

MINUTES
NORTH CENTRAL MICHIGAN COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING – Library Conference Rooms 1 & 2
Tuesday, August 22, 2023 (4:00 p.m.)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. ATTENDANCE

PRESENT: Trustees Fought, Keiswetter, Kring, and Rasmussen

ABSENT: Trustees Etienne, Shirilla, and Shorter

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Trustee Fought and supported by Trustee Kring that the agenda be approved.

AYES: Trustees, Fought, Keiswetter, Kring, and Rasmussen

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Trustees Etienne, Shirilla, and Shorter

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Trustee Kring and supported by Trustees Keiswetter and Fought that the minutes of the July 25, 2023, Regular Meeting be approved as drafted.

AYES: Trustees, Fought, Keiswetter, Kring, and Rasmussen

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Trustees Etienne, Shirilla, and Shorter

5. COMMUNICATIONS

President Finley shared the following communications:

a. Passing of former NCMC Foundation Director, Sean Pollion

We have some sad news to share, as former NCMC Foundation Director, Sean Pollion, 56, passed away suddenly on August 12, 2023. Sean was a loving husband, father, grandfather, brother, and friend to many. He is survived by his wife Kelly, daughters Becky, Tracy, and Ellie, and his grandchildren.

In addition to Sean's service to the college, he had a passion for basketball and coached the Petoskey Boys Varsity Basketball Team with Dennis Starkey for 27 years. He coached the girls' varsity basketball team, which included his beloved daughter, Ellie, and Coach Bryan Shaw for an additional 3 years.

b. Passing of former NCMC Foundation Board Member, Barbara Worgess

We also recently lost, former NCMC Foundation Board member, Barbara Worgess, 82, of East Jordan. She passed away on July 31, 2023.

In addition to serving on the foundation Board for 13 years, Barb also earned an Associate of Arts degree from North Central in 1988 with High Distinction. In total, she earned 123 credits here at North Central!

Barb's passion for community service kept her busy serving many groups in the community in East Jordan, where in 1999 she was honored as Citizen of the Year and served as Grand Marshal for their Freedom Festival Grand Parade. In 2021 she was also recognized for 20 years of service achievement by the City of East Jordan.

A moment of silence was taken for both Sean and Barb.

c. NCMC Student Selected as 2023 Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholar

On Monday, August 7th, North Central Community College was notified by the Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society that one of our students, Renee Burns, was selected as a 2023 Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholar and will receive a \$1,000 scholarship. A panel of independent judges selected this year's recipients from nearly 1,100 applicants. Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholars are selected based on outstanding academic achievement and demonstrated leadership potential.

Our congratulations goes out to Renee.

d. NCMC Earns 'Gold Status' from Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency

We are pleased to share that North Central recently earned 'Gold Status' from the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency. This is the highest ranking and recognizes the college's commitment to supporting veterans and military-connected students on campus.

"Earning gold-level status is a testament to North Central's campuswide support of veterans, students who are currently serving our country, and their dependents," said Katie Malone, NCMC's director of financial aid. "Serving these students well is a small but genuine way we can thank them for their service while providing the tools and support they need to take the next step in their career."

Thank you to Katie, and all staff on campus, who work every day to support our veterans and their families here at North Central.

6. SCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

7. FINANCIAL REPORT

Dr. Tom Zeidel, Vice President for Finance & Facilities was asked by Trustee Fought to provide a financial report for July 31, 2023. Tom certified that the financials as of July 2023 are within the adopted tentative budget for 2023-24.

It was moved by Trustee Fought and supported by Trustee Rasmussen that the financial report and statement of bills be accepted as submitted.

AYES: Trustees, Fought, Keiswetter, Kring, and Rasmussen

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Trustees Etienne, Shirilla, and Shorter

8. PRESIDENT'S REPORTS

President Finley provided information on the following items:

- a. Tip of the Mitt Scholars Reception (Aug. 23)
The Tip of the Mitt Scholars Reception will be held tomorrow, Wednesday August 23rd. There are 10 Tip of the Mitt Scholars.
- b. Presidential Scholars Reception (Aug. 24)
The Presidential Scholars Reception will be held Thursday, August 24th. There are 27 President Scholars.
- c. Volleyball – Timberwolf Quad (Aug. 24-25)
The Women's Volleyball team won their first match 3-1 against Black Hawk College in Rockford, Illinois on Friday, August 18th.
- d. Welcome Back Week Kickoff (Aug. 28)
We will be kicking off Welcome Back Week next Monday, August 28th, with an all-campus meeting from 9am-noon. In addition to campus updates, this meeting will feature keynote speaker, Erica Orians, VP of the Michigan Community College Association. North Central Day is Thursday, August 31st from 1-4 pm.

