

**METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE AREA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 26, 2024**

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 Julie Lanxon to call the roll:

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MEMBER ABSENT

Tammy Wright

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 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 March 15, 2024, and on the Omaha World-Herald website Omaha.com from March 15-21, 2024.*

2. *Affidavit of College employee Julie Lanxon, 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 Items 3a — Auditor Interviews

Monahan reviewed the process for interviewing the college auditor finalist candidate, Weaver and Tidwell, LLC., selected by the Board at the February Board meeting to be interviewed. The interview consisted of an opening statement by the firm, a question-and-answer session with the Board, and a closing statement by the firm. Following the interview, Monahan stated the Board would vote in open session.

Agenda Item 4 — Action Agenda

Agenda Item 4a — Consideration of Resolution Appointing the College Auditor for a Three-Year Period for Fiscal Years 2023-24, 2024-25, and 2025-26, Board Doc. 8013

***BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Governors of the Metropolitan Community College Area hereby appoints Weaver and Tidwell, L.L.P., as the auditor for the College's (1) Financial Statements and Student Financial Aid Programs, (2) Statement of Full-Time Equivalent(FTE)/Reimbursable Education Units(REU)/Reported Aid Equivalent Student Enrollment, and (3) Metropolitan Community College Foundation, for the fiscal years 2023-24, 2024-25, and 2025-26, with a College option to extend the contract annually for up to two additional fiscal years, per RFP 21624 bid documents.*

MOTION: Gotschall moved to appoint Weaver and Tidwell as the College auditor for a three-year period; Reinhardt seconded the motion.

Martha Bruckner, yes
Kristen Dupree, yes
Adam Gotschall, yes
Phillip Klein, yes
Theresa Love-Hug, yes
Linda McDermitt, yes
Maureen Monahan, yes
Zach Reinhardt, yes

Fred Uhe, yes
Brad Ashby, yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item 5 — Report Agenda

Agenda Item 5a — Ex Officio Board Members' Report

Student Ex Officio Representative Report

Zulu shared highlights from her written report, which featured the Student Advisory Council's strategies to meet their spring objective "to build meaningful connections with students" and Phi Theta Kappa's recent attendance at the Heartland Regional Spring Conference. The Board had no questions.

Faculty Ex Officio Representative Report

There was no faculty officio report.

Agenda 5b — Chair of the Board's Report

Monahan stated she attended MCC's 50th Anniversary Gala earlier this month and expressed it was a great celebration displaying how the college has grown from a start-up to being a four-county community partner today.

Agenda 5c — Board Members' Reports

McDermitt, Reinhardt, and Ashby also commented on what a wonderful event the Gala was and thanked those involved with planning the event. Reinhardt expressed how he enjoyed seeing community members who believe in the college and have stood beside MCC on the climb upwards. Bruckner thanked Amy Recker, Associate Vice President for Advancement, for having the silent auction online so those not able to attend the Gala in person could participate from afar.

Agenda 5d — Presidents' Report

Schmailzl mentioned some recent news stories involving (1) Omaha Public Schools (OPS) Northwest High School and MCC's new dual enrollment program and (2) OPS and UNO's Middle College program being cancelled. OPS has been working with MCC's Secondary Partnerships to place the Middle College students in MCC's Gateway to College Program or offer them dual enrollment alternatives. Schmailzl mentioned the new Nebraska Statewide Workforce & Educational Reporting System (NSWERS) report on dual enrollment that he had forwarded to Board members earlier in the day.

Legislative Update

The list of bills the college administration has been monitoring was included in the Board packet. The Agency 83 appropriation for community college funding appears to be adding \$7-8 million to the community college pool to cover anticipated enrollment increases. If the college does not receive enough money, then taxes may be levied. Beginning this year, the state will distribute to each community college the amount distributed to the college the previous year plus either 3.5% or an increase equal to the percentage increase in reimbursable education units reported by the college, whichever is greater.

4918 N 30th Street Paving and Grading Bid Report

Administration reported back to the Board that a bid below \$250,000 has been accepted for the paving and grading at the recently cleared property on the corner of North 30th Street and Sorensen Parkway. Work is expected to begin this spring and be completed by summer's end.

Fremont Skywalk Removal

Schmailzl stated the Lenihan Skywalk (known as the Gerbil Run) connecting MCC's Fremont Area Center to the old Fremont High School will be demolished in April. Fremont Public Schools will pay for the demolition.

Agenda 5e — Regular Reports

No comments. No questions were asked.

