

Approved Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Alpena Community College Board of Trustees
April 18, 2024
665 Johnson Street, Alpena, MI 49707

On Thursday, April 18, 2024, the Alpena Community College Board of Trustees held its regular monthly meeting in the Roger C. Bauer Board Room, 400 Natural Resources Center. The meeting was brought to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair John Briggs.

Trustees present in person: John Briggs, Teresa Duncan, Joseph Gentry II, Lisa Hilberg, Susan Stender, Florence Stibitz, and Tom Townsend. Absent trustees: none.

Also present in person: ACC President Dr. Don MacMaster and Board Secretary Denis “Jay” Walterreit.

Trustee Stender led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Trustee Stibitz that the agenda be approved as presented; the motion was seconded by Trustee Townsend. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

Approval of the Proposed Minutes of the March 21, 2024, Regular Meeting

Trustee Gentry made the motion to approve the proposed minutes of the March 21, 2024, regular board meeting; the motion was seconded by Trustee Duncan. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

Introduction of Guests and Public Comment

Guests attending the meeting in person or via Webex were: Officer Jason Collegnon, Alpena Police Department; Temi Fadayomi, The Alpena News; Dr. Paige Gordier, ACC administration; Dr. Nick Brege, ACC administration; Kurt Konieczny, ACC administration; Brenda Herman, ACC administration; Mark Hunter; Tim Kuehnlein, ACC faculty; Gavin MacDonald; Nick Poli; Lilly McKenzie, ACC student; Madison Allen, ACC student; John Kurowski, ACC student; Mary Ellen Jones; Dawn Stone, ACC administration; and Bob Tosch (via Webex).

Bob Tosch delivered his public comments virtually via Webex.

Communication(s)

President MacMaster noted that Congressman Jack Bergman’s office sent a certificate of special congressional recognition to ACC in recognition of the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the welding and manufacturing tech labs.

Board Member and Subcommittee Reports

Trustee Duncan noted the following points related to the ACC Foundation:

- The Besser Company Center for Manufacturing Excellence and Holcim Industrial Education and Welding Center ribbon cutting ceremonies occurred this afternoon. We had good attendance with approximately 60 people that came to tour the newly renovated facilities.
- The next ACC Foundation quarterly board meeting is this coming Thursday, April 25.
- Next Friday, April 26, Jackie Krawczak, ACC Foundation trustee, will be hosting an invitation-only lunch with the President event on the Alpena Campus where Dr. MacMaster will connect with area business leaders to share how the College currently strives to meet the needs of local businesses, and to learn from them through informal conversation. There will be optional tours of the Hall of Health Sciences, Center for Manufacturing Excellence, and Industrial Education and Welding Center.

Faculty Report

History Instructor Tim Kuehnlein was joined by several ACC students and community members to talk about the results of two recent class-related activities.

- Results of the Northeast Michigan Community Enhancement Survey, conducted cooperatively with the Sunset Project and ACC's Political Science 222 class.
- The Unify Challenge College Bowl, which is a guided video conversation between students from different schools about topics like mental health, climate change, policing, student loans, and immigration.

Student Report

The Student Report was combined with the Faculty Report.

President's Report

President's Report to the Alpena Community College Board of Trustees

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Higher Learning Commission Annual Accreditation Conference

Dr. Paige Gordier, Vice President of Instruction, Dawn Stone, Dean of Workforce Development and ACC accreditation coordinator, and Sarah Burt, Director of Learning Technologies, recently attended the Higher Learning Commission's annual conference in Chicago. ACC's 10-year re-accreditation cycle culminates in a 2027 site visit by the HLC. Dr. Gordier is here tonight to share what the ACC team learned at the conference.

Exoneration Event

ACC graduate and Cooley Law School graduate Ann (Lappan) Garant led a powerful and positive Exoneration Event in Fitzpatrick Hall last Thursday evening. Garant works with a team of attorneys from Cooley Law School at Western Michigan University to support exoneration of wrongfully convicted individuals, many of whom spent decades in prison for crimes they didn't commit. Four such exonerees comprised a panel discussion at the event. Each of their stories differed but advances in forensic analysis, DNA in particular, played a pivotal role in getting their convictions overturned. The exonerees, attorney Garant, and a number of attendees expressed gratitude to ACC for hosting the event. Kudos to Tim Kuehnlein for his leadership in bringing this important discussion to ACC.

CTE Signing Day

The partnership between Alpena Public Schools and Alpena Community College in career and technical education was highlighted by the second annual CTE Signing Day held in Fitzpatrick Commons on Thursday, April 18. National Signing Day spotlights APS' CTE students signing letters of intent to come to ACC to continue on the path toward fruitful careers in occupational fields. Congratulations to APS staff and ACC tech faculty for championing this event. Kudos also to Director of Admissions Mike Kollien and Darrin Lightner, his outstanding colleague in the Admissions Office, for their focus and commitment to these students and CTE. The partnership between APS and ACC is an invaluable community asset.

Welding and Manufacturing Ribbon Cutting and Open House

The ribbon-cutting and open house for the welding and manufacturing lab upgrades held this afternoon signified the successful conclusion of this 4-year, \$3.5 million project. Donors, local leaders, faculty, and staff shared in the good feeling of this institutional accomplishment. Thanks to all who contributed to this successful outcome.

Phi Theta Kappa Award in Orlando

Many thoughts crossed my mind as I waited backstage at the Gaylord Conference Center to be announced as a 2024 recipient of the Shirley K. Gordon award at the Phi Theta Kappa annual conference in Orlando, Florida, on Friday, April 4. The Gordon award honors community college presidents who demonstrate commitment to student success with written nominations provided by current or former Phi Theta Kappa students. Not knowing who supplied the nomination or what they said made the award in some ways sweeter, a common theme among the other 15 presidents from the nation's 1,150 community colleges across the country receiving the Gordon award.

