Approved Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Alpena Community College Board of Trustees
Thursday, September 17, 2026
665 Johnson Street, Alpena, MI 49707

On Thursday, September 17, 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 Market at ACC student food pantry, located in Besser Technical Center Room 106, for a tour of the new room.

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, Joseph Gentry II, Lisa Hilberg, Susan Stender, Florence Stibitz, and Tom Townsend. Absent trustees: Teresa Duncan.

Also present in person: ACC President Dr. Don MacMaster, Board Secretary Denis "Jay" Walterreit, and campus safety officers Deputy Mike Lash and Deputy Mitch Noble.

Pledge of Allegiance

Secretary Walterreit led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Trustee Stibitz made the motion to approve the agenda as presented; Trustee Stender seconded the motion. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

Approval of the Proposed Minutes of the August 20, 2026, Regular Meeting

Trustee Gentry made the motion to approve the proposed minutes of the August 20, 2026, regular meeting; Trustee Stibitz seconded the motion. Ayes: 6. 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; Dawn Stone, ACC administration; Sven Pearsal, ACC faculty; Carter Kosinski, ACC student; and Isabella Laird, ACC student.

Guests attending via Webex were Mary Eagan, ACC administration; Mongoose representative David Turkoff, and Mongoose representative Dave Marshall.

No public comment was given.

Communications

President MacMaster read excerpts from a letter sent by Justin Gluesing, Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona Educational Service District superintendent, regarding the upcoming AMA-ESD special education millage renewal.

Board Member and Subcommittee Reports

Trustee Stibitz mentioned her attendance of a MCCA Trustees Virtual Talk event and noted a presentation from a school success worker that predicted in the 2040s the population of graduating students would be down 20%.

Trustee Gentry told the trustees he was going to send a survey to Secretary Walterreit for distribution to the trustees; the survey will ask trustees what their expectations are for the next president. Once the results are tabulated he suggested the trustees meet in a workshop session to review the results and decide what the Board's next steps will be.

Student Report

Students Isabella Laird and Carter Kosinski addressed the trustees and related their experiences as resident assistants at the College Park Apartments and other experiences at ACC. Laird expressed appreciation for the student food pantry, which has enabled her to eat much better food than she was able to afford previously; the better food has helped her both physically and mentally.

Faculty Report

Instructor Sven Pearsal updated the trustees on the happenings in his department and promised to reschedule his introduction of new speech instructor Riley Card.

President's Report

President's Report to the Alpena Community College Board of Trustees
September 17, 2026

<u>Fall Semester Enrollment Is Up</u>

Fall Semester 2026 enrollment is up slightly over Fall Semester 2025 in headcount, credit hours, and contact hours:

FY27 Fall Semester

- Headcount: 1,637, 1 percent increase
- Credit Hours: 14,611, 1.8 percent increase
- Contact Hours: 17,473, 1.1 percent increase

Kudos to Admission Director Mike Kollien and his team, faculty and staff, and particularly Criminal Justice instructor Rob Mills for this accomplishment. These enrollment numbers are the highest at ACC since Fall 2017.

Strengthening Institutions Program (SIP) Grant Awarded to ACC

On Tuesday, September 15, the United States Department of Labor announced that ACC would receive a Strengthening Institutions Program (SIP) grant award. The award is $3 million for five years and will support the following initiatives:

- A fulltime director for all five years
- Faculty support for developing a substation technician certificate program
- $650,000 for NRC 101 (lecture hall) remodel
- Installation of two Classrooms of Tomorrow
- Half-time student services support for all five years
- Half-time endowment enhancement support for all five years

Farming the Sun Solar Array Begins Generating Power



On August 14, 2026, ACC's new solar array began generating power. Recently a new sign identifying the array was installed between the array and Woodward Street. Fencing has also been installed.

Action Items

3.006 Local Strategic Value Resolution

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

> The Alpena Community College Board of Trustees certifies that the College does meet the local strategic value standards required for state appropriations.

Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

3.007 Bids: Admissions AI Texting Platform

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

> The Alpena Community College Board of Trustees accepts the bid from Mongoose for $48,750 for three years of AI texting platform services.

Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion approved.

Financial Report

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

- The property tax receipts of $695,784 are $27,723 more than those for August 2025.
- Tuition/fee receipts of $4,198,001 are $133,852 higher than in August 2025, primarily due to the changes in tuition rates and higher billable contact hours.
- State aid for the current year is $8,850. Regular appropriations payments are expected to begin at the start of the normal state fiscal year in October.
- Net income through the first two months of the new fiscal year shows a gain of $2,604,490, which is typical for this time of year, when fall tuition receipts begin to build.

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

- Telephone is higher this year compared to last year because of increases in the cost of the Cisco Webex Meeting and Calling plan.
- All categories are in acceptable ranges for this stage of the year except as noted above.

General Fund Month-to-Month Comparison through August 2026

- Information technology equipment and software appear in the Library Books and Equipment line item. In August, those expenses reflect the renewal of Microsoft 365 software licenses.
- Tuition waivers and dues are higher in August, when tuition bills are due for the fall semester.
- All categories are in acceptable ranges except as noted above.

Personnel Report

New hires, terminations, and status changes from August 5 to September 4, 2026.

New Hires:

- Justin Miltz, ESP Institutional Research Specialist, effective 08/24/2026.

Re-Hires:

- None.

Transfers:

- Theresa LaBarge, Transfer from Substitute Wellness Center to ESP PT Health Fitness/Activities Technician, effective 08/17/2026.

Resignations:

- Elizabeth Kieliszewski, ESP TRiO Advisor – South, effective 08/28/2026. (Will stay on as a Non-Student Tutor)
- Chelsea Leeck-Putkamer, ESP TRiO Talent Search Coordinator, effective 08/31/2026.

Terminations:

- Thomas Sobeck, Director of RE-EIED Grant, effective 08/15/2026.
- Jeff Blumenthal, Assistant to the Director of RE-EIED Grant, effective 08/15/2026.

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 month of August 2026.

Total Donors: 83
Number of Gifts: 129
New Gifts: $94,457

Board Discussion

- Trustee Gentry reminded the trustees Secretary Walterreit would be distributing a survey to the trustees asking them to list their expectations for ACC's next president. He

suggested the trustees schedule a workshop session prior to the October, November, or December board meetings to discuss the results of the survey and plan for the next steps in the presidential transition process.

- Chair Briggs asked if the yearly Campus Master Plan and Capital Outlay document needed to be approved at the October board meeting; President MacMaster said yes, and mentioned he was unsure of what the capital outlay request should be. Last year's capital outlay request was for renovations to the Natural Resources Center, but the capital outlay cycle was largely incompatible with the federal earmark money already received for the NRC project. MacMaster asked the trustees to think about what should be the College's next capital outlay request and forward their thoughts to him for preparation of the next Campus Master Plan and Capital Outlay document.

New Business

None.

Suggested Future Agenda Items

None.

Next Regular Meeting

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 15, 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.

Adjournment

The regular meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:10 p.m.

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