

**METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE AREA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
UNOFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 19, 2024**

Italicized text is not part of the original conversation.

A meeting of the Board of Governors of the Metropolitan Community College Area was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Chair Monahan asked Rita Eyerly to call the roll:

MEMBERS PRESENT

Brad Ashby
Martha Bruckner
Kristen DuPree, Treasurer
Adam Gotschall, Secretary
Theresa Love-Hug
Linda McDermitt, Assistant Secretary
Maureen Monahan, Chair
Zach Reinhardt
Fred Uhe, Vice Chair
Tammy Wright
Zach Pechacek, Faculty Ex Officio
Eldaide Zulu, Student Ex Officio

MEMBERS ABSENT

Phillip Klein

Also Present: Randy Schmailzl, College President

Agenda Item 1 — Preliminaries

Agenda Item 1d — Announcement of Posted Location of Open Meetings Act

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the Chair reported that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act had been posted in the rear of the room.

Agenda Item 1e — Recording of Notice of Public Meeting

The Chair then reported on the recording of the Notice of Public Meeting and stated the following:

- 1. Proof of Publication, pursuant to Policy 10503 of the Board of Governors, in the form of an affidavit of an employee of the Omaha World-Herald, to the effect that notice of this meeting was published in that newspaper on November 8,*

2024, and on the Omaha World-Herald website Omaha.com from November 8-14, 2024.

2. Affidavit of College employee Rita Eyerly, to the effect that a copy of the published Notice of Meeting was transmitted to each member of the Board of Governors in a manner specified by Policy 10503 of the Board of Governors.

The notice of the meeting stated that an agenda for this meeting, kept continually current, was available for public inspection at the principal office of the Board of Governors, Building No. 30, 30th and Fort Streets, Omaha, Nebraska, by making prior arrangements by calling 531-622-2415.

Without objection, the Chair of the Board ordered that the affidavits be attached to the minutes of the meeting and made a part of the official proceedings of the Board of Governors.

Agenda Item 2 — Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Agenda Item 3 — Report Agenda

Agenda Item 3a — Fiscal Year 2023-24 Audit Report, Weaver and Tidwell, L.L.P.

Monahan asked Brenda Schumacher, college business officer, to introduce Dallas Dugger and Bryant Sanchez, representatives from Weaver and Tidwell, L.L.P. who presented their report for the recently completed financial and FTE audits via zoom. They shared information about Weaver's national reach, provided an overview of the audit timeline that was used, and explained that they anticipate issuing the final reports by November 22, 2024, following the MCC Foundation Board meeting on November 21.

The Weaver team reviewed two major programs this year: student financial aid and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. They also reviewed areas where there were prior findings. Key areas of risk that they focused on included management involvement in internal controls, revenue recognition, and major program compliance issues. There were no significant reporting changes this year. No findings were noted. It was a very clean audit with no significant or unusual transactions, no fraudulent acts.

The final audit is expected to provide an unmodified opinion (clean) across all areas reviewed. The audit team commended the College business office team on the clean report.

Agenda Item 3b — Ex Officio Board Members' Reports

Student Ex Officio Representative Report

Zulu reflected on her year of service and thanked the Board for the opportunity for growth. She shared some highlights from her written report, which featured photos from

recent student events. She introduced the incoming ex officio student representative, Samuel Pembele.

Wright and Bruckner thanked her for her leadership and service.

Faculty Ex Officio Representative Report

Pechacek reflected on his two years of service. He also thanked the Board for the opportunity. He recalled speaking to the board as a 19-year-old student and thanked the Board for their continuing support through his journey from student, to adjunct instructor to staff and now faculty.

Wright thanked him for his leadership, instruction and service.

Agenda Item 3c — Chair of the Board's Report

Monahan thanked Eldaide Zulu for her time as student ex officio representative and presented her with a plaque noting appreciation for her service from December 2023 through November 2024.

She also thanked Zach Pechacek for his two years as faculty ex officio representative and presented him with a plaque noting appreciation for his service from December 2022 through November 2024.

