

**METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE AREA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 15, 2020**

A meeting of the Board of Governors of the Metropolitan Community College Area was called to order at 6:31 p.m. via Zoom Meeting.

Chair Monahan asked Rita Eyerly, Recording Secretary to the Board, to call the roll:

MEMBERS PRESENT

Erin Feichtinger, Assistant Secretary, *via Zoom Meeting*
Roger Garcia, *via Zoom Meeting*
Steve Grabowski, Treasurer, *via Zoom Meeting*
Ron Hug, *via Zoom Meeting*
Phillip Klein, *via Zoom Meeting*
Linda McDermitt, Secretary, *via Zoom Meeting*
Maureen Monahan, Chair, *via Zoom Meeting*
Angela Monegain, *via Zoom Meeting*
Dave Pantos, Vice Chair, *via Zoom Meeting*
Fred Uhe, *via Zoom Meeting*
Michael Young, *Joined at 6:40, via Zoom Meeting*
Joe Baker, Ex Officio Faculty, *via Zoom Meeting*
Brianna Ouedraogo, Ex Officio Student, *via Zoom Meeting*

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

Also Present: Randy Schmailzl, College President

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 on the MCC website as noted in Agenda Item 1d. and is available for public inspection on the MCC Board of Governors webpages.

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 December 4, 2020, and on the Omaha World-Herald website Omaha.com from December 4 - 10, 2020.

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 1f—Statement Regarding Access to Meeting Via Zoom Online Conferencing Services / State of Nebraska Executive Order No. 20-36

Monahan made the following announcement:

I would also like to announce that pursuant to **Executive Order No. 20-36** issued by the Governor of Nebraska on November 25, 2020, which provided a limited waiver of certain requirements of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act (a copy of such Executive Order is attached to Item 1f. of the Meeting Agenda), and in order to comply with government orders restricting public gatherings and allowing governing bodies to meet by videoconference or by telephone conference, this meeting of the Board of Governors of the Metropolitan Community College Area is being made accessible to members of the Board, College administration, the general public, and members of the media via Zoom online conferencing service. Instructions for accessing the meeting via Zoom online conferencing service have been included in the Meeting Agenda, were posted on the College website and were posted on the doors of the building where the Board usually meets.

Agenda Item 2—Public Comments

The Chair called for public comments and paused to allow time for anyone to speak via Zoom Meeting. There were no public comments.

Agenda Item 3—Award

Agenda Item 3a—Diane Donelson Spirit Award

Monahan stated the 2020 Diane Donelson Spirit Award goes to Todd Hansen, Executive Director of Student Affairs. The Diane Donelson Award was created by Board resolution in 2005 in honor of former Board member Diane Donelson. The award was established to recognize employees who demonstrate leadership, and the ability to build relationships with a compassionate and positive spirit.

Hansen's nominators noted his passion for the MCC mission, his inclusive leadership style, and compassion to assist staff and students. Monahan asked President Schmailzl to comment.

Schmailzl commented on Hansen's history with the College, noting he grew up in Fremont, still lives there, and brings great value to the College and his position because of his commitment to the city and MCC. Schmailzl noted Hansen's duties were expanded this year to include the Applied Technology Center and as a connection for the College's programs in Blair. Schmailzl thanked Hansen for relationships he has developed and the leadership he provides in the community and to MCC.

Hansen attended the Board meeting via Zoom Meeting, and acknowledged the support of his family. He stated, "My job fills my tank every day." He thanked his nominators and his staff and colleagues for their team efforts. He thanked the Board and Randy for their support.

Grabowski, McDermitt, Hug, and Monahan all commented on the dedication and hard work Hansen contributes the success of Fremont and thanked him for his commitment to MCC and Fremont.

Agenda Item 4—Report Agenda

Agenda Item 4a—Ex Officio Board Members' Reports

Monahan welcomed the two new ex officio Board members. She called on Brianna Ouedraogo, the new student ex officio representative, to give her report.

