CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of the Milwaukee Area Technical College District Board was held in Open Session via teleconference on Tuesday, November 24, 2020, and called to order by Chairperson Foley at 4:00 p.m.

ITEM 1 a. ROLL CALL

Present: Erica Case; Mark Foley; Ashanti Hamilton; Citlali Mendieta-Ramos; David Mitchell; Nikki Moews; Lisa Olson; Kahri Phelps-Okoro and Ann Wilson.

Ashanti Hamilton joined the meeting at 4:06 p.m.; Kahri Phelps-Okoro joined the meeting at 4:30 p.m.; and Ann Wilson joined the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

Excused: None.

ITEM 1 b. COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW

Discussion Chairperson Foley asked if proper notice of the meeting had been given in compliance with the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law.

Ms. Gwendolyn Green, Board Liaison, confirmed proper notice had been given in compliance with the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law.

ITEM 3. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. Jonathan Meersman, Instructor Visual Communications, spoke to his concerns regarding recent changes to the FQAS credentialing process and how this has impacted his certification.

ITEM 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3 a. Regular Board Meeting: October 27, 2020

Motion It was moved by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Hamilton, to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting: October 27, 2020.
ITEM 4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

4 a. Bills – October 2020
4 b. Financial Report - October 2020
4 c. Human Resources Report
4 d. Procurement Report
4 e. Quarterly Affirmative Action Report

Motion
It was moved by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Dr. Olson, to approve the Consent Agenda.

Action
Motion approved.

ITEM 5. BOARD ACTION ITEMS

Action Items

5 a. Resolution (F0155-11-20) Authorizing the Sale of $1,500,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2020-2021F of Milwaukee Area Technical College District, Wisconsin.

Motion
It was moved by Ms. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Case, to approve Resolution (F0155-11-20) Authorizing the Sale of $1,500,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2020-2021F of Milwaukee Area Technical College District, Wisconsin.

Discussion
Mr. John Mehan, managing director, Robert W. Baird & Co., reviewed the Final Pricing Summary for the $1,500,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2020-2021F.

Action
Motion approved, the roll call vote being as follows:

Ayes: Hamilton, Mendieta-Ramos, Mitchell, Moews, Olson, Wilson, Case and Foley - 8

Noes: None.

5 b. Resolution (F0156-11-20) Authorizing the Issuance of $1,500,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2020-2021G of Milwaukee Area Technical College District, Wisconsin.
Motion

It was moved by Ms. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Case, to approve Resolution (F0156-11-20) Authorizing the Issuance of $1,500,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2020-2021G of Milwaukee Area Technical College District, Wisconsin.

Action

Motion approved, the roll call vote being as follows:

Ayes: Mendieta-Ramos, Mitchell, Moews, Olson, Wilson, Case, Hamilton and Foley - 8

Noes: None.


Motion

It was moved by Ms. Moews, seconded by Ms. Wilson, to approve Resolution (F0157-11-20) to Approve FY2019-2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

Action

Motion approved, the roll call vote being as follows:

Ayes: Mitchell, Moews, Olson, Wilson, Case, Hamilton, Mendieta-Ramos and Foley – 8

Noes: None.

5 d. Approval of Single Audit Report.

Motion

The Board did not vote on the Single Audit Report because it could not be completed. All higher education schools across the country are waiting for guidance on how to audit CARES Act funding. The Single Audit Report will be brought back for approval at the December Board Meeting.

5 e. Approval of Auditor’s Communication to Those Charged with Governance and Management.

Motion

It was moved by Dr. Olson, seconded by Ms. Case, to approve Approval of Auditor’s Communication to Those Charged with Governance and Management.

Action

Motion approved.
ITEM 6. Reports

6 a. Chairperson’s Report

Discussion Chairperson Foley:

- Announced Dr. Martin, MATC President, received honorable mention as Executive of the Year by the Milwaukee Business Journal. This is a very high honor as she was one of only five executives to be given this award. In addition to this honor, the Business Journal also named Dr. Martin as one of the 2020 Milwaukee-area Power Brokers.
- Stated he was looking for the board’s input on topics for the Spring Board Retreat and will discuss the aspect and ideas of a virtual retreat at the board’s January Meeting.
- Announced the Wisconsin District Boards Association will hold its quarterly meeting virtually focusing on the Capitol Climate. A panel of Capitol reporters and two bi-partisan legislators will provide individual perspectives.
- Reported the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) holds a National Legislative Summit in February in Washington DC, giving trustees the opportunity to hear from members of U.S. Congress and leading policy analysts. It also affords the board the opportunity to meet directly with Wisconsin U.S. Representatives in Congress to advocate for their support for community colleges and the students.
- Virtual meetings with MATC District Legislators will be held in January and February 2021. Invites for those meetings will be coming soon.
- Thanked the board, faculty and staff for the commitment shown throughout the year to the college and students.

