

LANSING COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
November 13, 2023

**Regular Meeting**  
Adopted Meeting Minutes

## **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

## **Roll Call**

Present: Abood, Buck, Hidalgo, Mathews, Proctor, Thomas, Vaive

Absent: None

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

Trustee Abood led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **Approval of Minutes**

IT WAS MOVED BY Trustee Buck and seconded by Trustee Vaive that the minutes of the October 16, 2023, Regular Board of Trustees meeting be adopted.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Thomas, Abood, Vaive, Buck, Mathews, Proctor

Nays: None

Absent: None

Trustee Hidalgo abstained from voting due to being absent at the October meeting.

The motion carried.

## **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda**

The following additions/deletions were made to the agenda:

- Chair Mathews asked that Board Comments be moved to after Public Comments

## **Limited Public Comment Regarding Agenda Items**

There were no Limited Public Comment Regarding Agenda Items.

## **Linkage Planning/Implementation**

### **President Report**

President Robinson presented the November 2023 President's report to the Board.

### **Action Items – Consent Agenda**

The following items were presented under the consent agenda:

- A. Invitation to Bid
  - 1. Lathe and CNC Vertical Machine
- B. Request for Proposal
  - 1. Technology & Learning Center (TLC) Motor Control Center Replacement

IT WAS MOVED BY Trustee Vaive and seconded by Trustee Buck that the Consent Agenda be approved.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Thomas, Hidalgo, Proctor, Buck, Abood, Vaive, Mathews

Nays: None

Absent: None

The motion carried.

## **Monthly Monitoring Report**

The following Monitoring Reports were presented:

- 1. 2024 – 2025 Federal Agenda
- 2. Monthly Financial Statements
- 3. Monthly Public Safety Report

Discussion followed on all items.

## **Linkage Planning/Implementation**

### **Chair's Report – Update on the ACCT Leadership Congress**

Chair Mathews gave an update on the ACCT Leadership Congress.

### **Committee Reports – Audit Committee**

Trustee Proctor stated that the Audit Committee met in November to approve the Trustee travel expenses related to the ACCT Leadership Congress. He also stated that due to a flight

adjustment he had the Board Executive Assistant/Liaison make regarding his Las Vegas travel, he owes the college \$264.56.

Trustee Vaive had per diem requests that were denied and stated that in the future she wants to discuss the current LCC travel per diem guidelines when staying with family and possibly putting forth a policy recommendation.

Trustee Proctor stated that Trustee Vaive attended the ACCT Leadership Congress. Her committee work began on Sunday, October 8, and the conference ended on Thursday, October 12, 2023. Trustee Vaive flew into Las Vegas Friday and Saturday to stay with family. Trustee Vaive checked into the conference on Sunday, October 8, 2023, and received 75% of the federal per diem allowed on that day. She was seeking 75% per diem for Saturday and full per diem for Sunday. Based on the college's travel guidelines the request was not approved.

CFO Don Wilske stated that the current college policy states that if travel is extended, the College will only reimburse the per diem travel allowance for the business-related part of the trip. The CFO stated that if the college reimburses someone not in accordance with the IRS guidelines it creates taxable income.

### **Board Members Report – Resolution Naming the Arts and Science Building to the Brent M. Knight Building**

Trustee Proctor and Trustee Abood offered the following resolution:

*The Board of Trustees of Lansing Community College resolves as follows:*

*WHEREAS, Dr. Brent Malcolm Knight's career as a community college president began when he was just 29 years old; and*

*WHEREAS, Dr. Knight became the sixth president of Lansing Community College in 2008 and, over the course of his 12 years as president, provided amazing, resolute, and exemplary service; and*

*WHEREAS, President Knight brought to Lansing Community College extensive managerial experience developed from his work in the post-secondary educational arena and the private sector; and*

*WHEREAS, Dr. Knight, due to his experience managing diverse student bodies, building strong relationships with college communities, and championing responsible fiscal management, provided superior leadership and innovation that brought Lansing Community College both local and national recognition for its cutting-edge programs and state of the art facilities; and*

*WHEREAS, President Knight's establishments of the "Get a Skill Get a Job" initiative, the Military Medic to Paramedic program, Open Education Resources (OER), the Early College, the Aviation Technology program, Guided Pathways, and the Center for Manufacturing Excellence, and support services for students are just a few highlights of his tenure; and*

*WHEREAS, Dr. Knight continues to be one of the staunchest advocates for educational accessibility for all, affordable tuition, and student success, a champion of diversity, equity, and*

*inclusion, and a mentor to underrepresented personnel in higher education while helping and encouraging them with their advancement; and*

*WHEREAS, President Knight's extraordinary visioning and creativity transfigured the grounds of the college with unique and visually attractive spaces filled with public art, including nurturing a cleaner, greener campus through the planting of more than 150 trees that produced an Urban Forest in downtown Lansing, such that his improvement of the grounds and facilities of LCC leaves a lasting legacy that contributes to Lansing's vibrancy and promising future; and*

*WHEREAS, Dr. Knight transformed the Arts and Sciences Building, the primary classroom building on the downtown campus, into a modern, technologically advanced space with themed classrooms that immersed students in learning experiences ambiently, with walls filled with artwork and pictures that unobtrusively broaden the knowledge of those who viewed them, and with innovative spaces for students to gather, study, collaborate, and learn from one another; and*

*WHEREAS, President Knight made the walls of the college talk and teach through his concept of ambient learning; and*

*WHEREAS, Dr. Knight advanced the college as a central placemaker in the greater Lansing area by creating a welcoming environment that draws residents and visitors to downtown Lansing; and*

*WHEREAS, President Knight nurtured an environment of diversity and inclusion by installing and displaying art portraying various cultures through dynamic, one-of-a-kind images and symbols; and*