- **Student Ex Officio Report**

Ouedraogo noted she is grateful for this opportunity and looks forward to representing the MCC student body. She reviewed her report in the Board materials and shared her educational journey, from her desire to be a teacher to exploring the nursing program at MCC, to her current career path in construction management at MCC.

She noted the Student Advisory Council continues to meet, via Zoom Meeting, and shared details of what's being done.

Feichtinger asked about her passion for construction. Ouedraogo replied her husband is in the construction business and she likes the conversations they share and the daily challenges of her current job as an electrical estimator.

- **Faculty Ex Officio Report**

Monahan asked Joe Baker, the new faculty ex officio representative, to introduce himself and report.

Baker noted he is a graduate of Metropolitan Community College and served as an adjunct, prior to becoming full-time faculty in 2016. He focused on the success of the trades programs during the COVID-19 pandemic. Early on, all classes were virtual, and instructors became creative, including making updated videos and lesson plans. As time progressed and blended learning became an option, labs have been held with safety first, including personal protective equipment and social distancing. All classrooms and labs are color coded and clearly marked. One example is the welding lab, where every other welding station is utilized and lab times are staggered.

Baker stated the number one goal of faculty has been to not give up on students and to assist students in being successful.

Feichtinger welcomed Baker and asked about his weekend hobby of racing. Baker confirmed driving stock cars is a hobby, which comes after family.

Agenda Item 4b—Chair of the Board’s Report

- **Recognition of Out-going Board Members**

Monahan noted this is the final Board meeting for Garcia, Pantos, and Young. A PowerPoint showed the brick and plaques presented to these outgoing Board members.

Roger Garcia has served on the Board since August 2013. In recognition of his time and service to the Board, he has chosen to have a brick placed in the walkways on the Fort Omaha Campus. This walkway was implemented when the Career and Academic Skills Center, Construction Education Center, and Center for Advanced and Emerging Technology were built. The brick has been ordered, and Roger will receive a photo of the brick when it is installed. The inscription reads: “Roger Garcia – in appreciation of service to the MCC Board of Governors, August 2013 through December 2020.”

Garcia remarked on his time on the Board and as Chair of the Board. He noted the time has provided opportunity for professional growth. He referenced working with Dave Newell and Tim Dempsey, both former Board members, with passion for government and policy. He thanked MCC administration and staff for their commitment to improving MCC for students and noted he believes MCC is one of the top community colleges in the nation. He stated he will always be an advocate for the College.

Grabowski thanked Garcia for his time on the Board and as Chair, noting he learned a lot during those years. McDermitt thanked Garcia for his time and energy and ability to listen and succinctly share his thoughts. Monahan noted she has known

Garcia since he was in college and has appreciated serving with him on the MCC Board.

Monahan noted that Dave Pantos has served on the Board since February 2017. Dave's plaque reads, "With grateful appreciation for dedicated service to Metropolitan Community College Board of Governors, February 2017 through December 2020."

Pantos reflected that he came to serve on the Board following Dempsey's untimely death and is thankful for the experience to know more about community colleges in general. He noted one event he really missed was the May 2020 graduation ceremony, which was canceled due to the pandemic. He always enjoyed graduation, watching the joy and excitement of many families, as graduates are often the first ones in the family to complete a degree. He thanked Bill Owen, Vice President for Strategic Initiatives, for the tour at the beginning of his term.

Grabowski thanked Pantos for stepping up and serving. Monahan thanked Pantos for his commitment to the Board.

Monahan then thanked Michael Young for his service on the Board since November 2016. Young's plaque reads, "With grateful appreciation for dedicated service to Metropolitan Community College Board of Governors, November 2016 through December 2020."

Young stated he is humbled by his experience on the Board, noting his first experience with MCC was as a student. He stated his respect for the response of administration to the needs of students and Board questions.

