

**Official Proceedings of the
Alpena Community College Board of Trustees Regular Meeting**

January 21, 2016

Roger C. Bauer Board Room, Charles R. Donnelly Natural Resources Center
665 Johnson Street, Alpena, MI 49707

The Alpena Community College Board of Trustees gathered on Thursday, January 21, 2016, for its regular monthly meeting.

Chairman Briggs called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: John Briggs, Teresa Duncan, Marc Ferguson, Joseph Gentry II, Lisa Hilberg, Florence Stibitz, and Tom Townsend.

Seated at the Board Table: President Don MacMaster and Board Secretary Jay Walterreit.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Trustee Townsend that the agenda be approved; seconded by Trustee Stibitz. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes from the December 17, 2015, Board of Trustees Meeting

Trustee Stibitz moved to accept the draft minutes from the December 17, 2015, regular ACC Board of Trustees meeting; Trustee Hilberg seconded the motion. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Introduction of Guests and Public Comment

Guests attending the regular meeting included: Ben Stevens, WATZ News; Jason Ogden, Alpena News; Richard Sutherland, ACC administration; Kathy Marsh, ACC administration; Clyde DeClouet, ACC student; Dr. Karol Walchak, ACC faculty; and Paul Wolne.

Paul Wolne addressed the trustees on the subjects of Hillman Community Radio and an entrepreneur named Scott McCombs, who created a business which uses recycled glass in building materials.

Communication(s)

None.

Board Member and Subcommittee Reports

Trustee Duncan attended the ACC Foundation Meeting earlier in the day and reported on a proposal from UTT faculty members for the College to host a lineman rodeo in April.

Student Report

Student Clyde DeClouet listed his recent involvements with the College, including participating in a two-man play during Fall Semester and singing the National Anthem at basketball games. He said he was in his fourth semester at ACC and hopes to transfer to a 4-year school to earn a bachelor's degree in theatre.

Faculty Report

Dr. Karol Walchak addressed the trustees and shared a variety of news items, including:

- The successful offering of an online section of MTH 122 by Math Instructor Meghan Cameron.
- The Student Leadership Commission was hosting a welcome back week of activities including giving away pizza and providing recreational opportunities with board games.
- The Language Society received their charter and hosted two fundraising events for the proposed European trip. Unfortunately the recent developments in Paris have convinced Walchak and the students that they should postpone their trip.
- Dr. Walchak and retired ACC faculty member Nan Hall recently were involved with writing a new textbook through Pearson.

President's Report

Following is the President's Report as it was distributed.

President's Report to the ACC Board of Trustees
1/21/16

Enrollment Summary

Spring Semester enrollment is up .45% in credit hours compared to spring semester 2015. Head count is virtually flat, down one student. After five consecutive years of declining enrollment, an upward turn, however slight, is good news for ACC, which is one of only three Michigan community colleges to document an enrollment increase this semester compared to the same semester in 2015. Oakland Community College, Mott, Kellogg, Monroe, and Bay College all experienced double-digit credit hour declines with OCC's -15.34% the largest. Among neighboring community colleges, Kirtland is -8.4%, Delta -5.1%, North Central -2.17%, Northwestern -5.0% and Mid-Michigan -1.1%.

ACC's relatively strong performance may be attributed in part to the following factors: 1) good enrollment in tech programs, particularly UTT and welding; 2) strong dual enrollment relationships with regional K-12s, Alpena Public School and Alcona Community Schools in particular; 3) a robust and expanding Early College partnership with Alpena Public Schools; 4) an institutional focus on student retention, most notably mandatory orientation; and 5) staff-wide focus on enrollment and retention as fundamental shared priorities. I would like to thank faculty, staff, and students for their contribution to improving this most important metric.

Binational Industrial Research and Development (BIRD) Foundation Award

Besser Company and EConcrete Tech Ltd have jointly embarked on a project to develop a high production dry cast system to use EConcrete's proprietary additives and designs to produce Bio-Enhanced concrete products. Extensive research has demonstrated that concrete products containing EConcrete's proprietary additives and designs are able to reduce the ecological footprint of urban and coastal infrastructure and mitigate the impact of climate change. Besser Company and EConcrete will market and promote the products jointly. EConcrete has several successful wet cast products available and in use today, and through the collaboration with Besser Company, will apply its technology to dry cast products.

Besser Company's role is to engineer, test, and manufacture molds and concrete products that satisfy the concrete unit specifications defined by EConcrete. Kevin Curtis, Besser Company President & CEO commented, "We are excited to be working with EConcrete; the project is a perfect fit for our two companies. Besser has an excellent track record for making a concept a reality by designing, testing and demonstrating how concrete products can be manufactured on a large scale commercially viable manner."

Testing of the molds and concrete products will be done at the World Center for Concrete Technology at ACC.

BIRD committed to fund the joint project in December 2015; Besser and EConcrete are thrilled by BIRD's support of the grant request. Dr. MacMaster commends the team at Besser Company and EConcrete for their accomplishment in winning a prestigious BIRD Foundation award. "It's indicative of the innovative spirit that characterizes both organizations," he said. "On behalf of Alpena Community College and the World Center for Concrete Technology, I look forward with excitement to this project which will bring world-class Israeli innovation and U.S. manufacturing expertise together in a dynamic partnership to mitigate global climate change. This award is truly great news."

Today the joint project is led by Besser Manager Ryan Suszek, with strong support from Besser Managers Jason Rensberry, Scott Foerstner, and Tim Farley.

Action Items

None.

Information Items

The trustees reviewed the information items. Vice President for Administration and Finance Richard Sutherland shared insights about the current state of the FY16 budget, noting a timing issue related to the receipt of a property taxes payment while all other budget areas are tracking as expected.

Board Discussion

Chairman Briggs brought up to the topic of the 2015 Annual Report, which was produced in November. He mentioned that he thought it was a very attractive publication which contained a lot of good, honest, well-written information about the College's activities and accomplishments. Director of Public

Information and Marketing Jay Walterreit explained the evolution in the design of the publication and how it is used to promote the College, then thanked Chairman Briggs for complimenting the report.

New Business

None.

Suggested Future Agenda Items

None.

Next Regular Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Board of Trustees meeting is on Thursday, February 18, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in the Roger C. Bauer Board Room, Room 400 of the Charles R. Donnelly Natural Resources Center, 665 Johnson Street, Alpena, MI 49707.

Adjournment

The regular meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:37 p.m.

Jay Walterreit
Secretary of the Board of Trustees
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