Agenda 5f — Credential College Start-Up Report

Gary Girard, Vice President for Community and Workforce Education, presented his division's newest initiative, Credential College. This program offers non-credit workforce micro-credential training to upskill high school graduates who select alternative (non-college) pathways after high school. Credential College will build on the college's prior successes at the local and national levels, while providing students with proven training pathways to well-paying careers. The program is a scalable model that will build upon MCC's current workforce ecosystem. Girard answered Board members' questions. Several Board members expressed how they see this program helping build students' confidence and empowering them to recognize they can be successful and achieve their goals. Schmailzl added that the kickoff for this program is similar to how the college kicked off dual enrollment. Schmailzl stated some micro-credential areas being offered include: mobile device repair, phlebotomy, pharmacy technician, trades logistics, fiber optics, construction, and a customized Google program. Girard added that micro-credentials can be customized to work with community partners' needs.

Agenda 5g — Credit Program Modifications Report

Tom McDonnell, Vice President for Academic Affairs, provided an overview of the annual process to submit credit program modifications to the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education (CCPE). MCC's academic programs are reported to and approved by the Board of Governors, CCPE, Department of Education, and the Higher Learning Commission. McDonnell highlighted the CCPE's credit program definitions, the program proposal criteria, a new program proposal process, MCC's and CCPE's program reviews, and program modifications report. The Board annually approves the credit program modifications before they are submitted to the CCPE. McDonnell answered the Board members' questions.

Agenda Item 6 — Consent Agenda Items

Items remaining on the consent agenda are 8a, 8b, 8c, 8d, 8e, 8f, 8g.

Agenda Item 7 — Items Removed from Consent Agenda (if any)

No agenda items were moved from the Consent Agenda.

Agenda Item 8 — Action Agenda

Agenda Item 8a — Consideration of Approval of Minutes of February 27, 2024, Board of Governors Meeting, Board Doc. 8014

Agenda Item 8b — Consideration of Resolution Approving Personnel Appointments, Board Doc. 8015

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>
Academic Advisor	Alma Ramirez-Rodgers	04/15/2024	\$ 59,247.00
Exploratory Studies & Integrated Learning Skills Instructor	Colleen Kroeger	08/26/2024	\$ 68,709.00
Exploratory Studies & Integrated Learning Skills Instructor	Felicity White	08/26/2024	\$ 68,642.00
Grant Coordinator	Derek Comba	04/08/2024	\$ 53,000.00
Success Navigator	Michaela Martin	04/01/2024	\$ 48,984.00

Academic Advisor – *The Academic Advisor engages students in discussions regarding career and academic interests toward developing a plan to realize their educational, career, and life goals. This position facilitates student understanding of degree and certificate requirements for academic transfer, vocational, and technical programs. (Alma Ramirez-Rodgers)*

Exploratory Studies and Integrated Learning Skills Instructor – The Instructor teaches a full range of exploratory studies and academic success courses, and co-teaches alongside subject matter instructors to help students gain learning skills, literacy skills, and college success strategies as they learn program content. This position participates collaboratively in curriculum review and development, implementation of technology-based instructional strategies, outcomes assessment, advisory council activities, projects, and other department or College activities. (Colleen Kroeger, Felicity White)

Grant Coordinator – The Coordinator is responsible for all phases of grant and proposal development, including research, pre-award, post-award, and reporting. This position maintains grant compliance resources and builds relationships with constituents. (Derek Comba)

Success Navigator – The Navigator onboards new students from point of entry at the College. This position provides proactive, ongoing, individualized support assisting them through the complexities of the College environment. They connect students to services and resources and ensure students are on track with their individualized education plan. (Michaela Martin)

Agenda Item 8c — Consideration of Resolution Approving Credit Program Appointments, Board Doc. 8016

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Community College Board of Governors must approve credit program additions and modifications prior to submission for review of the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education; and,

WHEREAS, all credit programs are reviewed by faculty and administration at least annually to identify necessary and appropriate modifications; and,

WHEREAS, Board of Governors' Policy 40101 provides a guide for program development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan Community College Area Board of Governors accepts and approves the credit program modifications as set forth in Board Document 8016a.

