MINUTES OF THE INFORMATION SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF MACOMB

An open information session of the Board of Trustees of the Community College District of the County of Macomb was held Tuesday, February 19, 2013 at 6:00 p.m., in Room 125 of the Professional Development Center, University Center, Center Campus, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township, Michigan.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Kelly at 6:31 p.m. Trustee DiMaria was appointed Acting Secretary.

2.0 ROLL CALL

Present: James F. Kelly, Chairperson
Christine Bonkowski, Vice Chairperson
Roseanne DiMaria, Treasurer
Frank Cusumano, Trustee
Joseph DeSantis, Trustee

Absent: Connie Bolanowski, Secretary
Nancy Falcone, Trustee

Also present: James Jacobs, President
Elizabeth Argiri, Vice President, Business
Jill M. Little, Vice President, Student Services
Patricia Martz, Secretary to the President
Gerri Lynn Pavone, Executive Director, Research and Planning
James Sawyer, Provost/Vice President, Learning Unit
Casandra Ulbrich, Vice President, College Advancement and Community Relations
Hunter L. Wendt, General Counsel
Denise Williams, Vice President, Human Resources

3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by DiMaria, supported by Bonkowski, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried.
4.0 AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

5.0 REVIEW OF AGENDA ITEMS AND MATERIAL

None

6.0 ISSUES AND UPDATES

Dr. Jacobs informed the Trustees that the college received an award from the Macomb County Planning and Economic Development Department for economic development partner of the year which was presented at the Business Macomb Awards event held on February 12.

The most recent enrollment data for the winter semester and comparative enrollment figures for other community colleges was distributed. Dr. Jacobs noted that Macomb’s enrollment figures are better than the majority of the other colleges listed. He also noted that Macomb’s marketing and media expenditures are considerably lower than that of other institutions.

Dr. Jacobs also referred to a recent article in the Free Press regarding student financial aid abuse which indicated that 10% of Henry Ford Community College’s Pell funds were awarded to students who never attended the classes. In comparison, Macomb is at 3.4%. Ms. Argiri noted that steps are being taken to control this problem at Macomb and the policies have been changed over the last few years to mitigate the risk of loss. She further stated that financial aid is now being distributed four weeks after the start of classes, but there are Federal regulations which require institutions to disburse aid within a reasonable amount of time but no later than 60% into the term. Dr. Jacobs informed the Trustees that he plans to take up this matter with the Michigan Community College Association.

6.1 Boardbook – Electronic Board Packet Presentation

Pursuant to inquiries by some of the Trustees regarding a transition to electronic board packets, Mike Zimmerman, Chief Information Officer and Executive Director of IT, presented information on a digital version of a board packet through Boardbook. He explained that this board packet portal is a secure Internet website where digital board packets are prepared and accessed. He explained that each board member would receive an email with a link to the site and each would have their own account for secure access. He demonstrated what the packet would look like electronically and how to navigate through an electronic packet. It was noted that the Michigan Community College Association and several K12 Districts have chosen Boardbook as their option for preparing electronic board material. After Mr. Zimmerman’s presentation, there was a discussion on the selection of a digital device on which to view the material, security issues and costs savings. A request was made for more detailed information as to costs. Ms. Argiri responded that she will provide that information
at a later date. Dr. Jacobs stated that a decision does not need to be made by the Trustees at this time and we can bring this matter back for discussion at a future board meeting.

6.2 Capital Outlay

Dr. Jacobs reminded the Trustees that Macomb was on the capital outlay list for a new building project, however, it was decided instead to petition for renovations to an existing building at South Campus. As a result, Macomb was removed from the list to receive capital outlay funds. Dr. Jacobs stated that in an attempt to be placed back on the capital outlay list for renovation funds for South Campus, he went to Lansing on February 5 to meet with Senator Booher and his Chief of Staff. The Senator was in support of moving the college’s request forward and suggested that a legislator from Macomb County present that request to the committee members. Representative Forlini, who is on the Joint Capital Outlay Subcommittee, is planning to make that request when the committee meets.

6.3 Wayne State University Building Plans

Dr. Jacobs distributed a copy of a letter he received from Wayne State University President Allan Gilmour thanking him for hosting the Wayne State Board of Governors visit to South Campus on January 18 and confirming that on February 6 their Board approved the construction of a facility for their new Advanced Technology Education Center on 12 Mile Road. Dr. Jacobs stated that Dr. Sawyer has prepared for tonight’s meeting a presentation on Macomb’s role relating to this new facility.

Dr. Sawyer began by noting that the evolution of the Wayne State Technical Advance Center began in 2007 followed by Macomb offering Wayne State University classes at South Campus in 2008. He reviewed how this project aligns with Macomb’s organizational goals and purposes and overall mission with transfer education, career preparation, learning outreach, advanced studies, student and community enrichment, economic and workforce development, and student success services. He also stated that this will provide increased post-secondary opportunities in southern Macomb County as well as an opportunity to expand University Center outreach.

He further reviewed the collaborative grant projects with Wayne State, including the Center for Advanced Automotive Technology (CAAT), noting that the college would not have this Center if not for its close working relationship with Wayne State. He also explained the involvement with Wayne State in a grant for electric vehicle technicians and engineers. Macomb’s role is to provide training for the technicians and Wayne State will focus on the engineering. Dr. Sawyer then reviewed the specific programs planned for the facility which
include: Computer Science/IT; Business Supply Chain Management; Electric Vehicle and Battery Technology; Advanced Manufacturing; Engineering and Engineering Tech; Construction Management/Civil Engineering; and Graphics. Dr. Jacobs informed the Trustees that there has been some discussion on construction of a pedestrian bridge to connect the campuses across 12 Mile Road.

6.4 Institutional Priorities

Dr. Jacobs distributed a brochure outlining the college’s institutional priorities. He reminded the Trustees that these three major institutional priorities align with the discussion which took place at the board retreat in September 2012.

RECESS

The meeting recessed at 7:34 p.m.

RECONVENE

The meeting reconvened at 7:44 p.m.

Trustee Cusumano commented that following his discussion with Mr. Wendt during the recess, he believes the subject that administration wishes to discuss in executive session is not appropriate to be discussed in closed session. He further stated that the reopening of any collective bargaining agreements have not been voted on by this Board and that the Board is a party to the contracts. He requested that the issue of collective bargaining be discussed in open session.

Trustee Kelly inquired of Mr. Wendt whether the subject is appropriate to discuss in open session or in executive session. Mr. Wendt responded that the motion is to go into executive session on the basis of collective bargaining, legal matters and attorney/client privilege issues and he feels this is an appropriate topic to discuss in executive session.
7.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by Bonkowski, supported by DiMaria, to move into executive session.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Bonkowski, DiMaria, DeSantis, Kelly

Nays: Cusumano

Absent: Bolanowski, Falcone

Motion failed.

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by DiMaria, supported by Bonkowski, to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.