

Marion Technical College
Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, June 18, 2024
Health Technologies Center Auditorium

Call to Order

Chair Somerlot called the meeting to order at 5:29 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, Dr. Michael McCleese, and Mr. Don Plotts.

Vice Chair Kit Fogle was absent.

Introduction of Guests

Guests present included MTC employees Dr. Ryan McCall, Dr. Amy Adams, Dr. Bob Haas, Ms. Rhonda Ward, Mr. Mike Stuckey, Mr. Steve Duvall, Mr. Chris Heaney, and Ms. Laura Woughter. Also present were Dr. Greg Rose, Ohio State Marion, and Ms. Holly Welch, Ohio Attorney General's Office.

Recognition of Dr. Greg Rose

Dr. McCall recognized Dr. Greg Rose, Dean of Ohio State Marion, on his forthcoming retirement. Dr. McCall shared memories of his relationship with Dr. Rose and their collaborative efforts in support of the Marion Campus. Dr. McCall presented him with a crystal acknowledging Dr. Rose as a valuable friend of Marion Technical College. Dr. Rose was appreciative of the cooperation between the institutions, and how their partnership and friendship improved campus relations.

Chair Somerlot remembered having Dr. Rose as a professor, and working collegially on community boards, and commended his work.

Major Discussion Topic

Mr. Duvall provided an update to the Board on the College's compliance with the Gramm Leach Bliley Act regarding security of the College's network and data. Included in the Information

Technology department's security planning is risk assessment, monitoring, user training, and potential changes. The department has implemented solutions such as database encryption, multi-factor authentication, access controls, and more.

Mr. Plotts questioned how many breaches the College had in the last year, and Mr. Duvall stated there were no breaches. Mr. Anderson asked if the College tracks attempted breaches, and Mr. Duvall said the College does monitor attempts. Ms. Iyengar asked if there is a regulatory body overseeing the College's cybersecurity, and Mr. Duvall noted the College underwent a performance audit, including the IT department, several years ago by the Auditor of State's office for co-located campuses. Ms. Iyengar asked about the College's data storage, and Mr. Duvall shared the College maintains local data backups and backups at a geographically separated co-location at Wright State University.

Chair Somerlot and Mr. Plotts attended the Governor's Trustee Conference, hosted by the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE), on June 5th. Chair Somerlot shared the content was valuable for trustees and overall board management, and encouraged the remaining trustees attend in future years. Mr. Plotts noted the remarks from Governor DeWine and ODHE Chancellor Duffey were supportive of community colleges and universities. Mr. Plotts also stated the conference is a must, and provides opportunities to better understand fiduciary responsibility and network with other institutions. Chair Somerlot and Mr. Plotts highlighted Dr. Haas' session (invited by ODHE) on collecting employer wage data, and Chair Somerlot shared Chancellor Duffey was complimentary of Dr. Haas' expertise.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of preceding meeting minutes
2. Resolution 2024-03 Early Childhood Education Program

Ms. Foulk made a motion to approve the consent agenda, and Mr. Anderson 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 is hosting numerous summer camps and bootcamps for individuals of all ages to engage them in programming related to engineering, information technology, esports, healthcare, and continuing education.
- The College was notified in June that it was awarded a Rural Postsecondary and Economic Development grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Previously the College was not selected but was within one point of the award. The grant will fund a

transfer coordinator, pathways advisor for CCP students, and a nursing faculty to embed STNA in several area high schools. The grant will total \$1.7 million over four years.

- The College's third annual golf outing raised over \$40,000, and will be used to match new endowed scholarships benefitting students.
- The College has strong summer enrollment compared to the final numbers for 2023. The College is monitoring ongoing FAFSA rollout challenges, which continue to impact higher education institutions.
- Dr. McCall is working with the executive leadership team to develop a new organizational structure based on the anticipated retirement of Dr. Haas in 2027. The proposal has been shared with employees to provide feedback.

Monitoring Reports

EL 4.5 Financial Condition

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

- Enrollment continues to surpass the College's budget, which was revised in the fall and spring.
- The College will conclude back payments to Ohio State Marion for the cost-share in December 2024. The College has sufficient cash on hand to make the final payments.
- The College's investment account through STAR Ohio is currently paying 5.44%.
- Ms. Ward anticipates a positive carryover at the end of the fiscal year.

Chair Somerlot requested a motion to accept the financial condition report. Ms. Iyengar made a motion to approve, and Dr. McCleese seconded the motion. By a unanimous vote, the motion was approved.