Agenda Item 8d — Consideration of Resolution Approving the 2024 Don Wagner Award for Leadership and Service to Metropolitan Community College and to Those it Serves, Board Doc. 8017

WHEREAS, on December 20, 2005, the Metropolitan Community College Area Board of Governors created the Don Wagner Award for Leadership and Service to the community in recognition of Mr. Wagner's long history of outstanding contributions to the College and service on the Board of Governors from 1999-2005; and,

WHEREAS, the Don Wagner Award was intended to recognize leadership and assistance to Metropolitan Community College, as well as to individuals, groups, and communities served by the College; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Governors received nominations to award the 2024 Don Wagner Award to Ron Hug and Rick Sandvig in recognition of their leadership to Metropolitan Community College and those the College serves; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Governors concurs that Ron Hug and Rick Sandvig should be recognized for their embodiment of the spirit, exemplary leadership, and contribution to the College and to the community that was exemplified by Don Wagner.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Governors of the Metropolitan Community College Area hereby awards the 2024 Don Wagner Award for Leadership and Service to Ron Hug and

Rick Sandvig in recognition of their outstanding leadership and service to both the College and to those it serves.

Agenda Item 8e — Consideration of Resolution Approving Extension of Lease Agreement for the College Central Stores, Board Doc. 8018

WHEREAS, the College's lease of space for its Central Stores at 1210, 1230-1234, and 1314-1322 East Hartman Avenue in Omaha is set to terminate on March 31, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, the College is in need of extending the Lease Agreement so it can continue to utilize the administrative and warehouse space as its Central Stores facility; and,

WHEREAS, College administration has negotiated a Second Addendum to the Lease Agreement with the Landlord for a five-year extension of the Lease Term, running through March 31, 2029, with an 8% increase in rent during the first year of the Renewal Term, and increases of 2% annually thereafter for the duration of the Renewal Term.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by this Board of Governors that it approves the Second Addendum to the Lease Agreement for the College's lease of space for its Central Stores at 1210, 1230-1234, and 1314-1322 East Hartman Avenue in Omaha, extending the lease term for five additional years, through March 31, 2029, and authorizes the College President to execute said Second Addendum to the Lease Agreement 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.

Agenda Item 8f — Consideration of Resolution Approving Sole Source Purchase of Renewal of Two-Year Colleague Cloud Hosting Agreement From Ellucian, Board Doc. 8019

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Governors of the Metropolitan Community College Area hereby approves the sole source purchase of renewal of the two-year Colleague Cloud Hosting agreement for July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2026, from Ellucian, at an estimated amount of \$577,956, plus associated fees, as the President in consultation with College legal counsel may deem appropriate and in the best interests of the College.

Agenda Item 8g — Consideration of Resolution Accepting the Bid for South Omaha Campus Slope Stabilization, Board Doc. 8020

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Governors of the Metropolitan Community College Area hereby accepts the bid for South Omaha Campus Slope Stabilization and authorizes the President to negotiate, sign and implement such agreement with Vrana Construction Company, in an amount not to exceed \$933,689.57 plus associated fees, as the President in consultation with College legal counsel may deem appropriate and in the best interests of the College.

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

Kristen DuPree, yes
Adam Gotschall, yes
Phillip Klein, yes
Theresa Love-Hug, yes
Linda McDermitt, yes
Maureen Monahan, yes

Zach Reinhardt, yes
Fred Uhe, yes
Brad Ashby, yes
Martha Bruckner, yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item 9—Adjournment

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

Adam Gotschall, yes
Phillip Klein, yes
Theresa Love-Hug, yes
Linda McDermitt, yes
Maureen Monahan, yes
Zach Reinhardt, yes
Fred Uhe, yes
Brad Ashby, yes
Martha Bruckner, yes
Kristen DuPree, yes

Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Adam Gotschall, 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)

Julie Lanxon, being first duly sworn upon oath deposes and states as follows:

1. **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 MEETINGS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Governors of the Metropolitan Community College Area will meet on Tuesday, March 26, 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

PUBLISH on Friday, March 15, 2024

to be published in *Omaha World-Herald* on March 15, 2024; and that the order to said newspaper was made by electronic transmission on March 12, 2024.

1. That on **March 13**, 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.

Julie Lanxon

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this 18th day of March, 2024

Jolynn Emery
Notary Public

State of Nebraska – General Notary
JOLYNN EMERY
My Commission Expires
November 30, 2026



AFFIDAVIT

State of Florida, County of Orange, ss:

I, Laquansay Nickson Watkins, 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 county of Douglas 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:

Mar. 15, 2024

NOTICE NAME: 03 26 24 BOG meeting notice

PUBLICATION FEE: \$40.79

Laquansay Watkins

(Signed) _____



VERIFICATION

State of Florida
County of Orange

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me on this: 03/18/2024

[Signature]

Notary Public

Notarized remotely online using communication technology via Proof.

NOTICE OF MEETING

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Maureen Monahan
Chair, Board of Governors

2024, (3) 15 - Fridays, ZNEZ