Agenda Item 3d — Board Members' Reports

Reinhardt reported on the ACCT conference, which he attended with fellow board members. At the conference Board members presented with Diane Good-Collins, director of the re-entry program and Brian O'Malley, dean of culinary and horticulture, on the Ooh de Lally Restaurant partnership. He noted the audience members appreciated the content of the presentation and he expressed his appreciation to O'Malley and Good-Collins for their work.

Bruckner also attended ACCT with Reinhardt, Wright and Monahan; she learned a lot about Artificial Intelligence and the importance of teaching students and faculty how to use it most efficiently. She added that she attended the MCC Veterans Day celebration and expressed her appreciation of the use of poems and photographs produced by Veterans with MCC connections. She suggested we compile them in a book. Last, she commended Schumacher and her team for their work reflected in the clean audit report.

Wright shared her experience at ACCT and added her suggestion that mental health be stressed at community colleges.

Agenda Item 3e — President's Report

Dual enrollment tuition

Schmailzl provided a brief history of recent dual enrollment and career academy systems. Most recently, Nebraska's community colleges have requested \$3 million funding through the state general fund to support these kinds of programs. In 2021, the community colleges worked with Senator John Stinner to secure an ARPA appropriation of \$5 million additional funding per year for three years. At that point, MCC was able to offer a tuition-free dual enrollment program for any Nebraska high school student. With the ARPA funding set to expire, the colleges are asking for an additional \$10 million this year and \$11 million next year, to supplement the original \$3 million each year. Schmailzl advocated to continue offering tuition-free dual enrollment courses, and pledged to work with the Nebraska legislature toward that end.

Jordan Pirtle, dean of secondary partnerships, stressed how important the tuition-free approach has been to the growth and inclusivity of the program. Monahan shared how many people in the community express to her their appreciation of the program.

Schmailzl stressed how the partnership has enabled the K-12 schools to partner with the community and the College. Pirtle provided an example of such partnerships, when she shared about the Omaha Public Schools (OPS) Northwest High early college program that will be located at the Fort Omaha Campus next fall.

Wright asked how students are selected to be in the Northwest early college program. Pirtle said OPS drives that process. Attendance, GPA, counselor and family recommendations, etc. are considered. Uhe asked about transportation and Pirtle stated OPS will provide transportation for those who are not able to drive themselves.

Fort Omaha Campus-City of Omaha Easement Requests

Jim Thibodeau, general counsel, provided an update on the City of Omaha's requests for two easements related to traffic signals near the 30th Street entrance on the Fort Omaha Campus, for which the administration is recommending the Board's approval via resolution on tonight's agenda.

Fair Labor Standards Act Changed

Thibodeau referenced an email he had sent to Board members explaining plans the College was making to comply with changing Fair Labor Standards Act provisions increasing the minimum salary threshold for employees to be classified as exempt. He noted that after he sent the email to the Board a federal judge in Texas issued an injunction preventing the new provisions from taking effect, which essentially renders the matter moot at this point. The College administration does not anticipate the federal government will appeal this ruling, given changes in Washington D.C. in 2025.

Agenda Item 3f — Regular Reports

No questions were asked. No comments were made.

**Agenda Item 3g — Nebraska Community College Insurance Trust Report –
Brenda Schumacher**

Schumacher provided her annual update on the statewide risk management pool, noting the savings seen by the College in recent years. She asked the Board to renew MCC’s membership with NCCIT for 2025-2028 per the resolution on tonight’s agenda.

Agenda Item 4 — Consent Agenda Items

Items remaining on the consent agenda are 6a, 6b, 6c, 6d, 6e, 6f

Agenda Item 5 — Items Removed from Consent Agenda (if any)

No items were removed from the consent agenda.

Agenda Item 6 — Action Agenda

**Agenda Item 6a — Consideration of Approval of Minutes of October 15, 2024,
Board of Governors Meeting, Board Doc. 8069**

