

APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE COMMUNITY
COLLEGE DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF MACOMB

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Community College District of the County of Macomb was held Wednesday, March 20, 2019 at 7:30 p.m., in Room 324 of the John Lewis Student Community Center, South Campus, 14500 Twelve Mile Road, Warren, Michigan.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lorenzo at 8:07 p.m.

2.0 ROLL CALL

Present: Katherine Lorenzo, Chairperson
Frank Cusumano, Vice Chairperson
Kristi Dean, Secretary
Roseanne DiMaria, Treasurer
Joan Flynn, Trustee
Shelley Vitale, Trustee

Absent: Vincent Viviano, Trustee

Also present: James Sawyer, President
Sharon Kowal, Executive Administrative Assistant to the President
Jeffrey Steele, General Counsel

3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

ALL IN FAVOR:

Ayes: Flynn, DiMaria, Cusumano, Dean, Vitale, Lorenzo

Nays:

Absent: Viviano

Motion carried.

4.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 Information Session, February 20, 2019

MOTION by Cusumano, supported by Dean, to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2019 Information Session, as read.

ALL IN FAVOR:

Ayes: Cusumano, Dean, DiMaria, Flynn, Vitale, Lorenzo

Nays:

Absent: Viviano

Motion carried.

4.2 Closed Session, February 20, 2019

MOTION by Cusumano, supported by Dean, to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2019 Closed Session, as read.

ALL IN FAVOR:

Ayes: Cusumano, Dean, DiMaria, Flynn, Vitale, Lorenzo

Nays:

Absent: Viviano

Motion carried.

4.3 Regular Meeting, February 20, 2019

MOTION by Cusumano, supported by Dean, to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2019 Regular Meeting, as read.

ALL IN FAVOR:

Ayes: Cusumano, Dean, DiMaria, Flynn, Vitale, Lorenzo

Nays:

Absent: Viviano

Motion carried.

5.0 BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORTS/PROPOSALS

5.1 Board of Trustees Reports (verbal)

Trustee Cusumano noted that, during the information session, he suggested that the board might want to revise the order of the agenda for future meetings so that audience participation, currently at item 9 on the agenda, be moved up to item 7 so that the board of trustees could avail itself of information and opinions of the public before voting on action items. There's nothing before the board today but wanted to say that the board may move in this direction.

6.0 PRESIDENT'S REPORT (verbal)

None.

7.0 FINANCIAL REPORTS

7.1 Financial Statements – February 28, 2019

MOTION by Flynn, supported by Cusumano, to receive and file the financial statements for the eight months ended February 28, 2019.

ALL IN FAVOR:

Ayes: Flynn, Cusumano, Dean, DiMaria, Vitale, Lorenzo

Nays:

Absent: Viviano

Motion carried.

7.2 Investment Report – March 3, 2019

MOTION by DiMaria, supported by Flynn, to receive and file the investment report of securities held as of March 3, 2019.

ALL IN FAVOR:

Ayes: DiMaria, Flynn, Dean, Vitale, Lorenzo

Nays: Cusumano

Absent: Viviano

Motion carried.

8.0 PERSONNEL REPORTS

8.1 Personnel Reports

8.1A Narine Mirijanian, Dean of Health and Public Services

MOTION by Flynn, supported by Cusumano to approve the appointment of Dr. Narine Mirijanian to Dean of Health and Public Services.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Flynn, Cusumano, Dean, DiMaria, Vitale, Lorenzo

Nays:

Absent: Viviano

Motion carried.

8.2 Tentative Agreement with Macomb County Community College Operational Personnel Association (MCCCOPA)

MOTION by DiMaria, supported by Flynn to adopt the tentative agreement as the Collective Bargaining Agreement with Macomb County Community College Operational Personnel Association (MCCCOPA) commencing on April 1, 2019 and terminating on March 31, 2022.

DISCUSSION: Trustee Cusumano stated that in the past he has voted no on several contracts. Today he will be voting yes. This is a modest increase with an annual projected settlement cost to the college of only \$105,699. That goes a long way towards keeping these employees and not turning them over with the new schedule.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: DiMaria, Flynn, Cusumano, Dean, Vitale, Lorenzo

Nays:

Absent: Viviano

Motion carried.

8.3 2019 Resolutions of Appreciation

MOTION by DiMaria, supported by Dean to authorize the creation and presentation of resolutions of appreciation to employees who are retiring or have retired from their employment in 2018-2019. The resolutions of appreciation will be presented on Institutional Development Day on April 16, 2019 at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts.

DISCUSSION: Trustee Lorenzo stated that we certainly appreciate all of the work that our employees have given us and congratulate our new retirees.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: DiMaria, Dean, Cusumano, Flynn, Vitale, Lorenzo

Nays:

Absent: Viviano

Motion carried.

