

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Name of Item: Resolution to accept Minutes of the September 25, 2013 Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Initiated by: John Fitzsimmons, President

Board Action: [X] **Board Information:** []

Background: Attached

Text of Proposed Resolution:

That the Board of Trustees accept the Minutes of the September 25, 2013 meeting of the Board of Trustees as presented.



Maine Community College System

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
323 State Street, Augusta, ME 04330
207-629-4000

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MAINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

Southern Maine Community College, South Portland

September 25, 2013

Board Members Present: Robert Clark, Chair;, Jean Ginn Marvin, Steven Howe, Dennis King, Kaitlyn Kinsey, David MacMahon, Christopher McCormick, Daniel Wathen, Jeanne Paquette

Board Members Absent: Carol Epstein, Vice Chair; Kris Doody, Laurence Grondin, Joanna Jones, Stephen Bowen

Others Present: John Fitzsimmons, Ellyn Chase, Lawrence Barrett, Ronald Cantor, Joseph Cassidy, Timothy Crowley, Christopher Hall, Richard Hopper, Scott Knapp, David Daigler, Derek Langhauser, Helen Pelletier, Beth Shorr, Jon Connolly, Karen White, Barbara Woodlee, Jon Nass

Chair Clark determined that a quorum of Trustees was present and that no one from the public wished to address the Board of Trustees. The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Resolution to accept Minutes of the June 26, 2013 Meeting

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Wathen and seconded by Trustee King to accept the minutes of the June 26, 2013 meeting. It was unanimously approved.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

Chair Clark stated that week the MCCS had received a \$13,000,000 grant. He recognized those employees who put long hours into the preparation of the application and made it successful. He thanked them, and read a prepared letter to be entered into the minutes for public record.

“Last week we received notification that Maine was awarded a \$13,000,000 grant by the U.S. Department of Labor, to help meet the growing demand for skilled IT workers across a range of industries. This is wonderful news for the people of Maine, businesses across the state, and our seven colleges. This grant was extraordinarily challenging to prepare, and we are all indebted to the committee for their time on this. And I would like to especially acknowledge and thank Helen Pelletier who coordinated the undertaking. As a member of the Board of Trustees, I was very pleased to see the collaborative effort across all seven colleges, which resulted in putting such a strong proposal in front of the U.S. Department of Labor. On behalf of the Board and the thousands who will benefit from this training, you have our sincere appreciation. Because of your good work, over two thousand people will now benefit from the training opportunities available from this grant for the next three years.”

Chair Clark then introduced President John Fitzsimmons.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President Fitzsimmons gave an update on the search for a new YCCC President. He acknowledged Dr. Hall, currently serving as Interim President. He noted that there had been 37 initial candidates, and those have been narrowed down to 20. Trustee Steven Howe will be leading the Search Committee, which will get underway in October. He added that hopefully, by the January Board meeting, there will be a new President for the college. He noted the tragic losses at YCCC over the past eight years, and the effect of those losses on the continuity of leadership. He noted that they were seeking a president to bring vision and direction for many years, and noted that there were some very strong candidates.

President Fitzsimmons also updated the Board on the upcoming bond. He stated the MCCC was very fortunate that when the Legislature reconvened and worked with the Governor they created a series of bonds for the State. He said that we were thrilled to have a bond for \$15,500,000 for the community colleges, and that this would make a huge difference for us. He noted that there is a very short period of time for preparation because of the late passage, and therefore a tight timeline to get a campaign up and running. President Fitzsimmons explained that because of help received from our own foundation (which gave \$55,000 for the new campaign), because of money donated by our very own Trustees (amounting to another \$20,000), because of the Annual Golf Tournament (which brought in another \$25,000), and because of an unsolicited gift from Trustee Chris McCormick, President of LL Bean (\$25,000), all in combination with what the College Presidents have raised, the campaign currently has a budget of \$200,000. He noted that in Maine this is a very good amount, and while they may try to raise another \$25,000 to \$50,000, he is thrilled that, in such a short period of time, the MCCC raised that kind of money. He noted it would allow for TV advertisement. President Fitzsimmons emphasized that this is an extremely important bond to us. He stated that it began with the help of Representative Kenneth Fredette, the Minority Leader in the House, who put the bond in, and said he would support it as long as it is tied to addressing renovations or new buildings that will help address the backlog of the 4,000 people waiting to get in to community colleges. President Fitzsimmons stated that is exactly what this bond does, and

that, if successful, an additional 2,400 people would be able to go through our colleges. Helen Pelletier is the point person on the campaign, and she and President Fitzsimmons have already had two meetings with the firm that will be doing the advertising, and are to meet with them again tomorrow. He thanked Helen for heading up the effort.

President Fitzsimmons stated that, unfortunately, Trustee Larry Grondin was unable to attend today. He explained that the Grondins, through the Sturdivant Island Tuna Tournament, have raised money for our colleges for many years. It is an annual tournament run out of Portland, and a very successful one. This year they raised \$65,000. Last night the tournament group, along with our seven college presidents, met as the tournament officials awarded that money to each of our seven colleges. President Fitzsimmons stated that this group came together of their own volition and uses their event to raise money for us, and he added "it's spectacular". All seven colleges now benefit. President Fitzsimmons noted that he will personally thank Trustee Grondin, but he'd love to ensure he gets recognition in the public minutes, stating that his family was instrumental in creating this, in keeping it going, and that it has brought in hundreds of thousands of dollars into our colleges for scholarships. President Fitzsimmons concluded: "This is an example of a few people making a difference, and Larry and his family deserve that credit."