**Agenda Item 6b — Consideration of Resolution Approving Personnel
Appointments, Board Doc. 8070**

WHEREAS, per Board Policy 60205, the Board of Governors shall have final approval of all full-time contracts for administrative, support and faculty personnel.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the following appointments and employment contracts be approved and/or ratified by the Board of Governors:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>Annual Salary</u>
<i>Assistant Director of Foundation Accounting</i>	<i>Daniel Rooney</i>	<i>11/25/2024</i>	<i>\$ 75,000.00</i>
<i>Education Specialist for UBMS</i>	<i>Jonathan Berliaw</i>	<i>11/25/2024</i>	<i>\$ 51,000.00</i>
<i>Manager of Workforce Credential Strategy</i>	<i>Grace Grennan</i>	<i>12/02/2024</i>	<i>\$ 72,000.00</i>
<i>Strategic Factotum</i>	<i>Emma Frazier</i>	<i>12/01/2024</i>	<i>\$ 87,000.00</i>
<i>Strategic Factotum</i>	<i>Laura Gorynski</i>	<i>01/06/2025</i>	<i>\$ 90,000.00</i>
<i>Workforce Training Coordinator</i>	<i>Nathan Rice</i>	<i>12/02/2024</i>	<i>\$ 60,000.00</i>

Assistant Director of Foundation Accounting – The Assistant Director performs accounting and analysis functions for the Foundation and the College in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. This position prepares monthly financials, ad hoc financial, and analytical reports. (Daniel Rooney)

Education Specialist for UBMS – The Education Specialist conducts individual and group sessions for academic, college, career and personal guidance. This position works with target high schools, appropriate college employees, parents, institutions of higher education, area

agencies and area TRIO programs to facilitate services and activities with an emphasis on math and science (Jonathan Berliaw)

Manager of Workforce Credential Strategy – The Manager serves as the primary credential architect for Community and Workforce Education (CWE). This position devises comprehensive strategies to raise awareness of training programs, cultivating partnerships with both internal and external stakeholders to deliver a diverse range of industry-aligned credentials and training opportunities. (Grace Grennan)

Strategic Factotum – The Factotum provides professional support to the College President in the areas of strategic development, crisis preparedness and management, and public relations. The position serves as a key liaison between the President's Office and various internal and external stakeholders. (Emma Frazier, Laura Gorynski)

Workforce Training Coordinator – The Coordinator plans, develops, organizes, schedules, implements, and evaluates all non-credit Community and Workforce Education classes for assigned clients. This position ensures programs meet client expectations, and are completed on time and within budget. The coordinator researches community and workforce trends to ensure courses and programs meet the market demands with high impact. (Nathan Rice)

Agenda Item 6c — Consideration of Resolution Approving Two Permanent Easements on the College's Fort Omaha Campus to the City of Omaha, Board Doc. 8071

WHEREAS the City of Omaha has requested that the College grant it two permanent easements over small parts of the Fort Omaha Campus along 30th Street for installation and maintenance of traffic signal infrastructure upgrades; and,

WHEREAS the first proposed permanent easement is 5 ft² along 30th Street north of the College entrance at 30th and Fort Streets, and the second proposed permanent easement is 415 ft² and spans the entire entryway from north to south across the College entrance at 30th and Fort Streets; and,

WHEREAS the City has offered to pay the College \$1,140.00 for the two permanent easements (\$100.00 for the first easement and \$1,040.00 for the second easement). College administration has no reason to dispute that the City's offer represents the fair market value of the interests to be conveyed to the City; and,

WHEREAS upon completion of the project, and following any future subsequent infrastructure maintenance, the City will restore the College's property to at least as good a condition as it was in before the project; and,

WHEREAS College administration has studied the offer from the City of Omaha and recommends granting the two permanent easements for the offered price.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by this Board that it approves granting to the City of Omaha two permanent easements, the first being 5 ft² and along 30th Street north of the entrance to the College at 30th and Fort Streets, and the second being 415 ft² and spanning the entire entryway from north to south across the entrance to the College at 30th and Fort Streets, for the agreed upon price of \$1,140.00; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by this Board that it authorizes the College President to take all actions that are or may be necessary or proper to execute said transaction as the President, in consultation with College legal counsel, may deem appropriate and in the best interest of the College.

Agenda Item 6d — Consideration of Resolution Approving the Contractor for Partial Replacement of the Mahoney Building Roof on the South Omaha Campus, Board Doc. 8072

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Governors of the Metropolitan Community College Area hereby awards a contract for replacing Mahoney Building roof on the South Omaha Campus, and authorizes the College President to negotiate, sign and implement such agreement with Garland/DBS, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$820,266.00 plus associated fees, with such changes and amendments as the President, in consultation with College legal counsel, may deem appropriate and in the best interests of the College.