9.0 AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (verbal)

Eugene Groesbeck, Shelby Township

Good evening. I am here, yet again, to briefly address the board with what I construe as the debacle of the recent appointment process that took place here relating to the vacancy on the Macomb Community College Board of Trustees. Not to rehash my credentials, but for those that are here tonight and maybe aren't aware of them, I was the third place finisher in November behind Trustee Flynn and Trustee DiMaria. I received 75,000 votes. I have sought the office five times and appointments three times. I have an associate's from Macomb, a bachelor's, a master's, retired from the Macomb County Sheriff's Department, volunteer in the community with the Resolution Center doing mediation, sit on the Foster Care Review Board. I think my qualifications uniquely lent myself to this seat and 75,000 voters agreed.

Yet the board, out of the 17 people that applied for the vacancy, including my acquaintance Garry Watts, who is retired from the College, didn't even advance myself or Garry to the finalist stage. In fact, in my opinion the only one they advanced that was really qualified, based on experience, was the gentleman who served on the Fraser School Board and he wasn't even given a nomination. Having been through this process three times of appointments, each time it appears the fix was in. That it is a political appointment, favoritism, cronyism of some sort. It is high time, in 2019 that comes to a stop.

I have availed myself under the provisions of the Board of Trustees to ask for a meeting with President Sawyer, which he graciously agreed to on April 1 at 10 a.m. My acquaintance, Garry Watts, is also going to attend. We are going to present, what we consider, as reforms to the appointment process that the Board should consider. Maybe even to the point of using an outside entity to review the applicants and make recommendations to the Board. Also some provision language that if the appointment occurs within proximity to a recent election that the next top vote getter be automatically advanced to the finalist stage, if not outright appointed.

Some places do that, I understand the City of Warren recently did that with a vacancy on the Council, if I'm not mistaken. My brother sits on the Almont Township Board of Trustees and they made a recent vacancy appointment of a similar nature. I know the language with the State is bare bones in terms of you have to make an appointment within 30 days, but above and beyond that you can, from what I understand, you can adopt more stringent, more codified type of language so that it doesn't appear to be cronyism, it doesn't appear to be favoritism. That is what we are going to discuss and present to President Sawyer, so that you are not subject to allegations of cronyism or political favoritism. I think you ought to be concerned with that especially in this day and age when the light is being shined upon all public boards, commissions and councils about transparency and about honesty and ethics and being above board.

I look forward to that meeting on April 1 and I appreciate your willingness to meet with me. As part of that process, I understand that the president has to reduce the concerns that we bring to him to writing and then present to the board and then the board has the option of deciding whether they want to give us a private hearing before the board. The buck stops with you and I'd hope you would at least extend to us the courtesy of that hearing after the president reduces our concerns in writing. I think that would be the proper thing to do.

I want to lay to rest any concerns from Mr. Cusumano who thought that I was being insulting towards the board and that I made disparaging remarks based on a rumor he heard about a board member. I was not insulting, I was adamant, may be my attitude or the things I have to say, but I am a forceful personality. I wouldn't have survived at the Macomb County Sheriff's Department for 25 years, not only as a corrections deputy but as a union official if I wasn't forthright and assertive. I never made disparaging remarks characterizing a board member in the light that Mr. Cusumano had heard that I did and I don't think I came across as insulting to this board. If I did, I ask for your apology because that wasn't my intent. I look forward to meeting with you and again hopefully meeting with the full board after President Sawyer reduces our concerns in writing. Thank you.

10.0 REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATION – INFORMATION ITEMS

10.1 Update on Media Buying and Placement Services

MOTION by DiMaria, supported by Cusumano that the Board of Trustees receive and file the information report.

ALL IN FAVOR:

Ayes: DiMaria, Cusumano, Dean, Flynn, Vitale, Lorenzo

Nays:

Absent: Viviano

Motion carried.

11.0 REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATION – ACTION ITEMS

11.1 Donations – February 28, 2019

MOTION by DiMaria, supported by Flynn to accept the donations as presented and acknowledged by the Administration.

DISCUSSION: Trustee Flynn mentioned that the community has done a little something for the college and noted that the City of Warren's Crime Commission has donated to the Warren Crime Commission scholarship fund.

ALL IN FAVOR:

Ayes: DiMaria, Flynn, Dean, Vitale, Lorenzo

Nays: Cusumano

Absent: Viviano

Motion carried.

11.2 Change Orders (none)

11.3 Authorization for Purchases

11.3A FANUC Robot Collaborative Education Carts

MOTION by Cusumano, supported by DiMaria, that the Board of Trustees authorize the purchase of five (5) FANUC Robot Collaborative Education Carts and associated vision equipment and software in the total amount of \$232,442 from Integrated Systems Technology (IST) of Lexington, OH.

DISCUSSION: Bob Feldmaier, the interim dean of engineering and advanced technology, stated the Education Carts are trainers. They are small replicas of real life robots used in manufacturing. They operate the same, they are programmed the same, they are wonderful student learning devices. Many of the robots we have now are 12 years old. These robots will meet the students' needs of understanding how current equipment works.

