



**Attachment 3 – a.**

**MILWAUKEE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD  
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN  
January 27, 2026**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular monthly meeting of the Milwaukee Area Technical College District Board was held in Open Session on Tuesday, January 27, 2026, and called to order by Chair Case at 4:02 p.m. in the Board Room, Room M210, at the Downtown Milwaukee Campus of Milwaukee Area Technical College.

**ITEM 1 a. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Lauren Baker; Erica Case; Mark Foley (virtual); Citlali Mendieta-Ramos; Supreme Moore Omokunde; Waleed Najeeb (virtual); Gale Pence.

**Excused:** None

**ITEM 1 b. COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW**

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

Ms. Elizabeth Schultz, board liaison, confirmed proper notice was given.

**ITEM 2. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Larry Mitchell, MATC student, spoke on the topic of Community Education.

**ITEM 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**3 a. Regular Board Meeting: November 24, 2025**

Motion It was moved by Director Mendieta-Ramos and seconded by Director Baker to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on November 24, 2025.

Action Motion approved.

**ITEM 4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**4 a. Bills November 2025**

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- 4.b. Bills December 2025**
- 4.c. Financial Report December 2025**
- 4 d. Human Resources Report**
- 4 e. Procurement Report**
- 4 f. Construction Report**

Motion It was moved by Director Pence and seconded by Director Baker to approve the Consent Agenda.

Action Motion approved.

**ITEM 5. BOARD ACTION ITEMS**

**Action Items**

- 5 a. Resolution (F0387-01-26) Authorizing the Sale of \$1,500,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2025-2026H of Milwaukee Area Technical College District, Wisconsin.**

Motion It was moved by Director Pence, seconded by Director Mendieta-Ramos, to approve Resolution (F0387-01-26) Authorizing the Sale of \$1,500,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2025-2026H of Milwaukee Area Technical College District, Wisconsin.

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

Ayes: Foley, Mendieta-Ramos, Moore Omokunde, Najeeb, Pence, Baker, and Case - 7

Noes: None.

- 5 b. Resolution (F0388-01-26) Authorizing the Issuance of \$1,500,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2025-2026I of Milwaukee Area Technical College District, Wisconsin.**

Motion It was moved by Director Baker, seconded by Director Pence, to approve Resolution (F0388-01-26) Authorizing the Issuance of \$1,500,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2025-2026I of Milwaukee Area Technical College District, Wisconsin.

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

Ayes: Mendieta-Ramos, Moore Omokunde, Najeeb, Pence, Baker, Foley, and Case - 7

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Noes: None.

**5 c. Resolution (F0389-01-26) to Approve Annual Comprehensive Financial Report**

Motion It was moved by Director Mendieta-Ramos, seconded by Director Baker, to approve Resolution (F0389-01-26) to Approve Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

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

Ayes: Moore Omokunde, Najeeb, Pence, Baker, Foley, Mendieta-Ramos, and Case - 7

Noes: None.

**5 d. Resolution (F0390-01-26) to Approve Auditor's Communication**

Motion It was moved by Director Baker, seconded by Director Pence, to approve Resolution (F0390-01-26) to Approve Auditor's Communication.

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

Ayes: Najeeb, Pence, Baker, Foley, Mendieta-Ramos, Moore Omokunde, and Case - 7

Noes: None.

**5 e. Resolution (F0391-01-26) to Approve FY2025-2026 Annual Budget Amendment**

Motion It was moved by Director Foley, seconded by Director Najeeb, to approve Resolution (F0391-01-26) to Approve FY2025-2026 Annual Budget Amendment.

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

Ayes: Pence, Baker, Foley, Mendieta-Ramos, Moore Omokunde, Najeeb, and Case - 7

Noes: None.

**5 f. Resolution (F0392-01-26) to Approve Proposed Program Titled Fire Medic Program (10-531-2)**

Motion It was moved by Director Baker, seconded by Director Mendieta-Ramos, to approve Resolution (F0392-01-26) to Approve Proposed Program Titled Fire Medic Program.

Action Motion approved by voice vote.

**ITEM 6. POLICY REVIEW**

**6 a. Policy Retirement – Salary and Compensation for Non-represented Trades Personnel**

Discussion Mr. Paul Zinck, vice president, Administration and Operations, discussed the proposed policy retirement.

**ITEM 7. REPORTS – MONTHLY**

**7 a. Chairperson’s Report**

Discussion Chairperson Case shared the following report:

- On December 11, MATC celebrated more than 300 students who received their High School Equivalency Diplomas or GED certificates at the Downtown Campus. On December 13, 2025, over 1,200 students earned degrees and diplomas at the Fall Commencement at the Fiserv Forum.
- The Wisconsin Technical District Boards Association will be holding its virtual Winter Meeting on January 30.
- MATC will be hosting a Naturalization Ceremony on February 6 at 10:00 a.m. at the MATC Downtown Campus Cooley Auditorium.
- A half day Board Retreat has been finalized for February 27 from 8:00 a.m. to Noon at the Downtown Milwaukee Campus Board room. Topics include a team building activity, board finance, parliamentary procedure, changes to accreditation standards, and EPR modernization.
- District Boards Report
  - Director Foley provided the District Boards Association report.
- Foundation Liaison Report
  - Director Pence provided the MATC Foundation Liaison Report.

**7 b. President's Report**

Discussion Dr. Cruz shared the President's Report. Highlights included:

- Dr. Cruz welcomed students and faculty back to campus for the spring semester.
- On January 13, MATC hosted the M<sup>3</sup> Speed Networking event, a session designed to connect Start College students with college and community leaders.
- On January 14, MATC hosted a partnership event at the Walker's Square Education Center, where the AT&T Foundation and CompuDopt donated 50 laptops to students and presented a \$25,000 grant to the MATC Foundation. This investment will fund Smart Boards for community classrooms and provide scholarships for students transitioning into degree programs.
- The college officially inaugurated the Biotechnology Laboratory Technician associate degree program on January 14. Supported by the Wisconsin Biohealth Tech Hub and federal and state funding, the program operates out of a remodeled, 2,000-square-foot laboratory at the Downtown Milwaukee Campus. This facility features industry-standard equipment for molecular biology and drug development, as well as dedicated spaces for AI and virtual reality integration.
- On January 15, MATC held its annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration for over 200 students, faculty, staff, community leaders and elected officials. The event featured a keynote by Donzaleigh Abernathy, daughter of Rev. Ralph Abernathy and goddaughter of Dr. King. The program also included tributes to Dr. King's legacy, musical sets by the MATC Vocal Ensemble, and spoken word poetry and reflections from local leaders.
- The college community mourns the recent passing of Viola "Ms. Vi" Hawkins, a 1985 Business Administration graduate and MATC Foundation Board member. Her remarkable legacy will endure through the Ms. Vi Hawkins Grassroots Scholarship, which provides assistance to students in business and manufacturing.
- The Office of Community Impact's grand opening was held this afternoon. Further information about the office was shared during Board Monitoring.

**7 c. Treasurer's Report**

Discussion Director Gale Pence provided the monthly Treasurer's Report.

**7 d. District Student Senate Report**

Discussion MATC student Elizabeth Calixto provided the District Student Senate Report.

**7 e. Bi-monthly PBS General Manager's Report**

Discussion Ms. Debbie Hamlett, vice president/general manager, Milwaukee PBS, provided the bi-monthly PBS General Manager's Report. