

Mid Michigan College Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

October 7, 2025

The meeting took place at 5:30 p.m. in the Esther C. Conference Room of the Harrison Campus.

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

Absent: Nathan Weisenburger, Trustee

Guests: Dr. Scott Mertes, Provost; Lillian K. Frick, Vice President of Finance & Administration; Matt Miller, Vice President of Student Services & Advancement; Kirk Lehr, Director of Information Technology; Sherry L. Kyle, Exec. Asst. to the President & Board of Trustees

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Item II

A motion was made by Trustee Allen to approve the agenda for the meeting. Support by Trustee Gilmore; all ayes - motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Item III

There were no public comments

APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

Item IV

A motion was made by Trustee Pittsley to approve the consent items, with support from Trustee Jankoviak. All ayes - motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Item V-A

Fall Enrollment Update

Vice President Miller provided updated information on Fall 2025 enrollment at Mid. Budget goals were met with numbers showing an increase of 2.4% in contact hours. Students are taking more credits in all categories across the curriculum.

Trustee Allen asked if the billboards advertising the RN to BSN have led to increases in that area. Miller replied that he was not sure but would find out and report back. Provost Mertes added that each community college in Michigan received a \$2 million dollar grant for nursing programs across the state. He too, will check with Barb Wieszcieski, Dean of Health Sciences/Director of Nursing and see how the billboards have affected enrollment at Mid. Mertes updated the Board of Trustees on the renovations that are taking place to improve learning for students enrolled in the Nursing programs and the Medical Assistant program. He added that the number of students in the Engineering program continue to increase in the area of advanced math courses offered at Mid.

Board Chair Zdrojewski asked if actual enrollment compared to enrollment estimates are final at this point. Vice President Frick shared that she believes a slight increase will occur when numbers are finalized.

Item V-B

Event Center Update

Vice President Miller updated the Trustees on the status of the Event Center project at the Mt. Pleasant Campus. A total of \$118,000 has been allocated in the budget for the purpose of Union Township's possible request to ask the College to share in expansion of the sewer system. It is not known what will happen in that ongoing discussion. There is no update at this time, but additional information may be available soon.

Miller stated that the final sight plan approval has been received. All paperwork for the building permit has been submitted. Sidewalks and storm water maintenance plans also need to be submitted by Friday, October 10th.

Everything is in place to do this. The contractor, Clark, is prepared to begin work once the building permit is finalized. The Board Chair thanked Miller for his update.

Item V-C

RESD Lease Agreement Update

President Hood reported that ongoing discussions are going well between Mid and the CG/RESD. College Attorney J.J. Klaus has done a good job for Mid and progress is being made. Vice President Frick added that Interim Superintendent Mike Simon is ready to meet again in the near future. She stated that she has some concerns associated with the Lease, including the fact that the RESD would like to see an obligation by the College that we would purchase the buildings from them if they vacate the property. Attorney Klaus is also not in favor of this language being part of the lease agreement. Other concerns are also being addressed to make certain the lease is followed in its original intent many years ago. Vice President Frick shared that she is open to discussion with the RESD but has the interests of Mid foremost overall.

Board Chair Zdrojewski stated that the Board of Trustees will review all requests for consideration keeping best interests in mind, but no promises will be made. The Board Chair also noted that this item was on the agenda as an ACTION item, but is actually an informational item at this time. She asked that Exec. Asst. Kyle note this in the official record of the board meeting.

A motion was made by Trustee Jankoviak to change item V-C-RESD Lease Agreement Update – to Informational item. Support by Trustee Pittsley – all ayes – motion carried.

Vice President Frick added that she may have Attorney Klaus attend future meeting for additional clarification on associated issues.

President Hood provided background information that led to the review of the lease. Board Chair Zdrojewski felt having Attorney Klaus attend future meetings would be very helpful in wrapping up this project. She thought it may also be helpful if she and Vice Chair Jankoviak met with the RESD's Board Chair and Vice Chair. More to come.