6 b. President’s Report

Discussion Dr. Martin:

- Announced, with great sadness, the passing of Melanie Holmes, former board member and a longtime friend of the college. Melanie served on the college district board from 2008 to 2012 and chair of the board from 2010 to 2012.
- Reported a college-wide listening session was held on Tuesday, November 17. Over 200 employees joined the Zoom meeting. She will continue to hold these meetings throughout the year.
- Announced the launch of the Moon Shot for Equity generated a lot of positive media coverage underscoring MATC’s complete commitment to eliminating equity gaps in our region and
showcasing the college’s willingness to step up and try innovative ways to address issues that have long plagued the region.

- Shared news of construction crews officially breaking ground the prior week on the college’s student housing project in the former Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Building downtown. The project is the first of its kind in Milwaukee and a new property category was created in city development called “affordable student housing”.
  Plans call for the first students to move in by August 2021.
- Reported the October Consent Agenda HR Report included the hiring of Dr. Naydeen Gonzalez-Dejesus as the college’s Executive Vice President of Student Success. Dr. Gonzalez-Dejesus’ start date is November 30 and will be introduced at the December Board Meeting.
- Announced the college is seeing an increase in COVID-19 cases among students and employees. To limit the spread of COVID-19 and prioritize the health and safety of MATC students and employees, the college is launching 100% virtual support services for students starting November 30. Limited staff will be on campuses to connect students virtually during service hours.

6 c. District Student Senate Report

Discussion Ms. Brandi Martin:

- Announced the District Student Senate continues to move forward with representing the student body and working towards improvements despite being impacted by scheduling challenges due to the pandemic. A current project is in the works to draft a policy on inactive student club accounts for management of stagnant funds.
- Stated Student Life continues to offer events for the student body to attend. Including two series titled “The Heart of a Hall of Famer” and “Before the Snap”. These events inspire students through the story of professional athletes and other athletic leaders’ journeys to their success.
- Reported Student Life partnered with the Historically Black Colleges and University (HBCU) Summit to host HBCU virtual tours in place of the normal in-person tours. 50 MATC students signed up to participate and were able to tour 50 HBCUs.
- Recognized the MATC faculty, staff and administration for all their efforts in making sure each student is successful.
6 d. Milwaukee PBS VP General Manager’s Report

Discussion

Mr. Bohdan Zachary:

- Stated Milwaukee PBS is about to begin its year-end fundraising drive hoping viewers will respond positively to the selected specials to air during the drive.
- Announced Milwaukee PBS will broadcast the MATC virtual Winter Commencement Ceremony Saturday, December 19 at 4:30 p.m. on Channel 10 and Sunday, December 20 at 4:00 p.m. on Channel 36.
- Reported Milwaukee PBS will end the year with a musical event – a concert performance by the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra airing December 31 on Channel 10 at 7:00 p.m.
- Stated Milwaukee PBS’ news and public affairs programs, Black Nouveau, Adelante and 10thirtysix will provide information about COVID-19 treatments, vaccines and distributions. Additionally racial injustice and equity issues in the community will be examined.
- Announced Milwaukee’s poet laureate Dasha Kelly Hamilton and her husband Kima will host a Black Nouveau special “Understanding Implicit Bias” at the end of January.

6 e. Legislative Matters Report

Discussion

Ms. Janice Falkenberg, VP General Counsel introduced Ms. Ramie Zelenkova, lobbyist, Hubbard Wilson & Zelenkova, who presented the Legislative Matters Report on recent legislative matters impacting higher education, such as:

- Governor Evers issued a new public health emergency and mask order and unveiled a COVID-19 relief package.
- The Department of Administration released a report this month estimating that state revenues will modestly increase over the next three fiscal years.
- The Speaker’s Task Force on Racial Disparities divided into two subcommittees – Education and Economic Development and Law Enforcement Policies and Standards.