President Fitzsimmons addressed receiving the \$13,000,000 in TAACCCT grant funding from the U.S. Department of Labor for 36 IT training and degree programs. He stated that, as he has requested in the past, he needs permission from the Trustees to approve putting these programs up. Normally all programs that are implemented in the System have to be approved by the Trustees. Because of the extremely tight timeline, President Fitzsimmons asked that the Trustees authorize him, on behalf of the Board, to put all of these programs up on a temporary basis. Any program that the colleges wish to continue on a permanent basis will have to come back through the Board of Trustees' Education Committee for full review and then to the full Board for formal approval.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Wathen and seconded by Trustee Howe to grant authority to President Fitzsimmons and the colleges to run these grant programs on a temporary basis. It was unanimously approved.

Resolution to ratify collective bargaining agreements between MCCS Board of Trustees and MEA Administrators Unit, the Board and AFSCME Unit, and the Board and MSEA Supervisors Unit

President Fitzsimmons asked the Board to approve these negotiated agreements.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee King and seconded by Trustee McCormick to ratify these collective bargaining agreements. They were unanimously approved.

Resolution to authorize the Board's Executive Committee to ratify, pending unit ratification, the collective bargaining agreement between the MCCS Board of Trustees and MSEA Support Unit

President Fitzsimmons stated that he anticipates that the MSEA Support Services Unit will reach agreement within the next couple of weeks, and as the Board is not scheduled to meet until November, he'd like authority for the Board's Executive Committee to review the final agreement. If it's deemed acceptable, the Executive Committee could then authorize us to accept, and that group of employees would have their salaries increased.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Wathen and seconded by Trustee Howe to accept the resolution. It was unanimously approved.

Resolution to adopt MCCS 2014-2019 Strategic Plan Goals

President Fitzsimmons noted the System is about to build a new Strategic Plan for the next five years. The new plan will be developed over the next year, and it begins with the Board approving goals. Then the Board will receive input from the seven college presidents on what we believe are some key areas we need to work on. Potential goals were discussed this summer in the retreat with the Trustees, and now we have six goals that we want to move forward. During our work session this morning, it was determined that goal six, which is currently stated as "Support Economic Development" would be amended to "Support Economic and Workforce Development". President Fitzsimmons asked for approval of the six goals, with the inclusion of this amendment.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee McCormick and seconded by Trustee Kinsey to accept the resolution. It was unanimously approved.

President Fitzsimmons noted that, with this approval, we'll begin work on developing objectives and measures, and come back through the Strategic Planning Committee of the Board so they will scrutinize those. He explained that we hope to have a final plan ready for review in early spring, and to have it in place by July 1, 2014.

Resolution to award Faculty Emeritus Status

President Fitzsimmons said, before handing the discussion over to Dr. Cantor, that he would be remiss if he didn't say he is thrilled SMCC is recognizing this faculty member. He has known Walter Chop for many years; he described Chop as a class act, and the very example of why we bestow Faculty Emeritus Status upon certain faculty.

President Cantor seconded President Fitzsimmons' sentiments, stating that Walter Chop is the kind of faculty member we all wish we had more of, that he's been at SMCC for more than three decades, and that he's truly a nationally and internationally recognized educator in Respiratory Therapy. Walter Chop's specialty is working with newborn babies and children with respiratory problems. He has written numerous textbooks in the field, and in fact, Dr. Cantor stated that one reason this emeritus status is important is because in his retirement he will continue to publish textbooks. President Cantor added that the best thing he can say is how

highly Walter Chop is respected by his students, his colleagues, his former students, and he stated that Chop really is a star at the college. Over 200 people attended his retirement party, and everyone had wonderful stories to tell about working with him, and learning from him. President Cantor concluded that he has absolutely no reservation on his part to endorse this emeritus status, and requested approval from the Board.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Wathen and seconded by Trustee King to accept the resolution. It was unanimously approved.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Resolution to authorize implementation of a two-year AAS in Pulp and Paper Technology at EMCC

Trustee Howe brought the proposal before the full Board, requesting its acceptance and noting that the Education Committee had reviewed the request and unanimously endorsed it moving forward to the full Board for implementation consideration.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Howe and seconded by Trustee Wathen to accept the resolution. It was unanimously approved.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Resolution to approve the FY14 Budget as amended

Trustee Clark discussed the budget amendment, noting an increase of about 8.3 million dollars for added expenses due to many different factors, including LD 90. He also noted that the Committee discussed the upcoming audit with Baker, Newman and Noyes, which must be submitted to the state by October 15th. He stated that the Finance and Executive Committees will meet prior to that to review those reports. Baker, Newman and Noyes are also working toward completing the A133 student aid which should be done by October as well.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Wathen and seconded by Trustee King to accept the resolution. It was unanimously approved.

OTHER BUSINESS

Resolution to accept gifts to the MCCC

- ◆ *Kennebec Valley Community College*
 - \$1,000 cash donation
 - Skystream 3.7 Wind Turbine
 - Electric Birthing Bed, Neonatal Isolet
 - Misc. Patient Care Supplies
 - 1 Hospital Bed Mattress

◆ *Foundation for Maine's Community Colleges*

\$428,548.10 (Jan. 1 to Mar. 31, 2013)

\$538,612.14 (Apr. 1 to June 30, 2013)

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Wathen and seconded by Trustee Kinsey to accept the gifts. It was unanimously approved.

As there was no other business to be presented, Chair Clark adjourned the meeting at 1:33 p.m.

John Fitzsimmons, Secretary

Robert P. Clark
Chair of the Board of Trustees
Maine Community College System