

ALPENA COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, April 20, 2011

The Alpena Community Board of Trustees met for its regular April meeting on Wednesday, April 20, 2011, in the Roger C. Bauer Board, Room 400 of the Charles R. Donnelly Natural Resources Center, on the College campus. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

Absent: None

Administrators seated at the board table: Board Secretary Elizabeth Spragg and College President Dr. Olin Joynton.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Member Townsend that the agenda be approved.

Ayes: Briggs, Duncan, Ferguson, Gentry, Hilberg, Stibitz, and Townsend.

Motion carried. All ayes.

Approval of March 17, 2011, Official Proceedings and April 4, 2011, Board Retreat Notes.

The proceedings for the March 17, 2011, regular meeting and the April 4, 2011, board retreat notes were approved as presented.

Introduction of Guests and Public Comment

Mark Curtis, ACC; Beverly Kannowski, ACC; Mary Linton, ACC; Terri and Ray Drake, ACC; Jordan Garant, ACC student; Cathy Kappius, ACC instructor; Thomas Isaacs, ACC student; Clarissa Sumerix, Student Leadership Commission; Shane Burr, Student Leadership Commission; Caleb Smith, future Lumberjack; Roy Smith, ACC faculty; Tyler Armantrout, ACC student; Erika Pifelski, *The Alpena News*; Kyle Vanderlaun, ACC student; Rick Van Dyke, ACC student; Steven Tasket, student; Bradley Whitney, ACC student; Codie Bjaun, ACC student; Richard Drake, ACC student; Russell Skuse, ACC student; Meaghan Black, TBNMS; Jessica High, ACC student; Debbie Naylor, guest; and Katherine Meharg, ACC.

Communications

Dr. Joynton acknowledged a letter from R.S. Scott & Associates.

Board Member and Subcommittee Reports

Member Stibitz reported on the recent Michigan Community College Association (MCCA) meeting she attended at Monroe County Community College on March 18 and 19.

## Faculty Report

Nursing instructors Mary Linton and Beverly Kannowski delivered the faculty report.

## Student Report

Clarissa Sumerix and Shane Burr, members of the Student Leadership Commission delivered the student report.

## President's Report

The President's report was delivered as follows. Members of the PTK MCCA All-Michigan Team were present to receive their awards. The students were not able to make the trip to Lansing in March where the awards were presented due to weather conditions. Therefore, they received their awards at the Board meeting along with a check from the ACC Foundation, and they will attend a dinner hosted by the President following the Board meeting at The Cellar restaurant.

Utility Tech instructor Roy Smith and students participating in the Lineman Rodeo in Arizona in March were available to share their experiences with the Board via a PowerPoint presentation. The students placed third in the competition this year.

Huron Shores German instructor Kathy Kappius and students Jorden Garant and Thomas Issacs were present to tell the Board of their experiences identifying artifacts and interpreting inscriptions from artifacts found on the Nordmeer in connection with the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Meaghan Black, from the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary, expressed her appreciation on behalf of the Sanctuary for the students' work.

### 1. Introduction of Alpena Fire Chief Bill Forbush

Bill Forbush serves as the Fire Chief for the City of Alpena, overseeing fire and emergency services for the City and emergency medical services for the entire county. Bill comes to us from Garden City, a community of 30,000 near Detroit, where he retired as Fire Chief after 26 years of service.

Bill's career in emergency services includes experience as a Red Cross Disaster Services volunteer and employee, an EMT for Taylor Ambulance Service, a communications specialist for the University of Michigan Survival Flight program and over 20 years as administrator of a successful licensed proprietary school teaching EMTs and paramedics. Bill also served as EMS program coordinator for Baker College overseeing programs in Clinton Township, Allen Park, Westland, Muskegon, Cadillac and Gaylord.

Forbush is a graduate of the Eastern Michigan University and University of Maryland Schools of Fire Staff and Command, holds a bachelor's degree in public safety from Siena Heights University and is enrolled in the National Fire Academy Executive Fire Officer program. He is a certified fire service instructor and paramedic instructor – coordinator.

He is married to Tammy, a state EMS regional coordinator, and has three sons: Michael (age 23), Benjamin (age 17), and Matthew (age 9).

He currently serves as secretary of the Northern Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs, trustee on the Thunder Bay Firefighters Association Board and Besser Credit Union Board of Directors. Forbush

represents the Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs on the state EMS Coordinating Committee, a gubernatorial appointment that advises the Michigan Department of Community Health.

