of the President will work on scheduling a special meeting soon.

Agenda Item VI-A: CLARE-GLADWIN RESD UPDATE

Clare-Gladwin Superintendent Tara Mager and Eric Johnson, CTE Director provided an update on the vocational-technical program with Mid and an overview of the RESD's May 6 Millage Renewal. Mid has been an educational partner with the RESD since 1967, with the college providing a 10-acre parcel of land on a 99-year lease by Mid's founding trustees.

Each year there are nearly 400 CTE students trained through this joint venture program, which continues to grow and expand in offerings. Mid's enrollment consists of approximately 40% dual enrolled students. Superintendent Mager shared that there are 67 buildings in the RESD domain, and a total of 72 in future expansion. A total of 2,500 RESD students have participate in the voc-tech programs over the last nine years. Student success stories were shared with trustees and guests which are very impressive. CTE programs have a 96% graduation rate compared to 82% regular program students on a national level.

The millage proposal is a one mill renewal after 10 years. It allows maintenance and expansion/improvement of CTE programs and was approved by voters in 2016. Average cost to homeowners in the district is about \$50 to \$70 on average. Ms. Mager and Mr. Johnson thanked the Board for the opportunity to present updated information. Board Chair Zdrojewski thanked them for their informative presentation and stated that the Board looks forward to a continued valued partnership.

Agenda Item VI-B: CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Hood informed trustees that he will be attending the Michigan Community College Association President's Meeting this coming weekend in Lansing. President Hood serves on the Executive Committee of MCCA.

The President offered appreciation to Vice President Frick and Associate Vice President Fassett for their diligent work with the State of Michigan concerning amendments to the Earned Sick Time Act, recently signed by the Governor.

President Hood and Vice President Miller provided the Trustees and guests with a very impressive overview of Mid's athletic teams this year.

Agenda Item VI-C: BOARD MEETING START TIME DISCUSSION

Board Chair Zdrojewski led a discussion concerning changing the start time for Mid's Board meetings. Several options were listed in the board packet this month. A discussion took place, with Trustees favoring the #2 option – *Start Workshop at 5:00 and Board meeting at 5:30 p.m.*

A motion was brought forth by Trustee Moore and drew support from Trustee Weisenburger to approve Option 2 as reflected in the packet as a start time for the workshop at 5, followed by the regular meeting at 5:30. All ayes – motion carried.

Agenda Item VI-D: TUITION RATE INTRODUCTION (POLICY 303.10.01)

Vice President Frick presented information concerning different financial scenarios as relative to tuition increases in various proposed amounts. The hand-out distributed this evening provided an additional analysis of tuition and fee increases for fiscal year 2026 and included information about a slight increase in the technology fee, which has not been increased in quite a few years. If not approved this year, the tech fee increase would have to be instated next year for it

to adequately balance financially. This presentation was for informational purposes only, and will be on the April 1<sup>st</sup> agenda for action. The Board Chair thanked Ms. Frick for her informative presentation.

Agenda Item VI-E: MPSERS UPDATE

Vice President Frick shared with trustees that in 2018 everything began to change drastically in the MPSERS (Michigan Public Schools Employee Retirement System). She continued to provide an overview of the steady increases over 2010, 2011, 2012 that led to the system being in financial problems/issues. A large portion of retirement costs are with the employer, not the employee. There are currently 20 different retirement options available through MPSERS and some options over the years have gone into retirement too. There is a cap to these figures, but also a floor. Mid has made a request to the State of Michigan of \$500K to assist with the unfunded portion. More to come. Ms. Frick will provide regular updates as needed. The Board Chair thanked Lillian for her presentation.

Agenda Item VI-F: ADMINISTRATIVE RETIREMENT INCENTIVE – T. ALVARO (Board Policy 408.03)

Vice President Miller informed Trustees that Tammy Alvaro has been with Mid for 16 years, for the most part working with Phi Theta Kappa students and program, and veterans. Her enthusiasm for her work is reflected in everything she does. She indeed has big shoes to fill upon retirement. Miller shared that Tammy meets all the requirements for the Administrative Retirement Incentive and will retire May 31, 2025.

The Board thanked Ms. Alvaro for her many years of service and wished her well.

Agenda Item VII-A: CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Board Chair reviewed the calendar of events for upcoming months. The April 1, 2025 Board Meeting will be held on the Mt. Pleasant Campus, workshop at 6:00 p.m., following by the Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m. She encouraged everyone to participate in viewing the Student Showcase events at both campuses. Mid's commencement ceremony takes place on May 10<sup>th</sup>.

Agenda Item VII-B: BOARD COMMENTS – OTHER BUSINESS

There were additional comments from Trustees. The Board wished the folks from the Clare-Gladwin RESD good luck on the passing of their millage renewal.

Adjournment at 8:55 p.m.

Recording Secretary,  
Sherry Kyle  
Executive Assistant to the President and Board of Trustees

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Jane Zdrojewski, Board Chair

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Richard S. Allen, Jr., Board Secretary