

**Approved Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Alpena Community College Board of Trustees
Thursday, August 20, 2026
665 Johnson Street, Alpena, MI 49707**

On Thursday, August 20, 2026, the Alpena Community College Board of Trustees held its regular monthly meeting in the Roger C. Bauer Board Room, 400 Natural Resources Center.

Prior to the start of the regular meeting, the trustees gathered at the new College Park Apartments building for a tour of one of the new apartments.

The regular portion of 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, Board Secretary Denis “Jay” Walterreit, and Campus Safety Office Deputy Mike Lash.

Pledge of Allegiance

Trustee Hilberg led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Trustee Townsend made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Trustee Stibitz seconded the motion. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

Approval of the Proposed Minutes of the June 18, 2026, Regular Meeting, the June 18, 2026, Closed Session, and the July 24, 2026, Special Meeting

Trustee Gentry made the motion to approve the proposed minutes of the June 18, 2026, regular meeting, June 18, 2026, closed session, and July 24, 2026, special board meeting; Trustee Stender seconded the motion. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

Introduction of Guests and Public Comment

Guests attending the meeting in person were: Reagan Voetberg, The Alpena News; Dr. Paige Gordier, ACC administration; Dr. Nick Brege, ACC administration; Kristen Wisniewski, ACC administration; Andrew Paad, ACC faculty; Karen Bennett, ACC legal counsel; and Bruce and Connie Frost.

Matt Bedard, ACC faculty, attended via Webex.

No public comment was given.

Communication(s)

None.

Board Member and Subcommittee Reports

Trustee Duncan submitted the following report on recent Alpena Community College Foundation activities:

Over the past two months, Foundation activity has remained focused on donor engagement, student support, event preparation, and scholarships for the new academic year.

- The Foundation sent out the latest edition of the Lumberjack Link newsletter for alumni and friends of Alpena Community College. Nearly 2,000 printed copies were mailed. So far, we've raised \$26,800 from the magazine, including a \$25,000 donation to the new Building Blocks of Learning Fund, which will provide required course materials to students in need.
- The Foundation has helped two students so far this summer with transportation costs and is in the process of helping a third. All three are returning sophomores who demonstrate academic skill. None of them would be able to attend class in person this fall without Foundation support.
- The ACC Foundation has awarded 314 scholarships so far this academic year, totaling \$261,975. We are in the process of awarding nearly 40 more scholarships through our first ever late scholarship application period, which we instituted to give students who enrolled at ACC after the traditional scholarship application period a chance to be awarded some much-needed assistance.
- The 31st Annual Robert M. Granum Scramble for Students was a success, despite having to be postponed because of rain in July. Sponsorship payments are still coming in, but we've so far grossed about \$40,600.
- We have hired Laura Douglas to be the next ACC Director of Alumni Relations. Laura is married to a Northeastern Michigan native and will be moving here from Arizona. She has extensive communications experience and has all the skills needed to be successful. Her first day on the job is September 28.
- We are welcoming Candie Dombroski to the ACC Foundation board. She is replacing Ryan Suszek in service to the Foundation and will maintain our strong direct connection to Besser Company. We are lucky to have her serve with us. She joins our other new trustees: Sara Winter, Roy Smith, and Andrew Kowalski.
- The Foundation is currently participating in our annual audit.

- We are hard at work on our next two events hosted by the ACC Foundation, which are the Lumberjack Legends Athletics Hall of Fame on September 19 and our donor appreciation luncheon on October 1.

Student Report

None.

Faculty Report

Marketing instructor Matt Bedard addressed the trustees via Webex; he shared updates on his efforts to add more marketing- and business-related articulation agreements with Michigan universities as well as his work related to the Michigan transfer pathways project.