Standing backstage my thoughts landed on a visit early in my presidency from a vibrant senior citizen from Black River who had my dad as principal in 1960 at Alcona High School. I was born in 1959 so the stories she told I'd never heard before — I never had my dad as either a teacher or an administrator. She brought along a black and white photo of my father in his office at a point in his life and career when he was younger than I was at the time of her visit. Despite the decades, I recognized the look. It's framed in my office, looking over my shoulder keeping tabs on things. Your dad could be a stern disciplinarian, she recalled, but she liked him and respected him. What she liked best, she said, is that no matter what you did that landed you in his office, he had a way of making you feel he was in your corner.

Then my name was called and out I went. It felt great to represent Alpena Community College in this setting, with approximately 6,000 Phi Theta Kappa honorees and their advisors applauding with brightness and enthusiasm. I doubt most of them knew where Alpena is. Looking out, what I saw was youth, vitality, and the diversity of this nation. Picture ACC's recent Phi Theta Kappa honorees — Megan Wright, Olivia Hemker, Todd Graham, Morgan Esch, Yuki Nishibashi, to name just a few — in a group of 6,000 young people radiating similar brainpower and positive energy. That's how it felt to me. A wise man once noted that community colleges attach wings to dreams. It takes hope and energy to lift off, to focus on the present with the future in mind. That's what ACC does and it was a career highlight to represent this fine institution and the communities it serves.



About the photo: ACC President Dr. Don MacMaster (middle) receives the 2024 Shirley K. Gordon award at the Phi Theta Kappa annual conference in Orlando, Florida, on Friday, April 4, 2024. Presenting the award was Amanda Karpinski Gorman, Alumni Representative from Bergen Community College (left), and Dr. Lyn Tincher-Ladner, President and CEO of Phi Theta Kappa (right).

Action Items

2.896 Resolution in Support of Expanding Student Housing at the Alpena Campus

The following resolution was proposed by Trustee Townsend and seconded by Trustee Gentry:

The Alpena Community College Board of Trustees unanimously supports expanding student housing opportunities on the Alpena Campus; furthermore, the trustees encourage all interested parties to vigorously pursue activities which lead to the addition of new housing opportunities.

Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

Financial Report

Monthly General Fund Revenue and Expense through March 2024 (Year-to-Year Actual Comparison)

- The property tax receipts of \$3,153,534 are \$202,912 more than those for March 2023, as expected.
- Tuition/fee receipts of \$6,636,668 are \$690,487 more primarily due to higher-than-expected billable contact hours and running nursing packages through course fees.
- State aid for the current year is \$3,760,409, \$289,389 more than last year with the 2024 cost offset payment being \$65,840 more than last year. The remaining portion of state aid is as expected.
- Interest income is derived from the significant cash balances swept into money market accounts. The increase from last year is due to changing the way the College invests those funds. We are now taking full advantage of the higher rates available.
- Other revenue is \$92,518 higher than last year primarily due to the timing of the ADN to BSN Completion grant transfer.
- OIT is higher due to the annual Ellucian software cost expensed.
- Institutional Administration is significantly higher primarily due to legal fees (\$77,000), timing of advertising costs (\$45,000) and changes in fringe benefit selections (\$16,000).
- Net income through the ninth month of the fiscal year shows as a gain of \$1,489,675 which is expected this time of year.

Monthly General Fund Revenue and Expense through March 2024 (Budget-to-Actual Comparison)

- Outside Services are higher due to the Ellucian software expense and because of higher legal and advertising fees as noted above.

- Supplies are much higher due to running nursing packages through course fees as noted above. These packages are purchased through nursing instructional supplies.
- All categories are in acceptable ranges for this stage of the year except as noted above.

General Fund Month-to-Month Comparison through March 2024

- The Month-to-Month comparisons are tracking as expected except as noted above.

Consolidated Income Statement for the first three quarters of FY 2024

- The deficit in Endowments and Scholarships is due to the delayed payment of the Michigan Achievement Scholarships. That payment is expected to be received from the State in May.
- The deficit in plant funds is due to timing of receipts for the Center for Manufacturing Excellence project.
- Other balances are reasonable for this time of year.

Personnel Report

New hires, terminations, and status changes from March 9 to April 11, 2024.

New Hires:

- None.

Re-Hires:

- None.

Transfers:

- None.

Resignations:

- Joshua Holman, Women’s Assistant Basketball Coach, effective immediately (his position as ESP2 TRiO Advisor is unaffected).

Terminations:

- None.

Retirements:

- None.

Name Changes:

- None.

Position Name Changes:

- None.

Gifts and Grants Report

This report reflects the following activity for pledges and gifts received by the ACC Foundation between March 12 and April 11, 2024.

Total Donors:	46
New Gifts:	\$21,687.00
Pledge Payments:	\$30,000.00
New Pledges:	\$0.00

Board Discussion

Chair Briggs noted there may be a need to conduct a special meeting to address the replacement of boilers in Besser Technical Center. Facilities Director Kurt Konieczny is in the process of collecting information about the project and the trustees will be notified when a bid package is ready for consideration. Once a date has been set the Board Secretary will post the meeting and distribute the bid information.

New Business

None.

Suggested Future Agenda Items

None.

Next Regular Meeting

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 16, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in Room 400 of the Charles R. Donnelly Natural Resources Center, but a special meeting may be called prior to that date. Virtual attendance will be available through Webex.

Adjournment

The regular meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Denis J. Walterreit,
Secretary of the Board of Trustees
(989) 358-7215