Trustee Dean asked if the robots are moveable. Mr. Feldmaier said they are in glass-enclosed carts that are about 3 ft. x 3 ft. and 5-6 ft. tall, so they are moveable. Trustee Dean asked if they would be getting them before or after the renovation of R, S, & T buildings. Mr. Feldmaier said they will be here before the renovation.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Cusumano, DiMaria, Dean, Flynn, Vitale, Lorenzo

Nays:

Absent: Viviano

Motion carried.

11.3B Amatrol Mechanical Drive Learning Systems

MOTION by DiMaria, supported by Flynn, that the Board of Trustees authorize Administration to purchase four (4) Amatrol Mechanical Drive Learning Systems and associated equipment and software in the amount of \$44,520 from Applied Technology Systems of Franklin, MI.

DISCUSSION: Bob Feldmaier said this equipment is a classroom aid for the Mechatronics program. We made major revisions to the program in the last year and this equipment is needed for one of the classes that is now part of the Mechatronics program.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: DiMaria, Flynn, Cusumano, Dean, Vitale, Lorenzo

Nays:

Absent: Viviano

Motion carried.

11.3C Three (3) Issues of the Macomb Connect Magazine- Fall 2019, Winter 2020, Spring/Summer 2020

MOTION by DiMaria, supported by Dean, that the Board of Trustees approve the bid in the amount of \$167,772 for printing and mailing services of three (3) issues of the Macomb *Connect* Magazine for Fall 2019, Winter 2020, and Spring/Summer 2020 to Stafford Media Group of Greenville, Michigan.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: DiMaria, Dean, Cusumano, Flynn, Vitale, Lorenzo

Nays:

Absent: Viviano

Motion carried.

11.4 Center Campus B Building Renovation Bids and Proposed Budget

MOTION by DiMaria, supported by Cusumano that the Board of Trustees approve the proposed budget for the renovation of center campus B building and the bids as presented, and authorize the award of contracts subject to the review and approval of General Counsel.

DISCUSSION: Trustee Cusumano said that because the amounts are not stated in the motion please note that this item went through the request for proposal as publicly advertised and these bids are being awarded to the lowest bidders.

Trustee Flynn stated in her opinion she feels that Macomb County citizens voted for the millage and Macomb County businesses voted for the millage and the companies that are doing the building construction should be from Macomb County, not elsewhere. The Macomb County businesses that bid, even though they were not the lowest bid, should be considered because after all they are paying for the school tax. Thank you.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: DiMaria, Cusumano, Dean, Vitale, Lorenzo

Nays: Flynn

Absent: Viviano

Motion carried.

11.5 Architectural Services for the Skilled Trades and Advanced Technology Center

MOTION by DiMaria, supported by Flynn, that the Board of Trustees authorize the Administration to engage Hobbs + Black for architectural services for the Skilled Trades and Advanced Technology Center Capital Outlay Renovation Project.

DISCUSSION: Trustee Cusumano asked if the bids are made public and do we send confirmation to the other bidders so they can see where they placed and maybe they would adjust their bidding practices to become a little more competitive with Hobbs + Black. Hobbs + Black was significantly less, 8 or 9 percent less than the next lowest bidder and a half million dollars less than the highest bidder which is Progressive AE. Mr. Bill Simonson, Director of Administrative Services responded yes, following the bid opening, all the bidders are sent the bid tabulation with the numbers so they know where they fell in the lineup.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: DiMaria, Flynn, Cusumano, Dean, Vitale, Lorenzo

Nays:

Absent: Viviano

Motion carried.

12.0 POLICY ACTIONS

12.1 Policy on College Grants (Second Reading)

MOTION by DiMaria, supported by Dean, that the Board of Trustees adopt, second reading, the attached proposed policy on College Grants.

DISCUSSION: Trustee Cusumano said in case anyone in the public is curious there has been a systematic review of our policies by General Counsel at the direction of the Office of the President. That is why these policies are being updated, corrected, or made more elegant. Thank you.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: DiMaria, Dean, Cusumano, Flynn, Vitale, Lorenzo

Nays:

Absent: Viviano

Motion carried.

12.2 Policy on Tuition, Fees and Costs by Financial Transaction Device (Second Reading)

MOTION by DiMaria, supported by Cusumano, that the Board of Trustees adopt, second reading, the attached proposed policy on Payment of Tuition, Fees and Costs by Financial Transaction Device.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: DiMaria, Cusumano, Dean, Flynn, Vitale, Lorenzo

Nays:

Absent: Viviano

Motion carried.

12.3 Policy on Security Guidelines Procedure (Second Reading)

MOTION by DiMaria, supported by Cusumano, that the Board of Trustees adopt, second reading, the attached proposed policy on Security Guidelines Procedure.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: DiMaria, Cusumano, Dean, Flynn, Vitale, Lorenzo

Nays:

Absent: Viviano

Motion carried.

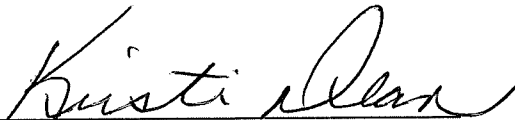
13.0 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Cusumano, supported by Dean, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF MACOMB BOARD OF TRUSTEES


Secretary