

Marion Technical College
Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 19, 2024
Health Technologies Center Auditorium

Call to Order

Chair Somerlot called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Roll Call

The Recording Secretary called the roll. Trustees present were Chair Roxane Somerlot, Mr. Tim Anderson, Ms. Jude Foulk, Ms. Vidya Iyengar, and Mr. Greg Moon.

Vice Chair Kit Fogle, Dr. Michael McCleese, and Mr. Don Plotts were absent.

Introduction of Guests

Guests present included MTC employees Dr. Ryan McCall (via phone), Dr. Amy Adams, Ms. Rhonda Ward (via phone), Ms. Joan Smalley, Mr. Mike Stuckey, and Ms. Laura Woughter.

Major Discussion Topic

Dr. McCall, Dr. Adams, and Ms. Woughter traveled to Washington D.C. on February 6th to meet with the College's congressional delegation as a part of the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) National Legislative Summit. As part of advocacy for the College, the group updated the congressmen and senators and their staff on Marion Tech's enrollment and successes. The group also brought attention to the College's struggles accessing funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the application for the RPED grant, which fell short by one point.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of preceding meeting minutes
2. Resolution 2024-02 – Trustee Selection Committee

The Board discussed the requirements of the Trustee Selection Committee, which was established in the last state operating budget.

Mr. Anderson made a motion to approve the consent agenda, and Ms. Iyengar seconded the motion. By a unanimous vote, the consent agenda was approved.

President's Report

Dr. McCall highlighted the following from the President's Report:

- The College met two of three performance metrics for the Perkins grant, missing the third metric by a small percentage. The Perkins team submitted the needs assessment for the grant.
- The College is nearing the end of its involvement with the Rural Guided Pathways Project through the National Center for Inquiry and Improvement (NCII). NCII has asked Marion Tech to continue in the second phase for additional coaching and to serve as a mentor institution. The Guided Pathways Steering Council for the College will help implement new practices that align with the pillars of guided pathways and includes employees who attended institutes or have roles critical to the project.
- Dr. McCall met with the superintendents of the Morrow County school districts to discuss the potential for a centralized presence in the County for CCP. This builds on discussions the College has had with Morrow County Economic Development.
- Chancellor Duffey and Jim Bennett (Chief of Staff) from ODHE visited campus on March 5th to learn more about Marion Tech. The meeting was very positive, and the Chancellor was complimentary of the College and asked for specific data.

Ms. Iyengar asked what the purpose of the architect meeting was that Dr. McCall had, and Dr. McCall shared that he engaged an architect to complete renderings of what a potential expansion of Bryson Hall would look like for engineering and IT. The renderings would be used to advocate for state funds through the One-Time Strategic Community Investment Fund to support the expansion.

Monitoring Reports

Ends 1.2 Student Success

Dr. McCall reviewed the evidence with the Board, highlighting the following information from his written report; Dr. McCall will present student success data from OACC at the April Board Meeting:

- Graduate wage data and employment sector was provided.
- The College's official cohort default rate (CDR) is 0.4, which continues to be low compared to others, and demonstrates the positive work of the Financial Aid Office.
- The BSN program has been in place for one year and will produce its first graduates this spring.
- The College analyzes data on persistence and completion and has determined minority, Pell-eligible students (an indicator for financial need) earn less than their non-minority,

non-Pell peers. More research is needed to understand the varying factors contributing to that disparity.

- The College has seen growth in enrollment in the correctional facilities, supported by Second Chance Pell.
- Data was also presented on highest earners across the decades of Marion Tech graduates
- Training, testing, and programming provided by Workforce Solutions were also provided. Dr. McCall highlighted the success of the Teacher Bootcamp put on by Workforce Solutions.

EL 4.5 Financial Condition

Ms. Ward highlighted the following items from her full report:

- Strong enrollments are driving increased revenue at the College, with headcount at its highest in the College's history.
- The College received an additional allotment (\$400,000) for Second Chance Pell from the U.S. Department of Education, as the College surpassed its anticipated need early in spring term due increased enrollment at the correctional facilities.
- The College is ahead year over year in spending, however Ms. Ward noted specific driving forces, including increased use of inclusive access that shows as a pass-through in the budget, scholarships for incarcerated students as all students in the facilities are billed at the traditional rate for consistency, additional services through Disability Services, and scholarships and spending for short-term certificates.
- Grant spending is up due to the NSF virtual reality grant. Overall grant activity at the College continues to increase.
- The College is on schedule to repay a debt to Ohio State Marion by December 2024.
- The report included a request to increase the College's grant budget due to changes in Super RAPIDS funding and Intel-related equipment funding from the state.
- Cash balances year-over-year are up due to enrollment increases.
- A chart was provided showing the growth of the College's reserves. Ms. Ward noted the activity of planning committees at the College to fund some equipment, IT, and facilities projects at the College. Ms. Ward asked to move \$250,000 from available cash to capital reserves to support some additional projects identified within the College. Ms. Ward will continue to report on any spending of those funds to the Board.

Chair Somerlot requested a motion to move \$250,000 from general reserves to capital reserves. Mr. Moon motioned the change, and Ms. Foulk seconded the motion. By a unanimous vote, the motion was approved.

Ms. Iyengar questioned if the grant writing arrangement with Columbus State has been positive, and Dr. McCall noted the return on investment was \$6 million in grant revenue, with the contract costing \$48,000.

Chair Somerlot requested a motion to accept the financial condition report. Ms. Foulk motioned the change, and Mr. Anderson seconded the motion. By a unanimous vote, the motion was approved.

Policy Review/Governance Issues

Ms. Iyengar reviewed the policy with the Board, highlighting the evidence that was provided with the most recent report. She felt no changes were needed to the policy.

Ms. Woughter shared minor grammatical changes to EL 4.7 Funding and EL 4.8 Asset Protection that were requested by the Board at the January meeting.

Chair Somerlot requested a motion to make the grammatical changes to EL 4.7 and EL 4.8 as presented. Ms. Iyengar motioned the change, and Mr. Foulk seconded the motion. By a unanimous vote, the motion was approved.

Informational Items

Dr. McCall shared the ACCT Leadership Congress will be in Seattle in October and noted that if any trustees want to attend to reach out.

Executive Session

Mr. Anderson motioned to convene to executive session at 6:52 p.m. to discuss matters regarding the compensation of a public employee and pending or imminent court action. Ms. Foulk seconded the motion. Chair Somerlot – aye, Mr. Anderson – aye, Ms. Foulk – aye, Ms. Iyengar – aye, Mr. Moon – aye.

Ms. Iyengar motioned to return to open session and Ms. Foulk seconded the motion. The Board reconvened in open session at 7:11 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Somerlot called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting. The Board adjourned at 7:12 p.m.