

Marion Technical College
Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting
Friday, May 16, 2025
Marion Area Chamber of Commerce, Presidential Suite

Call to Order

Chair Fogle called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

Roll Call

The Recording Secretary called the roll. Trustees present were Chair Kit Fogle, Vice Chair Michael McCleese, Mr. Tim Anderson, Ms. Jude Foulk, Ms. Mary Fox, Ms. Vidya Iyengar, Mr. Don Plotts, and Ms. Roxane Somerlot.

Introduction of Guests

Guests present included MTC employees Dr. Ryan McCall, Dr. Amy Adams, Dr. Bob Haas, Ms. Rhonda Ward, Dr. Lindsey Knapp, Mr. Mike Stuckey, and Ms. Laura Woughter. Also present was Judge Matthew P. Frericks.

Oath of Office

Judge Frericks administered the oath of office to Ms. Fox, Mr. Anderson, and Vice Chair McCleese.

Ms. Fox introduced herself to the Board, as this was her first Board meeting since being appointed.

Major Discussion Topic

Dr. McCall provided an overview of Ohio House-made changes to the state's operating budget, House Bill 96, including a requirement of the Board to review and evaluate the institution's general education curriculum. Dr. McCall noted, under the provision, faculty advice is advisory in nature and non-binding. Ms. Woughter provided additional detail on provisions included related to the closure of Eastern Gateway and carve-outs within state share of instruction (SSI) for graduate employment data.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of preceding meeting minutes
2. Resolution – Senate Bill 1 Implementation

The Board discussed the requirements of Senate Bill 1 and the request to vote on a resolution indicating the Board's intent to comply with the requirements of the law.

Mr. Plotts made a motion to approve the consent agenda, and Vice Chair McCleese 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 received a new Carnegie Classification through the revision process. The College is categorized as an Opportunity College/University, a distinction given to only 479 institutions, which includes only 60 community colleges.
- The College was notified of two additional NSF grants, totaling \$1 million. With changes at the federal level, the College is hopeful the grants will be released soon. Dr. McCall noted in the last five years, the College has earned approximately \$17 million.
- Three teacher bootcamps will be held over the summer, including a Wyandot County bootcamp.
- Dr. McCall highlighted the statistics for the 2025 graduating class, which included 47 College Credit Plus students and 15 veterans. Twenty-seven counties are represented in the graduating class.

Monitoring Reports

EL 4.5 Financial Condition and FY25 Revised Budget

Ms. Ward highlighted the following from her written report:

- Spring and summer enrollments are strong compared to budget. Spring 2025 was the highest historical term for credit hours.
- Investment revenue continues to be strong, returning 4.55% through Star OHIO.
- Ms. Ward noted the College is ahead of budget in expenditures, with the primary drivers being personnel and increased instruction needs as a direct result of enrollment growth.
- Turnover in personnel has impacted the expenses for leave payout.
- Ms. Ward noted the cash position is impacted due to an earlier draw down of financial aid and no longer owing a debt to Ohio State Marion.
- The College closed on the Downtown location in April, and will begin to be capitalized, which will show depreciation in future reports.
- Instructional costs are up \$142,000 year-over-year.

Ms. Iyengar asked what the unallocated budget is used for and Ms. Ward noted it allows the College to adjust the budget in advance of receiving Board approval. She gave an example of

receiving a grant and needing to provide the department with a budget prior to the next Board meeting, where a revised budget may be presented to include funds.

Ms. Ward presented a revised budget with increased revenue assumptions for general students (\$156,000), CCP (\$116,000), and lease revenue (\$59,000) from the Downtown location. Revised expenses include added instructional costs (\$80,000) and a Downtown budget for utility costs (\$30,000). Ms. Ward anticipated presenting a detailed budget for Downtown at a future meeting. The College is still waiting for the estimate for state subsidy from ODHE for FY26. The delay is impacting the College's budgeting process, and the Business Office is planning to roll current budgets forward and ask for a revision after the start of the fiscal year.

Ms. Iyengar made a motion to approve the monitoring report and the revised budget. Ms. Foulk seconded the motion. By a unanimous vote, the report and budget were approved.

EL 4.9 Treatment of Students

Dr. McCall reviewed the evidence with the Board, including information for students to understand their rights and responsibilities through policies, the student handbook, and the academic catalog. Dr. student satisfaction survey data shows the gap between student ranking an item as important and their satisfaction with the item.

EL 4.10 Treatment of Employees

Dr. McCall highlighted the College's policy review process to allow employees to participate in revisions or development of policies. The College had planned to undergo a salary survey for staff, but was delayed by the transition to the new student information and learning management systems; the survey will be completed in the future. Dr. McCall shared the College made a calculated adjustment to salaries for full-time faculty, noting they were not aligned with peer institutions within IPEDs data.

Ms. Iyengar asked how the College determined peer institutions for the adjustment, and Dr. McCall and Dr. Haas noted the group is made up of Ohio community colleges and Aspen prize winners of similar size. Dr. Haas noted the College has been well aligned in all of the categories for faculty, with the adjustment bringing full-time faculty in line. Ms. Somerlot asked how many institutions were included in the peer group, and Dr. Haas estimated the group at 13. Ms. Iyengar requested additional information from Dr. Haas to review related to the peer institutions.

Dr. McCall shared topics for information sessions hosted by the executive leadership team for employees to participate in, including accreditation, college oversight, the state operating budget, the transition to 8-week courses, and more.

Dr. McCall meets with the respective employee group co-chairs throughout the year. The College will complete an employee satisfaction survey in the fall. The group also discussed the trend of funds spent on employee professional development since 2017.

Dr. McCall noted the transition to 8-weeks has created some angst but felt the initial uneasiness was resolving and faculty are working through the process. Dr. McCall thanked Dr. Knapp for her help in that work.

Policy Review/Governance Issues

EL 4.2 Strategic Planning

Ms. Iyengar reviewed the policy with the Board and highlighted evidence provided in the most recent report. Ms. Iyengar noted the strategic plan did not have a specified end date, and suggested including such date for clarity. No changes were requested.

EL 4.12 Conflict of Interest

Ms. Foulk reviewed the policy with the Board and highlighted evidence provided in the most recent report. No changes were requested.

Ends 1.2 Student Success

Mr. Plotts reviewed the policy with the Board, and emphasized the significance of the policy in relation to the College's mission and the need to keep the policy vague. Mr. Plotts noted the intention in using data to drive the College's strategic plan, which impacts student success. No changes were requested.

Mr. Fogle asked for clarification on the College's wage data, and Dr. McCall affirmed, based on federal data, Marion Tech had the highest average wage ten years post-graduation of all Ohio community colleges compared to a baseline of high school graduates.

Informational Items

Dr. McCall reminded trustees to reach out with any interest in attending upcoming conferences, and reminded the Board of the annual Foundation Golf Outing on May 22nd.

Executive Session

No executive session was held.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Ms. Somerlot moved to adjourn the meeting and Vice Chair McCleese seconded the motion. The Board adjourned at 5:56 p.m.