## 2. ACC Members of the Phi Theta Kappa All-Michigan Academic Team

Each year Alpena Community College has the opportunity to name two outstanding members of Phi Theta Kappa honor society to the All-Michigan Academic Team. It is my pleasure to introduce our representatives for 2011 to the Board of Trustees, along with the faculty sponsor of PTK, Dr. Karol Walchak.

Teresa Drake is married and a non-traditional student. She was born in Norfolk, VA and graduated from Charles W. Woodward High School in Rockville, MD. She graduated from ACC *cum laude*, alongside her son Bart, in 2009 with an Associate of Arts degree. She is currently enrolled in the Bachelor's of Integrated Studies Program of Ferris State University in conjunction with ACC. Teresa is a life member of NALS a legal professional association and a former governor of the Carson-Douglas Legal Professional Association of NALS. She was featured in the 2010 edition of Biltmore's *Who's Who of Professional Women* and is a member of the National Association of Professional Women. In addition to her educational endeavors, she is a self-employed fiber artist and award-winning photographer as well as serving as vice president of the ACC PTK chapter.

Jessica High is a single mother of a three-year-old boy and a full-time student at Alpena Community College. Born in Tampa, FL, she will graduate with both an Associate of Science degree and an Associate of Arts degree in May of 2011. She is majoring in pre-pharmacy and has been accepted into Ferris State University's College of Pharmacy for the Fall 2011 term. Her biggest goals are to own a pharmacy someday and to have an opportunity to give back to the community. Jessica is currently president of the ACC PTK chapter and is actively involved in many drives and events for her chapter.

## 3. Lineman's Rodeo Competition Team

For the fourth year in a row, the ACC utility technology program has fielded a team in March at the annual Lineman's Rodeo Competition hosted by Chandler-Gilbert Community College in Phoenix. This year our team competed very well, receiving the third place trophy. Congratulations to UTT students Russel Skuse, Richard VanDyke, Richard Drake, Tyler Armantrout, Bradley Whitney, Steven Tasket, Codie Braun, and Kyle Vanderlaan. Sharing the credit this evening for preparing the students so well are Utility Tech Instructors Roy Smith, Todd Artley and Rick Arbic, with extra recognition to Roy for making the trip with the students. Appreciation also goes to the ACC Foundation, the Michigan Electric Cooperative Association, Alpena Power Company, and the ACC Office of Student Affairs for financial support for our teams to make the trip.

## 4. Translation of *Nordmeer* Documents

Readers of *The Alpena News* have been made aware of contributions to the work of the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary by ACC German language students Auri Garant, Tom Isaacs, Rene Kendziorski, Jeff Moses, and David Verville during the current semester. Under the direction of their instructor, Cathy Kappius, and with the assistance of Dean Emeritus Chuck Wiesen, the students have translated for the first time artifacts from the German freighter *Nordmeer*, which ran aground in 1966, and which lies under the protection of the TBNMS. Among the artifacts salvaged from the vessel and translated by the students are radio messages, crew ID information, technical manuals, and log book entries. Sanctuary staff members have commented on how much the work by the ACC class has advanced their understanding of the shipwreck, and we have a letter of thanks for our contributions

from Superintendent Jeff Gray. Ms. Kappius and some of her students are present this evening to be recognized by the Board members and to relate their experiences first hand.

#### 5. Michigan Community College Association Board of Directors Meeting

Trustee Florence Stibitz and I represented ACC at the MCCA Board of Directors meeting March 18-19 on the campus of Monroe County Community College. Some highlights of the program were as follows:

- MCCA President Mike Hansen provided an overview of pending legislation on retirement reform, state appropriations, capital outlay, the Michigan New Jobs Training Program, and community college baccalaureate authority.
- State Senator Randy Richardville, who represents Monroe County and serves as majority leader, spoke to us about separation of powers dynamics between Governor Snyder and the Legislature and provided encouragement about the Legislature's commitment to capital outlay projects like ACC's Electrical Power Technology Center.
- Directors were introduced to Chris Baldwin, director of the three-year, \$1 million Kresge Foundation grant to the MCCA to create more synergy among existing student success initiatives, to link with research on the topic at the University of Michigan, to make the most of our participation in the statewide data system on community college progression and completion of certificates and degrees, and to convene a policy advisory team on student success for interaction with the Snyder administration, legislative committees, and state agencies.

#### 6. Legislative Priorities

These are priorities I presented to legislators during my last visit to Lansing in March.