EL 4.6 Financial Planning

Ms. Ward presented to the Board on the proposed FY25 budget, and highlighted the following assumptions:

- Flat enrollment across all student populations (traditional, early college, prison).
- Additional Second Chance Pell funding totaling \$773,100.
- Increase tuition \$5 per credit hour (total \$210). Ms. Ward provided a comparison of the College's two-year peers, noting the College falls in the middle of the group.
- Subsidy increase of \$802,966 over FY24.
- STAR Ohio investment income return of 4% and maintained balance of \$4.5 million.
- Additional income from grant indirect costs, miscellaneous income and fees, and bookstore commission.
- Employee pay increase of 3% in July 2024.
- Filling of positions (both vacant and new) and transition of grant positions to the operating budget.

- Health insurance renewal increasing 9% over 2023, bought down to 5.2% for employees by the College through contribution to claim reserves (\$147,000). The College is changing medical providers and eliminating the PPO plan effective July 1st.
- Payment to Ohio State Marion for the cost share at \$1,095,000.
- Contingency of \$120,000.

The College will hold operating expenses to the FY24 revised budget, and is seeking to engage with the President's Cabinet to review requests in excess of budget, as the College is anticipating a surplus. The process will allow employees to consistently make requests for one-time expenses. Following the Cabinet's review, Ms. Ward will bring a revised budget back to the Board to incorporate the additional expenses. Ms. Ward has developed a three year forecast that will be shared with the Board in the future.

Mr. Anderson asked if the discussed personnel changes and additions, as well as salary increases, were incorporated in the budget, since the current proposed budget was held flat. Ms. Ward confirmed the personnel related expenses were accounted for, and noted the operating expenses were held flat pending review by Cabinet for requested increases.

Ms. Iyengar asked why the benefits less expenses and miscellaneous expenses have jumped up from FY24. Dr. McCall noted the benefits less expenses line is reflective of retirement contributions based on salary increases. Chair Somerlot has asked if there has been discussion by the state retirement plan (SERS) to increase the 14% contribution, and Ms. Ward confirmed that there is discussion. Ms. Ward also highlighted additional non-medical benefits that increased, including additional support for employee tuition reimbursement and increased sick leave payouts for retirements. Ms. Ward highlighted that the increased miscellaneous expense was largely due to direct digital access (DDA) utilization, which is a pass through revenue/expense. Ms. Iyengar asked why the College did not budget for depreciation. Ms. Ward responded it is funded through the capital dollars awarded by the state, which continually support the maintenance of the buildings or replacement of equipment.

Ms. Ward reviewed the College's proposed grant budget for FY25:

- In the last several months the College received notice of award for four major grants (NSF, Semiconductor, RPED, DOL).
- The proposed grant budget will total \$3,630,714.

Chair Somerlot requested a motion to accept the proposed FY25 budget as presented within the financial planning report. Chair Somerlot noted the proposal includes a 3% for all employees, and included within the motion was approval to extend the same increase to the president as allowed in his contract. Mr. Anderson made a motion to approve, and Mr. Plotts seconded the motion. By a unanimous vote, the motion was approved.

Policy Review/Governance Issues

Ends 1.2 Student Success

Mr. Plotts reviewed the policy with the Board, and emphasized the importance of the report in documenting student success at Marion Tech. Mr. Plotts was encouraged by the data in support of certificates and transfer, which are important options for students. No changes were requested.

EL 4.9 Treatment of Students

Chair Somerlot reviewed the policy with the Board, and highlighted the evidence provided in the most recent report. She noted the policy reflects continuing improvement and reflection by the College to improve offerings for students. No changes were requested.

EL 4.10 Treatment of Employees

Mr. Anderson reviewed the policy with the Board, and highlighted the College's work to regularly update policies, engage an outside firm for updating job descriptions and conducting a salary study, increased professional development spending, shared governance, and more. No changes were requested.

EL 4.12 Conflict of Interest

Ms. Foulk reviewed the policy with the Board, and noted the president's continued compliance with the policy. No changes were requested.

Informational Items

Dr. McCall presented Chair Somerlot with a commemorative gavel in recognition of her tenure as Board Chair. Vice Chair Fogle will assume the Chair role beginning July 1st.

Dr. McCall requested several upcoming Board meeting dates be changed due to conflicts. The Board made the following changes:

- Dr. McCall will attend the September Board meeting virtually.
- The executive leadership team, minus Dr. McCall, will lead the October Board meeting.
- The November Board meeting will be rescheduled to fall prior to the Alumni Hall of Fame on November 21st, beginning at 4:00 p.m.

Executive Session

Mr. Plotts motioned to convene to executive session at 7:15 p.m. to discuss matters regarding the compensation of a public employee and to consider the purchase of property for public purposes and to discuss disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action. Dr. McCleese seconded the motion. Chair Somerlot – aye, Mr. Anderson – aye, Ms. Foulk – aye, Ms. Iyengar – aye, Dr. McCleese – aye, Mr. Plotts – aye.

Ms. Iyengar motioned to return to open session and Dr. McCleese seconded the motion. The Board reconvened in open session at 8:13 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Somerlot moved to adjourn the meeting. The Board adjourned at 8:14 p.m.