Grabowski reflected on Young's passion for the community, his children, and his job. McDermitt noted she saw Young as a caterpillar in a cocoon when he came to the Board, but he leaves as a butterfly, changing and growing. Monahan reflected on her experience as a child attending Board meetings with her father and noted Young's son with him on Zoom at this meeting.

Monahan invited the outgoing Board members to return to share dinner when the pandemic is over and the Board is able to meet in person.

Agenda Item 4c—Board Members' Reports

Uhe noted the challenging economy during the pandemic and referenced a list of Omaha restaurants he obtained from the culinary staff, where MCC alumni own, cook, or work. He encouraged all in attendance to support these establishments with, "take out Tuesday," gift cards, or orders to go.

Agenda Item 4d—President’s Report

Schmailzl reported on a list of activities that have occurred during the two years this Board has worked together, 2019 and 2020. He highlighted a recent meeting with representatives from the state of Kansas correctional system and MCC’s re-entry program staff and showed a video featuring the faces of MCC’s re-entry program success stories – people who have gained employment through their work with MCC.

Schmailzl stated that every activity discussed in Board meetings and every resolution that is approved, has a story and people that make the difference. He referenced COVID-19 and the success MCC has had working with the Board, staff, and faculty, proving that it’s the people of MCC that make the College successful. He thanked the many people who have dedicated their time to serve.

Schmailzl read a list of activities to look forward to in 2021 including:

- Grand opening of new facilities on the South Omaha Campus
- Continuation of the Path Forward Initiative, which is all encompassing methodology to get students to completion
- Renovation of Buildings 8 and 10 on the Fort Omaha Campus
- Sarpy County Campus Site
- Elkhorn Campus Updates
- The Legislative Agenda
- Changes that will happen due to 2020
- MCC Foundation
- Renovation of auto collision area at the Applied Technology Center
- Sustainability master plan
- Fremont and Blair initiatives

He thanked the Board and all the faculty and staff for their commitment to the College.

Young thanked Schmailzl and referenced his time on the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Diversity Committee where MCC was recognized for their leadership.

McDermitt thanked Schmailzl for the list and is looking forward to the coming year and the many opportunities to grow MCC.

Monahan remarked on the list, thanking Schmailzl for the open communication. She referenced the administrative team and faculty who all stepped up during the year to make MCC better in spite of the pandemic. She stated she is looking forward to a new normal, soon.

Agenda Item 4e—Regular Monthly Reports—Randy Schmailzl

Schmailzl noted nothing unusual to report. There were no questions.

Agenda Item 5—Consent Agenda Items

Items remaining on the consent agenda are 7a, 7b, 7c, and 7d

Agenda Item 6—Items Removed from Consent Agenda (If Any)

Hug removed Agenda Item 7e from the Consent Agenda.

Agenda Item 7—Action Agenda

Agenda Item 7a—Consideration of Approval of Minutes of November 17, 2020 Board of Governors’ Meeting, Board Doc. 7702

Agenda Item 7b—Consideration of Resolution Approving Personnel Appointments and Separations, Board Doc. 7703

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 by the Board of Governors:*

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Contract Period</u>	<u>Contract Salary</u>
Kathryn Nelson	Director of Administrative Services	02/08/21-06/30/2021	\$41,436.90
Brenda Schumacher	College Business Officer	12/16/20-06/30/2021	\$59,425.86

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the following separations be acknowledged and accepted by the Board of Governors:*

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Patricia Adams	Continuing Education Operations Manager	11/18/2020
David Koebel	Vice President for Administrative Services	01/29/2021
Linda Lutz	Information Technology Instructor	11/13/2020
Richard Newcomer	Utility Line Instructor	05/27/2021

Agenda Item 7c—Consideration of Resolution Accepting the Bids for the Purchase and Installation of Furniture for the South Omaha Campus Automotive Training Center, Board Doc. 7704

***BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Governors of the Metropolitan Community College Area hereby accepts the bids for the purchase and installation of furniture at the South Omaha Automotive Training Center and authorizes the President to negotiate, sign and implement such agreements with All Makes, AOI, BOLD, CI Select, Encompas, OID, and SBI for a total cost not to exceed \$650,000, as the President in consultation with College legal counsel may deem appropriate and in the best interests of the College.*

Agenda Item 7d—Consideration of Resolution Approving Academic Advisor, Counselor, and Faculty Promotions, Board Doc. 7705

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Governors of the Metropolitan Community College Area approves the promotion of the following faculty member, to be effective retroactive to the first day of his 2020-21 contract:

<u>FACULTY</u>	<u>CURRENT GROUP & LEVEL</u>	<u>PROMOTED TO LEVEL</u>
Joseph Baker	Group 3 Level II-D	Level III-D

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Governors commends this individual for his continued professional development while employed at the College.

MOTION: Grabowski moved to approve the Consent Agenda without Agenda Item 7e; Uhe seconded the motion.

Garcia, yes
Grabowski, yes
Hug, yes
Klein, yes
McDermitt, yes
Monahan, yes
Monegain, *muted on Zoom – no response*
Pantos, yes
Uhe, yes
Young, yes
Feichtinger, yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item 7e—Consideration of Resolution Approving the Purchase of Digger Derrick Trucks for the Utility Line Program, Board Doc. 7706

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Governors of the Metropolitan Community College Area hereby approves the purchase of two Digger Derrick trucks from Altec Industries, Inc., in the estimated amount of \$460,378 using consortium contract pricing with such modifications, changes and amendments as the President, in consultation with College legal counsel, may deem appropriate and in the best interests of the College.

MOTION: Hug moved to approve Agenda Item 7e; Young seconded the motion.

Hug asked for history on the purchase of Digger Derrick trucks. Schmailzl explained that each truck is essential to 75% of the course curriculum for the utility line program and the cost of each truck is about \$230,000. In the past, the College has sought donations of trucks and they are most often used trucks. Currently, one of the trucks has electrical problems and is not operational. He referenced the opportunity to pay for the trucks with CARES grant funding from the Nebraska Workforce Retraining Initiative from the Department of Economic Development and Nebraska Department of Labor in the amount of \$317,000, meaning the College is only paying about \$143,000 for two trucks.

Hug asked if the truck purchase is in the current budget.

Dave Koebel, Vice President for Administrative Services, noted it was not in the budget, but is a definite need.

Nate Barry, Dean of Career and Technical Education, explained that the truck cost was originally in the equipment list in the March and April budget, but with the COVID-19 pandemic, the ability of the program to function during the pandemic, was in question, so the truck was removed from the current budget.

Schmailzl noted there may be other large purchases as the South Omaha Campus renovations are completed, but the College never spends more money than is available.

Rich Newcomer, Utility Line Technician Instructor, stated that these Digger Derrick trucks are also used by the Commercial Driver's License (CDL) driving students as another way to practice driving. Driving these trucks prepares students on current equipment. Hug thanked Newcomer for his years of dedication to the students and the program.

Grabowski also thanked Newcomer for his work over the years.

Vote on Agenda Item 7e:

Grabowski, yes
Hug, yes
Klein, yes
McDermitt, yes
Monahan, yes
Monegain, *muted on Zoom – no response*
Pantos, yes
Uhe, yes
Young, yes
Feichtinger, yes
Garcia, yes

Motion carried.

Monahan recognized the retirement of Dave Koebel, Vice President for Administrative Services, as noted on the Resolution Approving Personnel Appointments and Separations. She and other Board members thanked Dave for his tireless efforts over the decades.

Agenda Item 8—Adjournment

MOTION: McDermitt moved to adjourn the meeting; Young seconded the motion.

