

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, June 18, 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 6:33 p.m.

2.0 ROLL CALL

Present: James F. Kelly, Chairperson
Christine Bonkowski, Vice Chairperson
Connie Bolanowski, Secretary
Frank Cusumano, Trustee
Nancy Falcone, Trustee

Absent: Joseph DeSantis, Trustee (excused)
Roseanne DiMaria, Treasurer (excused)

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
Michael Zimmerman, CIO and Executive Director of
Communications and Information Technology

3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Motion carried.

4.0 AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

5.0 REVIEW OF AGENDA ITEMS AND MATERIAL

Trustee Kelly requested that an additional item be included on the information session agenda, namely, 6.4 Audit Firm Discussion.

Trustee Bonkowski inquired as to whether the Risk Management Authority Self-Insurance provides defense representation on lawsuits brought against the College and/or the Board. Mr. Wendt responded that it depends on the nature of the lawsuit. Trustee Bonkowski inquired about representation on a specific recent lawsuit filed against the Board and Mr. Wendt responded that representation for the Board is not covered concerning that particular lawsuit.

6.0 ISSUES AND UPDATES

Dr. Jacobs reported that the Summer Skies at Macomb astronomy event with Astronaut Andrew Feustel held on June 14 at south campus was a very successful community event attended by approximately 600 people. He also noted that the next day the Gratiot Cruise was held in Eastpointe at which he was awarded a \$10,000 check from First State Bank for scholarships for graduates of East Detroit High School who plan to enroll at Macomb and who meet the eligibility requirements. Dr. Jacobs was also awarded the Mariam C. Noland Award for Non-Profit Leadership which is presented annually by the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan.

6.1 Unit Update – Human Resources

Ms. Williams provided an update to the Board on the Human Resource unit of the college. She reviewed the responsibilities of the Human Resources area, some of which include federal and state compliance issues, recruiting and hiring, disciplinary matters, contract negotiations, and employee benefits. Ms. Williams stated that they are facing many challenges with the new legislation regarding health care reform and she is working with the Health Care Coalition to consolidate health care plan options. A full health care re-enrollment process will take place this Fall. Ms. Williams stated that the college currently employs approximately 2,000 full-time and part-time employees.

6.2 MCCA Membership and Designation of Trustee Representative

Trustee Bonkowski agreed to continue serving as the trustee director for the Michigan Community College Association Board of Directors and Trustee Kelly agreed to serve as the alternate. This will be voted on at the regular meeting.

6.3 July Board Retreat

Dr. Jacobs reviewed the proposed schedule for the July 16 board retreat and noted the earlier start time for the July 16 information session and board meeting. He also informed the Trustees that he believes it would be beneficial to have the President's Council members present at the board retreat. It was noted that Trustee Falcone is unable to attend the July board meeting and retreat.

6.4 Audit Firm Discussion

Trustee Kelly referred to an email he recently sent to the Trustees regarding the college's audit firm. He stated that Plante & Moran has provided a valuable service to the college and he believes it is in the best interest of the college to continue using this firm. Ms. Argiri added that there are two audits which Plante & Moran performs for the college, the general audit with financial statements for the financial report, and the A133, or single audit. She further explained that the A133 is where Plante & Moran's expertise is so important in terms of review of the college's federal programs, grants and student financial aid and assuring compliance with the federal programs. Ms. Falcone commented that she is in agreement that Plante & Moran is the best choice for the college's audit firm. Ms. Argiri stated that she will ask Plante & Moran to submit a proposal and will bring this matter back to the Board for review.

Dr. Jacobs distributed copies of the 2013 Report to the Community. He also shared a rendering of a proposed crosswalk and median across 12 Mile Road to accommodate pedestrian crossing between the Wayne State University campus and south campus, a significantly less expensive alternative to building a bridge to connect the campuses. The cost is approximately \$120,000 with very minimal maintenance costs. The traffic light at the proposed crosswalk would be coordinated with the other nearby intersection lights. There was a discussion on possible resources available through federal grant funds to assist with the costs.

7.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Falcone, Bonkowski, Bolanowski, Kelly

Nays: Cusumano

Absent: DeSantis, DiMaria

Mr. Wendt stated that he provided the President and the Board Chair with a legal opinion with respect to vote requirements for the Board to consider, in executive session, the written request by the President to review his contract and performance pursuant to Section 8(a) of the Open Meetings Act. Section 7 of the Open Meetings Act indicates that a roll call of two-thirds is required except for certain closed sessions, including section 8(a). Therefore, Mr. Wendt concluded that four affirmative votes would be required to go into executive session to conduct the evaluation of Dr. Jacobs.

Trustee Kelly ruled that, given the legal opinion and the vote, the motion to go into executive session is carried.

Motion carried.

RECESS

The meeting recessed at 7:11 p.m.

RECONVENE

The meeting reconvened at 7:50 p.m.

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Bolanowski, supported by Falcone, to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF MACOMB
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Secretary