##### **1. State Appropriation: SB 200 (Sen. Roger Kahn, R-Saginaw)**

- Appreciation for FY11 level appropriations
- ACC enrollment at near-record levels
- ACC graduation rate first place among Michigan community colleges
- Effort to keep tuition low

##### **2. Capital Outlay for Electrical Power Technology Center: SB 140 as amended (Sen. Darwin Booher, R-Evart)**

- ACC approved for planning grant in December 2010 for renovation/addition
- Expansion of highly successful lineman/woman and electrical apprentice programs
- New "smart grid" relay technician and alternative energy programs

##### **3. Retirement Reform: SB 121 (Sen. Bruce Caswell, R-Hillsdale) and HB 4420 (Rep. John Walsh, R-Livonia)**

- MPSERS rate increase to 24.46% (3.8% increase = \$321,356 for ACC)

- Latitude for community colleges to move existing and new employees into defined contribution retirement plans

#### **4. Baccalaureate Authority: HB 4496 (Rep. John Walsh, R-Livonia)**

- Permission for community colleges to offer bachelor's degree programs in selected technical fields given labor market demand (nursing and concrete technology for ACC)
- No permanent university campus in Northern Lower Peninsula
- ACC farther away from university than any other community college in Michigan
- Thus, low rate of bachelor degree attainment in Alpena (only 15%)
- Resolutions of endorsement by ACC Board of Trustees, local Chamber and economic development authority, units of government, Michigan Association of Counties

We are also following with interest these items from Mike Hansen's April 18 weekly update.

**Health Care Bill 80/20:** Last week, the Senate Reforms and Restructuring Committee reported SB 7, legislation that would cap the amount that public employers may contribute to their employee health benefit plans at 80 percent. The bill reported by the Senate committee was a substitute version from the introduced bill, and you can access the substitute bill on the MCCA website ([www.mcca.org](http://www.mcca.org)) under Legislation and Legal Information. Differences between the introduced version of SB 7 and the substitute version include:

- Removal of requirement to base employer cap on CPI;
- Removal of dichotomy between self-funded and fully funded arrangements;
- Removal of the exception for High Deductible Health Plans; and
- Clarifies that the employee share may be allocated among a public employer's employees as the employer sees fit.

The MCCA convened a committee comprised of H.R. directors from member colleges to help analyze the bill and make suggestions for modification. Included in these amendment requests will be to allow community colleges the option to except themselves from the requirements, to allow for a two-year implementation period, and to modify the legislation to allow a public employer to offer one "medical benefit plan" option with a required employee contribution of less than 20% of the premium for such option so long as the employer's cost for the premium is no more than the employer's cost for the other medical benefit plan options offered by the employer. The employer cost for such lower-cost option shall not be included in the 80% calculation under the bill. These suggestions will be communicated to the bill sponsor's office this Thursday.

**Millage and Elections:** HB 4545 was introduced by Rep. Richard LeBlanc last week. The bill would amend Michigan's election law to allow non-resident property owners to vote on millage issues, including community college district millage campaigns. The bill has been referred to the Redistricting and Elections Committee in the House. The MCCA does not yet have an official position on the proposal.

### ***Action Items***

#### 2.499 Resolution: Community College Month

Member Stibitz moved that the Board of Trustees designates April as “Community College Month” and directs appropriate College officials to bring the unique contributions of Alpena Community College to the attention of public policymakers and the general public.

Ayes: Briggs, Duncan, Ferguson, Gentry, Hilberg, Stibitz, and Townsend.

Nays: None

Motion carried. All ayes.

### ***Information Items***

#### 3.695 Financial Report

Dr. Joynton reviewed the financial report with the Board.

#### 3.696 Personnel Report

The personnel report showed no additions/replacements; resignations; or retirements. It did show one reduction in hours for ESP2 FT Programmer/Analyst Lisa Snyder under the category of other.

Dr. Joynton reported that Economics/Political Science instructor Anip Uppal and Nursing instructor Beverly Kannowski were granted non-probational faculty status and should have been noted under the category of other.

#### 3.696 Gifts and Grants Report

The gifts and grants report showed the attached information.

#### New Business

None

#### Suggested Future Items

None

#### Next Regular Meeting

May 19, 2011, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

May 19, 2011, 6:00 p.m. Budget workshop.

May 19, 2011, 5:00 p.m. Closed Session to review the President.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Elizabeth L. Spragg  
Secretary of the Board of Trustees