President's Report

President's Report to the Alpena Community College Board of Trustees
August 20, 2026

Fall Semester Enrollment

Two weeks before fall semester classes start on August 31, enrollment data compared to the same point in 2025 shows the following:

- Headcount down 1.3%, or 19 students
- Credit hours up 0.8 percent, or 110 credit hours
- Contact hours up 0.4 percent, or 68 contact hours

New First Time Students is up while Continuing Students is down slightly. Dual enrollment is down in headcount and up in both credit and contact hours. An investment of \$40 million by the State in the FY27 budget to fully reimburse K-12s with a Prosperity Index of 4 or above for dual enrollment and early college tuition payments should support continued regional enrollment in these categories. The four AMA K-12s in aggregate funded more than \$1 million in dual enrollment and early college tuition and fees payments at ACC in FY26. Online enrollment is down in headcount but up in credit and contact hours. Faculty and staff will make a sustained final push beginning next week, but enrollment data at this point looks stable and consistent with Fall 2025, which was the highest fall semester enrollment at ACC since 2017.

ACC Student-Athletes Earn Academic Awards

(From Athletic Director Allen Telgenhof)

ACC had 13 student athletes recognized as NJCAA Academic All-Americans in FY26:

- 1st team
 - Reagan Fitzpatrick, volleyball
- 2nd team
 - Elizabeth Barnhill, women's cross country
 - Charlie Best, baseball and esports
 - Justin Fisher, baseball
 - Carter Kosinski, men's cross country
 - Jenalee Kotula, women's soccer
 - Raquelle Miller, volleyball
 - Abby Platt, women's soccer and basketball
 - Gabe Trudeau, men's cross country
- 3rd team
 - Brayden Franzel, men's basketball
 - Max McCarty, baseball and esports
 - Alaina Neubecker, volleyball and softball
 - Avery Thurston, men's soccer

Major Projects Near Completion

Thanks to maintenance, housing, business office, and workforce staff for their sustained effort over the summer to bring these projects to fruition. These projects represent significant upgrades to the capacity of ACC to serve students and enhance our shared mission of student success.

Farming the Sun Solar Array is connected to the grid and begins generating power. (Photo courtesy of Jay Walterreit)



College Park Apartments nears completion.



Workers finish freshly poured concrete in the circle drive in front of the WCCT and EPTC.



Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union-supported upgrade in Center Building awaits student use.

Action Items

3.000 Emeritus Status for Bruce Frost

The following resolution was proposed by Trustee Hilberg and seconded by Trustee Stibitz:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Alpena Community College unanimously applauds Bruce Frost for his service to the College and its students, and, recognizing his distinguished attributes, confers upon him the title of EMERITUS, as appropriate with all the rights and privileges appertaining thereunto.

Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

3.001 Affirmation of Legal Counsel

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

The Board of Trustees affirms Wenzel Bennett & Harris, P.C. to serve as “Counsel of Record” until changed by official resolution of the Board of Trustees. It is understood that such designation does not restrict the capacity of the College

to engage other firms to provide such legal services when appropriate officials of the College deem it necessary.

Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

3.002 Affirmation of Auditor

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

That the Board of Trustees affirms Straley Lamp & Kraenzlein P.C. as external auditors of the financial activities of Alpena Community College, and to perform any other specialized services in the financial area that may be desired by the College. The length of service shall be continual until changed by official resolution of the Board of Trustees.

Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

3.003 Policy 4042: Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) Policy — Second Reading

The following resolution was proposed by Trustee Duncan and seconded by Trustee Stender:

The Alpena Community College Board of Trustees approves the new Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) Policy on second reading.

Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

3.004 Deletion of Policy 4017, Policy 4018, Administrative Procedure 4517, and Administrative Procedure 4518 — Second Reading

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

The Alpena Community College Board of Trustees approves on second reading the deletion of Policy 4017, College Level Examination Program (CLEP) Policy, and Policy 4018, Non-Traditional Credit Evaluation Policy, from the ACC Policies & Procedures Manual.

Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

3.005 Grant-Funded Purchase of Mini-Mill Equipment

The following resolution was proposed by Trustee Hilberg and seconded by Trustee Stibitz:

The Alpena Community College Board of Trustees authorizes ACC officials to purchase one Haas Super Mini Mill CNC Vertical Machining Center from HFO Gerotech at a cost not to exceed \$70,171, using ACENet grant funds.

Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

Financial Report

General Fund Year-to-Year Actual Comparison through July 2026

- The property tax receipts of \$144,357 are \$45,947 more than those for July 2025, due to the timing of receipts.
- Tuition/fee receipts of \$3,847,536 are \$16,268 higher than July 2025, primarily due to the changes in tuition rates.
- State aid for the current year is zero because of the normal state fiscal year start month of October.
- Net income through the first month of the new fiscal year shows a gain of \$2,832,326, which is typical for this time of year, when fall tuition receipts begin to build.

General Fund Comparative Income Statement Year-to-Date through July 2026

- All categories are in acceptable ranges for this stage of the year except as noted above.

General Fund Month-to-Month Comparison through July 2026

- This report is included for reporting consistency only. No monthly comparison is presented because it is the first month in the new fiscal year.

Personnel Report

New hires, terminations, and status changes from June 2 to August 4, 2026.

New Hires:

- Crystal Vogt, Director of Learning Technology, effective 06/15/2026.
- Bethany Bruski, ESP Assistant to the Director of Admissions, effective 06/22/2026.
- Caleb Burger, Men's Soccer Head Coach, effective 07/01/2026.
- Grant Shaw, Student Success Resource Center Library Coordinator, effective 07/06/2026.
- Aaron Guitar, Women's Cross Country Head Coach, effective 07/17/2026.
- Ryan Gillings, Men's Baseball Head Coach, effective 07/31/2026.
- Matthew Wilbert, Men's Cross Country Head Coach, effective 07/31/2026.

Re-Hires:

- None.

Transfers:

- Michael Tulgestke, Transfer from Women's Softball Assistant Coach to Women's Softball Head Coach, effective 06/01/2026.
- Reilly Card, Transferred from Adjunct – Speech to FT Faculty – Speech Instructor, effective 07/31/2026.
- Christopher Kauffman, Transferred from Adjunct – UTT to FT Faculty – Utility Technology Technician Instructor, effective 08/01/2026.

Resignations:

- Rob Enslin, Director of Alumni Relations and Men's Baseball Head Coach, effective 06/26/2026.

- Daniel Sage, Men's Baseball Assistant Coach, effective 07/01/2026.
- Aubree Sheldon, Women's Volleyball Assistant Coach, effective 07/31/2026.

Terminations:

- None.

Inactive:

- 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 for the months of June and July 2026.

Total Donors: 273

Number of Gifts: 370

New Gifts: \$213,017.38

Board Discussion

- Chair Briggs confirmed the board's desire to tour the new Marketplace student food pantry prior to the start of the September 17, 2026, board meeting. The food pantry is located in Besser Technical Center 107. The tour is scheduled to begin at 6:15 p.m.
- Trustee Gentry shared a packet of information he gathered from the Michigan Community College Association summer conference held July 29-31, 2026, on Mackinac Island. He attended a number of breakout sessions including ones on conducting an effective CEO search and running strategic millage campaigns.
 - Gentry suggested the ACC trustees review the CEO search presentation and begin talking about how they wish to conduct the presidential transition in 2027-28.
 - Chair Briggs noted the need for a board retreat to create a profile for the desired new president.
 - Gentry noted the sample search timeline mentioned in the CEO search presentation and emphasized the importance of creating a strong plan for the search.
- President MacMaster noted the MCCA has scheduled a director's meeting to be hosted by ACC in Alpena on October 2, 2027.

New Business

None.

Suggested Future Agenda Items

None.

Next Regular Meeting

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 17, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Roger C. Bauer Board Room, Room 400 of the Charles R. Donnelly Natural Resources Center.

Please note: the trustees have agreed to conduct a tour of the Marketplace student food pantry, located in Room 107 of Besser Technical Center, at 6:15 p.m. on September 17.

Adjournment

The regular meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:14 p.m.

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