Hug, yes

Klein, yes
McDermitt, yes
Monahan, yes
Monegain, *muted on Zoom – no response*
Pantos, yes
Uhe, yes
Young, yes
Feichtinger, yes
Garcia, yes
Grabowski, yes

Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Linda McDermitt, Secretary, Board of Governors

Date

**AFFIDAVIT OF TRANSMISSION OF NOTICE OF
MEETING OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF
METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE AREA**

STATE OF NEBRASKA)
) SS
COUNTY OF DOUGLAS)

Pauline Laughlin, being first duly sworn upon oath deposes and states as follows:

- That pursuant to direction received from the Chair of the Board of Governors of the Metropolitan Community College Area, I caused the following Notice to wit:**

NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Governors of the Metropolitan Community College Area will hold a virtual meeting electronically as permitted by Governor Ricketts' Executive Order No. 20-36, with this meeting to be held on Tuesday, December 15, 2020, commencing at 6:30 o'clock P.M. Because this meeting will be held electronically, and no quorum of the public body will be physically present together, there will be no public in-person attendance. Members of the public and media may attend the meeting electronically by calling 312 626 6799; Meeting ID: 985 6426 8167.

An agenda for such meeting, kept continually current, is available for public inspection at the principal office of said Board of Governors, 30th & Fort Streets, Building #30, Omaha, Nebraska by making prior arrangements for public inspection by calling 531-622-2415.

Maureen Monahan
Chair, Board of Governors

PUBLISH on Friday, December 4, 2020

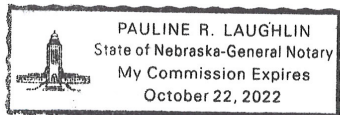
to be published in *Omaha World-Herald* on December 4, 2020; and that the order to said newspaper was made by electronic transmission on December 2, 2020.

- That on *December 3*, a copy of such Notice was addressed and sent by e-mail or, if so requested, by personal delivery to each member of the Board of Governors.

Further affiant sayeth not.

Bita Eyerly

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this 3rd day of December, 2020.



Pauline R. Laughlin

Notary Public

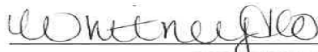


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An agenda for such meeting, kept continually current, is available for public inspection at the principal office of said Board of Governors, 36th & Fort Streets, Building #30, Omaha, Nebraska. If you are unable to attend, please contact the public information officer by calling 402-622-2415.



representative

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STATE *of* NEBRASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
LINCOLN

EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 20-36

CORONA VIRUS – PUBLIC MEETINGS REQUIREMENT LIMITED WAIVER

WHEREAS, In order to provide flexibility to assist in meeting the emergency conditions and subsequent impacts brought on from COVID-19, a state of emergency was declared in Nebraska on March 13, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the State of Nebraska is committed to providing seamless government operations to the people of Nebraska throughout the state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, state and local governmental boards, commissions and other public bodies must comply with the Open Meetings Act so that citizens may exercise their democratic privilege of participating in meetings of public bodies; and

WHEREAS, for public health purposes, meetings and gatherings have now been limited to no more than 10 people and may be further limited if the presence of COVID-19 warrants;

NOW THEREFORE, I Pete Ricketts, Governor of the State of Nebraska, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of Nebraska, hereby issue this limited waiver of certain requirements of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act.

Pursuant to this declaration, I hereby order the following:

1. This executive order applies to public bodies as defined in Neb. Rev. Stat. §84-1409 (1) and to all public meetings as defined in Neb. Rev. Stat. §84-1409 (2).
2. All governing bodies may meet by videoconference or by telephone conferencing or by conferencing by other electronic communication so long as there is made available at such meeting access to members of the public and to members of the media.

3. The advanced publicized notice and the agenda requirements for meetings that are set forth in Neb. Rev. Stat. §84-1411 and the remaining provisions of Nebraska's Open Meetings Act shall continue to be complied with by all public bodies and are not waived by this executive order.

4. This waiver shall apply to all public governing body meetings that occur from December 1, 2020 through January 31, 2021.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed on this 25th day of November, 2020.

ATTEST:



Pete Ricketts, Governor



Robert B. Evnen, Secretary of State

