

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

October 29, 2015

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, October 29, 2015, for a special meeting.

Chairman Briggs called the special meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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

**Approval of Agenda**

Chairman Briggs suggested adding three items to the agenda: adding communications; approval of the October 15, 2015, ACC Board of Trustees regular meeting minutes; and adding discussion time to talk about the proposed truck route change. Moved by Trustee Townsend that the agenda be approved with the additions; seconded by Trustee Gentry.

Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes from the October 15, 2015, Regular Board of Trustees Meeting**

Trustee Stibitz moved to accept the amended draft minutes from the October 15, 2015, regular ACC Board of Trustees meeting; Trustee Gentry seconded the motion.

Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

**Introduction of Guests and Public Comment**

Guests attending the regular meeting included: Ben Stevens, WATZ News; Nicole Grulke, Alpena News; Bethany Ricciardi, WBKB TV-11, Richard Sutherland, ACC administration; Kathy Marsh, ACC administration; Phil Straley, auditor; and Mark Sandula, auditor.

**Communication(s)**

Chairman Briggs read a letter from Dr. Olin Joynton thanking the ACC Board of Trustees for renaming the Fine Arts Building for him.

## Action Items

### 2.640 FY15 Audit Report

Trustee Townsend made the motion and Trustee Stibitz seconded the motion which reads as follows:

That the Board of Trustees accepts the financial report and approves the fiscal year 2015 audit as submitted by Straley Lamp and Kraenzlein P.C., and commends all parties for their dialogue and exactness in assuring the audit has been produced in full compliance with state law and the new principles of accounting as adopted by G.A.S.B. It is further noted that appropriate officials at the College are directed to communicate the results of this important process to all interested parties.

Auditor Phil Straley addressed the trustees and explained the audit process. Part of the process included required communications to the trustees which included notes on the following topics:

- The adoption of G.A.S.B. 68, which changed the College's reporting.
- The estimate of the College's future liabilities was based on actuarial calculations which could change on a regular basis.
- The College is the beneficiary of some trusts and estates, and the values of those donations will change over time.
- The auditors encountered no difficulties working with ACC staff.

Straley also noted another G.A.S.B. rule would be coming which deals with healthcare and schools' portion of liability.

Auditor Mark Sandula then discussed parts of the final audit document. He pointed out the statement at the bottom of page 1, which says, "We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion."

Sandula also pointed out the opinion statement at the top of page 2, which says, "In our opinion, the basic financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Alpena Community College and its discretely presented component unit as of June 30, 2015 and 2014, and the changes in its financial position and its cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America." This is an unmodified opinion.

Trustee Gentry asked if there were any issues the College should watch. Sandula replied that ACC has been operating on a break-even level for a number of years, so there isn't a lot of equity to run an operation of ACC's size.

Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion passed.

## **Board Discussion**

Chairman Briggs brought up the topic of the proposed truck route change which would create a new road connecting Commerce Drive and Long Lake Drive to Johnson Street. The proposed change to the truck route would enable trucks to travel west on Johnson Street through the Alpena Campus.

Secretary Walterreit distributed a printed copy of the presentation created by the City of Alpena delivered at the public comment event on October 19.

Chairman Briggs started the conversation by noting he has discussed the situation with President MacMaster and they are concerned that the proposed truck route would create a lot of new truck traffic through ACC's campus. Brigg's opinion is the ACC Board of Trustees should express concern about the proposal. He also said he thinks the estimate of the number of trucks (15) using the proposed route through ACC's campus each day is low.

The trustees discussed trucking patterns and businesses that might be involved in using the proposed truck route.

Trustee Townsend said he's not necessarily against the proposed truck route, but he's not sure about the impact it would have on the College.

President MacMaster noted the impact to the College would include noise and safety issues.

Trustee Townsend reminded the trustees about negotiating with the City about safety, which led to the addition of the island in Johnson Street.

Trustee Gentry mentioned the construction of Hamilton Road was supposed to solve the issue. He then said he was surprised the City didn't come to the College first to discuss the idea.

Chairman Briggs stated he believes the ACC Board of Trustees needs to raise concerns and questions with the City and President MacMaster, as the CEO of ACC, should lead the effort.

President MacMaster stated that the College's issue with the proposed truck route relates to what is best for ACC students. He then asked the trustees if they would be interested in asking the City of Alpena officials to present info on the proposed route to the trustees. They said yes, they were interested in listening and being fully informed.

Chairman Briggs reiterated his stance that this topic was something the College needs to continue to investigate.

## **Next Regular Meeting**

The next regular ACC Board of Trustees meeting is November 19, 2015, at 7 p.m. in the Roger C. Bauer Board Room, Room 400 of the Charles R. Donnelly Natural Resources Center, 665 Johnson Street, on the Alpena Campus.

## **Adjournment**

The regular meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:49 p.m.

Jay Walterreit  
Secretary of the Board of Trustees  
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