NEW BUSINESS

Item VI-A

Correspondence and Announcements

President Hood informed Trustees that he had placed a copy of Mid's new View Book at each station this evening and hoped everyone enjoyed looking through the photos and content.

President Hood also shared with Trustees that the Senior Focus Day event on September 13 at the Harrison Campus was attended by nearly 800 participants and was a busy and fun-filled day. The President shared some photos of the activities and crowds enjoying the perfect weather. Many thanks to everyone who made this such as successful event. The President offered Kudos to Provost Mertes and Amy Fisher (Dean of Business & Professional Studies) and everyone else who was instrumental in obtaining a \$100,000 *Achieving the Dream* grant. Mertes informed Trustees that the grant is designed to upscale and move students through coursework more efficiently and effectively. It includes short-term training credits and also has a more Liberal Arts focus. This is very exciting for Mid and our students.

President Hood also shared information on the Global Awareness event at the Mt. Pleasant Campus hosted by Communication Faculty members Iliana Miller and Diane Miller. There was great attendance and much excitement. Provost Mertes added that this is the third year of the conference with a focus this year on Turkey-Istanbul across the disciplines. A traveling art show by Syrian refugees was very moving. The format at this event was Round Robin. Many thanks to everyone who made this conference a huge success.

President Hood also met several times recently with Mark Berdan, Executive Director of Michigan Works! Region 7B Consortium, to discuss partnerships and funding for apprentice programs for potential piloting of students-at-risk program. More to come.

On October 13th a celebration takes place at the Mt. Pleasant Campus for Indigenous People's Day from 10:00 am to Noon in the Community Room.

The groundbreaking event for Mid's Event Center project is on October 21st at 4:00 p.m. at the South-East corner of the parking lot near the Herbert D. Doan Center in Mt. Pleasant.

President Hood shared that this is a time of excitement for Mid, with many wonderful things happening. Many thanks were offered to everyone who makes all of these events successful.

The President offered his thanks and appreciation to Vice President Frick, Director of Accounting Susan Call, Accounting Manager Jeff Seiter, and Director of Financial Aid Michelle McNier who have put forth dedication and hard work for the audit review completion.

Item VI-B

2024-25 Financial Audit

Vice President Frick informed those in attendance that the Board Audit Committee met at 4:00 pm today prior to the regular meeting to hear the findings and report from Rehmann on this year's audit. Frick shared that it has been a great audit this year, smoother than usual compared to years past. No substantial issues were found and Rehmann is issuing the cleanest level audit. Director Call led the audit, along with Accounting Manager Seiter. It was a job well done.

The final audit on the Financial Aid area is yet to come with State financial problems and issues that all community colleges are dealing with this year. Ms. Frick offered acknowledgement and appreciation to Rehmann representatives and many thanks to their team that worked with Mid this year. The regular audit and the financial aid audit are two separate reports. This year it was decided to implement Zoom for the final meeting to discuss findings and it went very well.

A motion was presented by Trustee Jankoviak to approve the audit report as presented by Rehmann. Support by Trustee Gilmore – all ayes; motion carried.

Item VI-C

Local Strategic Value Resolution

President Hood expressed thanks to everyone who assisted in putting together this year's Local Strategic Value documents that are required by the State of Michigan. If not submitted by October 15th, State funding for community colleges is not possible.

A motion was brought forth by Trustee Allen to adopt the accompanying Resolution – support by Trustee Jankoviak. Roll call vote showed ayes from Trustees Allen, Pittsley, Zdrojewski, Jankoviak, Gilmore and Moore. Nays – none. Resolution adopted.

Item VI-D

Request for Approval of Alcohol on Campus-Foundation Donors Event

Vice President Miller explained that the event is scheduled for October 14th at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the Mt. Pleasant Campus. The event will be attended by a group of donors and will focus on the Capital Campaign for the Event Center. Miller believed the number of participants to be about 10 to 15 individuals and will include heavy appetizers and drinks. The Board Chair asked if members of the Board of Trustees would be welcome to attend. She also expressed concern over the Trustees not being on the program for the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Event Center. Board Chair Zdrojewski felt perhaps she and Trustee Moore (as a large donor) could be duo speakers at the October 14th event for donors.