We have some additional fun activities planned for faculty and staff that week including a food truck and Sunset Cruise on the Harbor Princess.
- e. Dormitory Move-In (Aug. 31 – Sept. 2)
Students will begin moving into the dorms here on campus beginning Thursday, August 31st. The dorms are currently full at over 150 students. We are looking forward to welcoming them next week!
- f. Cross Country First Meet (Sept 1)
The Men's and Women's Cross-Country teams will kick off their season with the 38th Annual Jeff Drenth Memorial 5k on Friday, September 1st.
- g. Fall 2023 Semester (Sept. 5 – Dec. 15)
Fall classes begin Tuesday, September 5th, the day after Labor Day.

We wish all our student athletes the best of luck this season.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Finance & Facilities Committee

Trustee Fought reported that the Finance & Facilities Committee met on Tuesday, August 15, 2023, to review and discuss the July 2023 Financial Report and Statement of Bills.

b. Personnel Committee

Trustee Kring reported that the Personnel Committee met on Thursday, August 17, 2023, to receive updates on grievances and negotiations. We also want to share with the board recent hires that were brought to our attention in the past two months. These are all replacement positions:

-Cara Deschermeier: Academic Advisor started on July 17th.

-Wendy Kresnak: Career Development Specialist started on July 31st.

-Joelle Drader: Counselor started on August 7th.

-Mary Brower: English Faculty starts on August 28th.

10. STUDENT SUCCESS

a. NCMC Student Senate Executive Board for Fall 2023.

NCMC Student Senate Executive Board advisor, Leon Nash introduced the five Board members of this semester's Student Senate:

- President, David Powell of Alanson, who is working toward his AS in General Studies.

- Vice President, Kira Miller of Brighton, who is working toward her AS in General Studies.

- Treasurer, Joey Staley of East Jordan, who is working toward his AS in General Studies.

- Secretary Bobby Blome of Indian River, who is working toward his AS in General Studies.

- Parliamentarian Ronald Cronk of Cheboygan, who is working toward his AS in Mechanical Engineering.

11. OLD BUSINESS

a. Independent Investigation Update

Trustee Fought provided the following background:

During the June 22, 2023, luncheon lecture series, protestors interrupted the lecture presentation.

Following that event, certain members of the College community requested an investigation of the protest event.

During the July 20, 2023, Board meeting, the Board took action to start the investigation process. The Michigan Community College Association provided the names of nine law firms from downstate that have experience in conducting investigations at colleges dealing with the issues presented by this event.

A Board task force then interviewed representatives from three of the nine firms and are recommending that the firm of Varnum LLP of Novi be retained to conduct the investigation.

The fee for this service is estimated at between \$15,000 and \$20,000 depending on the time expended. A retainer of \$5,000 is required, and it is anticipated that some out-of-pocket costs will also be incurred.

It was moved by Trustee Fought and supported by Trustee Keiswetter that the law firm of Varnum LLP be retained to conduct the investigation of the disturbance occurring during the June 22, 2023, luncheon lecture series. Further, it is moved that the required retainer of \$5,000 as well as periodic bills for attorney services and any out-of-pocket costs be paid as billed.

AYES: Trustees, Fought, Keiswetter, Kring, and Rasmussen

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Trustees Etienne, Shirilla, and Shorter

11. NEW BUSINESS.

None

12. UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENT.

None

13. ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further business, Trustee Kring motioned and Trustee Fought supported that the meeting be adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

AYES: Trustees, Fought, Keiswetter, Kring, and Rasmussen

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Trustees Etienne, Shirilla, and Shorter



/S/ Daniel D. Rasmussen, Chairman



/S/ Melissa Keiswetter, Secretary