Agenda Item 6e — Consideration of Resolution Authorizing Continuation of Participation in the Nebraska Community College Insurance Trust, Board Doc. 8073

WHEREAS, in June 1995, the Metropolitan Community College Area joined several other Nebraska community colleges in creating the Nebraska Community College Insurance Trust; and,

WHEREAS, the purposes of the Trust, including increased coverage, improved risk management, loss prevention services, claim handling control, financial savings, and ultimately the protection of the public assets of the College, all have been achieved and continue to improve; and,

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is in the best interests of the College and the public served by the College to continue its membership in the Nebraska Community College Insurance Trust; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Metropolitan Community College Area hereby agrees to continue its membership in the Nebraska Community College Insurance Trust for a three-year period commencing on July 1, 2025, and continuing through June 30, 2028.

Agenda Item 6f — Consideration of Resolution Accepting the Independent Auditors' Reports on the Financial Statements and Single Audit Reports; and the Statements of Reimbursable Full-Time Equivalent Student Enrollment, Reimbursable Educational Units, and Dual Enrollment Full-Time Equivalent Student Enrollment for the Year Ended June 30, 2024, Board Doc. 8074

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Governors of Metropolitan Community College hereby accepts the Independent Auditors' Reports on the Financial Statements and Single Audit Reports; and the Statements of Reimbursable Full-Time Equivalent Student Enrollment and Reimbursable Educational Units for the year ended June 30, 2024, Board Doc. No. 8074a, as presented by Weaver & Tidwell, L.L.P.

MOTION: Reinhardt moved to approve the consent agenda; Gottschall seconded the motion.

Martha Bruckner, yes
Kristen DuPree, yes
Adam Gottschall, yes
Theresa Love-Hug, yes
Linda McDermitt, yes
Maureen Monahan, yes
Zach Reinhardt, yes
Fred Uhe, yes
Tammy Wright, yes
Brad Ashby, abstain

Motion carried.

Agenda Item 7 — Adjournment

MOTION: Reinhardt moved to adjourn the meeting; Gottschall seconded the motion.

Kristen DuPree, yes
Adam Gottschall, yes
Theresa Love-Hug, yes
Linda McDermitt, yes
Maureen Monahan, yes
Zach Reinhardt, yes
Fred Uhe, yes
Tammy Wright, yes
Brad Ashby, yes
Martha Bruckner, yes

Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Adam Gotschall, Secretary, Board of Governors

Date



AFFIDAVIT

State of New Jersey, County of Burlington, ss:

I, Rachel Cozart, being of lawful age, being duly sworn upon oath, hereby depose and say that I am agent of Column Software, PBC, duly appointed and authorized agent of the Publisher of Omaha World Herald, a legal daily newspaper printed and published in the counties of Douglas and Cass and State of Nebraska, and of general circulation in the Counties of Douglas, and Sarpy and State of Nebraska, and that the attached printed notice was published in said newspaper on the dates stated below and that said newspaper is a legal newspaper under the statutes of the State of Nebraska.

PUBLICATION DATES:
Nov. 8, 2024

NOTICE NAME: 11 19 2024 Board meeting

PUBLICATION FEE: \$39.60

Rachel Cozart

(Signed) _____

VERIFICATION

State of New Jersey
County of Burlington

LIZA ORTIZ
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
My Commission Expires November 27, 2028

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me on this: 11/08/2024

Liza Ortiz

Notary Public

Notarized remotely online using communication technology via Proof.

NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Governors of the Metropolitan Community College Area will meet on Tuesday, November 19, 2024, commencing at 6:30 o'clock P.M. at the Fort Omaha Campus, 32nd & Sorensen Parkway, in the Mule Barn, Building 21, Room 112, Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska, which meeting will be open to the public. An agenda for such meeting, kept continually current, is readily available for public inspection at the principal office of said Board of Governors, 30th & Fort Streets, Building 30, Omaha, Nebraska, during normal business hours.

Maureen Monahan
Chair, Board of Governors
2024, (11) 8 - Fridays, ZNEZ