A motion to approve alcohol at the event as described by Vice President Miller was provided by Trustee Pittsley and supported by Trustee Moore. All ayes – motion carried.

Item VI-E

Renewal of Hosting Service for Moodle in the Cloud

Director Lehr informed Trustees that approval for renewing hosting service for Moodle in the Cloud is being requested. This is the third year with MoodleUS and the service and support have been great to work with. This renewal will increase disk space and an additional Moodle plugin that requires a separate server. Mid's storage needs continue to increase each year, even though outdated information and systems are deleted regularly. It is recommended the Board approve the renewal with MoodleUS for an additional 3 year contract for a total cost of \$85,300, which will be funded from Institutional Technology.

A motion was made by Trustee Jankoviak with support from Trustee Moore to approve the MoodleUS renewal as presented by Director Lehr. All ayes – motion carried.

Item VI-F

Naming Opportunities

Vice President Miller requested the Board of Trustees accept the Naming Opportunities as reflected in the board packet. The Board expressed their gratitude and appreciation to the donors: McGuirk Family, Dr. Karen and Mike Moore, Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation, and President Hood and wife Val. Miller expressed appreciation to Trustee Karen Moore and her husband Mike, Provost Mertes, who serves on the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation, President and Val Hood. A special thank you to the McGuirk Family, who are very generous to the College and the surrounding area.

A motion was made by Trustee Jankoviak and supported by Trustee Gilmore to acknowledge with much appreciation the gifts as listed. Ayes from Trustees Allen, Pittsley, Zdrojewski, Jankoviak and Gilmore. Trustee Moore abstained. Motion carried.

Vice President Miller added that contributions thus far for the Capital Campaign are just \$23,000 short of reaching \$1 million dollars. We are so very fortunate to have such wonderful community members who support Mid.

BOARD COMMENTS

Item VII-A

Calendar of Events

The Board Chair reviewed the Calendar of Events.

Item VII-B

Board Comments-Other Business

Trustee Allen began a discussion on Marine Tech programs. Is there a need in this area? He has recently seen ads in this area of study. Provost Mertes said he thought most of the programs that are in place at other colleges is focused on Great Lakes vessels and equipment. Trustee Allen asked if there would be any merit to looking into marine engine repair in our area. Mertes replied that the program for that area has in the past – or could be in the future – connected most likely to the Lifelong Learning department. President Hood shared that a possible partnership at a later date may be possible in the Mt. Pleasant area. There is a program on power sports that is in place at the Mt Pleasant High School, and it may in the future include marine focus as a component. More to come on this.

Trustee Moore thanked everyone at Mid for the generous donation to the Gladwin County Veterans Memorial Fund, per her father's wishes. Dr. Moore's father passed away very recently.

Provost Mertes informed the Board of Trustees that Mid's Nursing Program had a reaccreditation visit last week that went well. Official word should be known soon as to the results of the visit. Mertes offered Kudos to Dean of Health Sciences/Director of Nursing Mt Pleasant, Barb Wieszciecinski for arranging the meetings and etc. for the visit.

Provost Mertes also updated the Trustees on the Campus Beautification project. Three firms have been interviewed thus far, with additional interviews scheduled. More to come.

The Board Chair asked for input on the job description for the President she recently shared with trustees. She asked comments be shared as Trustees review the draft document.

Board Chair Zdrojewski also requested that Trustees begin reviewing board policies in section 200-**Board Process Policies**. This section will be on the board agenda as a first reading in November.

Provost Mertes informed Trustees that he will continue to update the Board concerning ongoing efforts with the Higher Learning Consortium.

Board Chair Zdrojewski adjourned the meeting at 6:52 p.m.

The Board Chair called for adjournment at 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sherry L. Kyle

Exec. Asst. to the President and Board of Trustees