



BOARD OF TRUSTEES Minutes

The McDowell Technical Community College Board of Trustees met in formal session on Thursday, September 9, 2021 at 5: 30p.m in the Universal Advanced Manufacturing Center Conference Room.

Members in Attendance: Robert Ayers, Bill Bach, Gwen Conley, Susan English, Mark Garrett, Randy Hollifield, Nancy Hunter, William Kehler, Ray McKesson, Kay Medford, Donald Ramsey, Gary Stroud

Others present: Dr. Penny Cross, Ryan Garrison, and Madalyn Gaito

Present via Zoom: Dr. Brian Merritt, Ladelle Harmon

Present via Conference Call: Michael Lavender, Judy Melton

Media: None

Call to Order: 6:00pm

Chairperson Stroud welcomed the board members and called the meeting to order

Prayer: Kay Medford

N.C.G.S. ̈138A-15(e): Ethics Act

Chair Stroud read the Ethics Awareness & Conflict of Interest statement. No conflicts were noted.

Approval of Board Minutes

Chair Stroud called for approval of the board minutes from the regularly scheduled meeting held on August 12th, 2021.

Robert Ayers moved to approve the minutes. Randy Hollifield seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved.

New Business

Financial Committee Report – Chair McKesson

Financial Committee Chair Ray McKesson presented the county detail budget report dated August 31, 2021. Mr. McKesson reported that the state budget has not been passed.

Nancy Hunter made the motion to accept the report. William Kehler seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the report was accepted.

Building & Grounds Committee – Chair Ramsey

Dr. Merritt shared that the lease on the building in Old Fort has been delayed until the October board meeting due to the death of Old Fort Alderman Andrew Carlton.

Personnel Committee – Chair Medford

No report

MTCC Foundation

Nancy Hunter reported that the Foundation met on Aug. 18 for an orientation meeting that



included a tour of the Cosmetic Arts Building, the Smith Academic Resource Center and the old cosmetology space. The next Foundation meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 17th.

McDowell Co. Education Committee Report

Dr. Merritt reported that the committee met on August 24th. Kay Medford and Gwen Conley joined Dr. Merritt in representing MTCC on the committee.

Covered in the meeting:

- 170 students enrolled in the MCS Virtual Academy
- It has been a good start to the year at MTCC as we have welcomed MAI and MEC students back on campus.
- The Gateway Foundation is rebidding the workforce housing complex project on College Drive.

President's Report

1. Policy BP1.28 Telework – 2nd reading

Mr. Harmon presented the policy to the trustees for the 2nd reading and a vote. Dr. Cross provided examples of how the policy has already been implemented to allow a quarantined staff member to successfully work from home.

William Kehler made the motion to approve BP 1.28 Telework. Kay Medford seconded the motion. A vote was taken and BP 1.28 Telework was approved.

2. Campus Entrance Sign Update

Mr. Garrison provided trustees with color copies of two sign options. The first sign was deemed too large based on City of Marion regulations but the College could request a variance. The second sign is small and would not need a variance. He is waiting to receive the full costs of both signs. Mr. Garrett asked that LED specs be obtained to show how bright the sign would be and how visible it would be to oncoming traffic.

It was the consensus of the Board that the administration would move forward with seeking a variance to construct the larger sign.

3. College Update

Dr. Merritt referred the Trustees to the President's Report provided in their packets.

- Enrollment is up almost 9% and FTE is up almost 11%
- Will be starting to benchmark progress of the Strategic Plan this month, beginning with the President's Council meeting on September 14th.
- Met with Superintendent Mark Garrett and Chief Allen Lawrence to discuss the need for SRO's and security on campus. Currently creating a job description for a College Resource Officer.

Board Chair Report

Chair Stroud announced that he, along with Bill Bach, Don Ramsey and Dr. Merritt would be attending the NCACCT Legislative/Law Seminar in Wilmington, NC on Sept. 23 & 24th.

Other

Mr. Ayers thanked the administration for the ceremony honoring the 2021 MTCC Alumni Award recipients.



Announcements

Mr. Hollifield shared that a memorial service will be held on Saturday, Sept. 11 on the Courthouse lawn at noon to honor the 13 military personnel who were recently killed in Afghanistan.

G. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn Don Ramsey

Second Robert Ayers

Meeting adjourned at: 6:39pm. The next regular meeting of the MTCC Board of Trustees is scheduled for Thursday, October 14, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Brian S. Merrit
Secretary to the Board

CC: VP, Deans, SGA