6 f. Audit Advisory Report

Discussion

Mr. Jeffrey Hollow, VP Finance, presented the Audit Advisory Report. Paul Frantz, external auditor, Baker Tilly Virchow Krause Engagement Team provided remarks on the audit. The audit report was given an unmodified opinion also known as a clean bill of health. The Audit Advisory Report also included an update on MATC’s work from home oversight and a special project related to cyber security awareness and training and the audit plan for Fiscal Year 2021.
ITEM 7. BOARD MONITORING

7 a. Enrollment Report

Information

Dr. Mohammad Dakwar, VP Learn, presented the Enrollment Report stating the college’s enrollment is 6.8% behind our goal year to date. This combines both summer and fall enrollments. Key strategies have been implemented, including advertising efforts, outreach efforts by pathway teams and faculty, registration events, program orientations and student engagement efforts.

7 b. Facilities Master Planning

The Facilities Master Planning was changed to be presented after Pathway Presentation/Apprenticeships to accommodate the schedule of presenters Mr. Drew Martin and Mr. Peter Tan of Strang Architects.

Information

Ms. Falkenberg introduced Mr. Drew Martin, Architect and Project Manager and Mr. Peter Tan, Architect and Chief Design Officer, Strang, who presented the Facilities Master Planning via PowerPoint outlining plans to foster a vibrant campus community by creating hubs of activity for students, faculty and the public.

Ms. Wilson suggested having a conveniently located information center for the students to get help.

Ms. Phelps-Okoro inquired about plans for development of the back courtyard at the Oak Creek Campus.

Chairperson Foley asked that more consideration be given to the new environment we are in today with increase of online and hybrid instruction.

Dr. Olson asked to what extent the students themselves will be involved in the planning process for the use of these spaces. Ms. Falkenberg replied that students have been involved from the beginning via surveys and listening sessions.

Ms. Wilson remarked that the plan shows promise and clearly addresses student needs.

7 c. Pathway Presentation/Apprenticeships

Information

Dr. Dakwar introduced Mr. David Polk, Director Apprenticeship, who discussed plans for expansion of various programs in the Apprenticeship Pathway. These programs would include the Culinary Apprenticeship, IT Help Desk Apprenticeship, Building Facilities Maintenance Apprenticeship and the Pharmacy Tech Apprenticeship.
7 d. Quarterly Other Post-Employment Benefit (OPEB) & FCC Trust Report

Information Mr. Hollow presented the Quarterly Other Post-Employment Benefit (OPEB) & FCC Trust Report and underscoring asset allocations, investments and performance summaries.

ITEM 8. NEW BUSINESS

ITEM 9. Future Agenda Items/Events

9 a. December 15, 2020 MATC District Board Meeting 4:00 p.m.

ITEM 10. Closed Session

10 a. Review of Termination Appeal by Dr. Jose Elias Garcia

Motion It was moved by Dr. Olson, seconded by Ms. Case, to convene into Closed Session pursuant to Sections 19.85(1)(b) and (c) of the Wisconsin Statutes to discuss Item 10 a. Review of Termination Appeal by Dr. Jose Elias Garcia to consider the employment status of a former district employee. The Board will reconvene into Open Session to take action on matters discussed in Closed Session under Item 10 a.

Action Motion approved, the roll call vote being as follows.

Ayes: Moews, Olson, Phelps-Okoro, Wilson, Case, Hamilton, Mendieta-Ramos, Mitchell and Foley – 9

Noes: None.

OPEN SESSION

Motion It was moved by Ms. Case, seconded by Ms. Phelps-Okoro, to uphold the decision of the Impartial Hearing Officer James Paul regarding the Step Three Appeal of Dr. Jose Elias Garcia.

Action Motion approved.
ITEM 11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gwendolyn Z. Green
On behalf of Board Secretary

* This meeting may be conducted in part by telephone. Telephone speakers will be available to allow the public to hear those parts of the proceedings that are open to the public.

** Action may be taken on any agenda item, whether designated as an action item or not. Agenda items may be moved into Closed Session for discussion when it becomes apparent that a Closed Session is appropriate under Section 19.85 of the Wisconsin Statutes. The board may return to Open Session to take action on any item discussed in Closed Session.

*** It is anticipated that this item will be discussed in Closed Session pursuant to Section 19.85 (1)(b) and (c) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

Reasonable accommodations are available through the ADA Office for individuals who need assistance. Please call 414-297-6610 to schedule services at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.