*WHEREAS, Dr. Knight solved the perennial problem of accessible student parking by advancing the building of a new parking ramp with free access by students; and*

*WHEREAS, Dr. Knight received the Exemplary CEO/Board Award from the American Association of Community Colleges in 2014; and*

*WHEREAS, President Knight's successful career in private business, coupled with his experience in higher education shaped LCC into **A College Like No Other**; with LCC being named Michigan's best community college in 2016; and*

*WHEREAS, Dr. Knight was appointed to the Board of Trustees of the American Association of Community Colleges in 2018; and*

*WHEREAS, the LCC Board of Trustees bestowed the title of President Emeritus to Dr Brent Knight in June 2020; and*

*WHEREAS, the American Association of Community Colleges honored Dr. Brent Knight with the Association's 2022 Leadership Award and inducted him into the AACC Hall of Fame as a Charter Member.*

*NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lansing Community College Board of Trustees, in recognition of the monumental transformation of Lansing Community College directed by Dr. Knight during his tenure as President of the college, rename the Arts and Sciences Building the "Brent M. Knight Arts and Sciences Building;" and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lansing Community College Board of Trustees acknowledges “walls do talk.”*

IT WAS MOVED BY Trustee Proctor and seconded by Trustee Abood that the resolution Naming the Arts and Science Building to the Brent M. Knight Arts and Science Building be approved.

Trustees Buck and Hidalgo asked for the resolution to be postponed until the next Board meeting so they could be given more time to review.

Trustee Buck put forth the following corrections:

*WHEREAS, Dr. Knight solved the perennial problem of accessible student parking by advancing the building of a new parking ramp ~~with free access by students~~; and*

*NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lansing Community College Board of Trustees, in recognition of the monumental transformation of Lansing Community College directed by Dr. Knight during his tenure as President of the college, rename the Arts and Sciences Building the “Brent M. Knight Arts and Sciences Building;” and*

There were discussions around the free parking access by students. Both Trustee Proctor and Abood were not opposed to Trustee Buck’s recommended changes.

Trustee Vaive stated reasons why she would not be voting in favor of the motion to rename the building.

IT WAS MOVED BY Trustee Hidalgo and seconded by Trustee Buck that the resolution be postponed to the December meeting.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Buck, Vaive

Nays: Mathews, Abood, Thomas, Hidalgo, Proctor

Absent: None

The motion failed.

Roll call vote on the main motion of naming the Arts and Science Building to the Brent M. Knight Arts and Science Building:

Ayes: Proctor, Buck, Thomas, Mathews, Hidalgo, Abood

Nays: Vaive

Absent: None

The motion carried.

### **Board Members Report – Foundation Board Report**

Trustee Thomas provided a brief Foundation Board update.

## Unfinished Business

There was no Unfinished Business.

## New Business

There was no New Business.

## Public Comment

Eva Menefee: Eva Menefee addressed the Board regarding her disappointment in there being no acknowledgment that November is National American Heritage Month. She also stated her disappointment in the Land Acknowledgment not being read before tonight's Board meeting.

Chair Mathews asked that the Land Acknowledgement be stated in the meeting minutes for the record.

*Lansing Community College occupies the ancestral, traditional, and contemporary lands of the Anishnaabeg - Three Fires Confederacy of Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi peoples. In particular, the City of Lansing and LCC reside on land ceded in the 1819 Treaty of Saginaw.*

Melissa Kaplan: Melissa Kaplan addressed the Board regarding the upcoming Star Scapes events, Black Box Theatre events, and the Jazz Band's performance at Stayed One Happening on campus.

Mark Kelland: Mark Kelland addressed the Board regarding the Open Education Resources mentioned in Dr. Knight's resolution and thanked the Board for honoring him.

## Board Comment

Trustees Proctor, Buck, and Vaive made Board comments.

Trustee Abood announced that he was resigning from the Board of Trustees effective December 31, 2023. He stated that he would be submitting a letter.

## Closed Session

IT WAS MOVED by Trustee Hidalgo and seconded by Trustee Proctor that the Board enter into a Closed Session to discuss a written legal opinion exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute under Section 8(h) of the Michigan Freedom of Information Act and Section 8(a) of the Michigan OMA for the purpose of discussing the President's yearly performance review per his request to be undertaken in a closed session.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Vaive, Thomas, Proctor, Abood, Hidalgo, Mathews, Buck  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

The motion carried.

The Board entered into a closed session at 8:02 p.m.

The Board returned to the open session at 9:11 p.m.

Roll call:

Present: Abood, Buck, Hidalgo, Mathews, Proctor, Thomas, Vaive  
Absent: None

Chair Mathews stated that the Board is satisfied with Dr. Robinson's service to the college.

IT WAS MOVED BY Trustee Buck and seconded by Trustee Vaive that the Board accept counsel's recommendation as to the President's compensation and increase it to \$280,000 and direct the college attorney to make recommended changes to the contract and negotiate with the president those additional changes

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Mathews, Proctor, Abood, Thomas, Hidalgo, Buck, Vaive  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

The motion carried.

## Adjournment

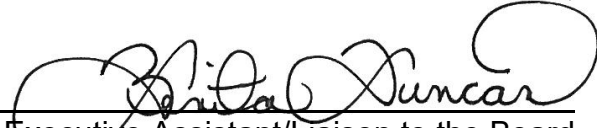
IT WAS MOVED BY Trustee Vaive and seconded by Trustee Buck that the meeting be adjourned.

Ayes: Abood, Buck, Hidalgo, Mathews, Proctor, Thomas, Vaive  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Submitted,

  
Executive Assistant/Liaison to the Board  
Benita Duncan

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