Mid Michigan College Board of Trustees Special Meeting

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The meeting took place in the Outdoor Education Center and via Zoom Video Conference Technology due to the COVID-19 Virus and Executive Order 2020-129 issued by the State of Michigan.

Present: Betty M. Mussell, Vice Chair; Eric T. Kreckman, Trustee; Terry Petrongelli, Trustee; Carolyn C. Bay, Trustee

Absent: Douglas A. Jacobson, Board Chair; Richard S. Allen, Jr., Secretary; Thomas W. Metzger, Treasurer

Agenda Item I: CALL TO ORDER

The Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

Agenda Item II: PUBLIC COMMENT

The Vice Chair asked for public comment, no one wished to comment.

Agenda Item III: BUDGET DISCUSSION

President Hood and Vice President of Finance and Facilities Lillian Frick presented to the Board an up to date outlook of the budget. This includes an enrollment decline around 13%, a roughly 10% reduction in state appropriations, and the possibility of a reduction in property taxes. This would leave a deficit of around $1,130,000. While Mid has received money from the CARES Act fund, there are several items that need to be addressed in order to meet the demand for distance learning including technology and other various costs. CARES Act money can only be utilized for certain expenses as well. Therefore, it is not feasible to find the money to cover the money in this budget deficit without affecting personnel.

President Hood stated that this is a difficult situation and suggestions have been sought out from the campus community in the hopes of avoiding affecting personnel. Unfortunately, the reality is the most fiscally responsible option at this point for Mid is to look at a reduction in workforce. President Hood has done a lot of research by speaking with several other college presidents in order to make these difficult decisions.

A revised budget will be present to the Board at the October 6 meeting. This budget will include the reduction in force, utilization of money from building and site in order to pay the bond for the Doan and the Harrison campus projects for this year, and any other revisions that need to be made.
Agenda Item IV: TECHNOLOGY SERVICES DISCUSSION

President Hood discussed the options for technology services. He stated that he believes that Mid needs help in the technology services department but does not like the term outsourcing, but prefers consulting. President Hood stated that he will be having discussions with Ellucian and Campus Works about their services and how they may be able to benefit Mid. It would be likely that Mid will be looking to start consulting services with an outside IT consultant during the month of October.

Agenda Item V: OTHER BUSINESS

The Wednesday before Thanksgiving is normally a Professional Development Day at Mid. It is contractual that this Professional Development Day take place. However, this is a busy travel day for everyone. Since there are no classes on this day it was suggested that Professional Development Day be held on a different day (most likely over the course of one or two Fridays) and the Wednesday before Thanksgiving (November 25) would be given to staff as an additional day off for all of their hard work. A consensus of Trustees approved of this plan.

Trustee Kreckman stated that he would like to see a revamping of the trustee committee structures in the future and abolish the Personnel Committee.

Trustee Mussele asked for an update about the annexation effort. Several public meetings have been attended already and will be attended in the future to inform interested parties about the annexation effort. President Hood stated that the feedback received thus far has been very positive.

MCCA recently asked for support from community colleges to allow BSN pathways in the community college setting. Mid was in full support of the idea and we will be having more discussions with our legislators regarding this topic as time goes on.

Meeting adjourned at 2:10 PM

Recording Secretary,
Amy Lince
Executive Assistant to the President and Board of Trustees

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Betty M. Mussell, Vice Chair                            Terry Petrongelli, Acting Secretary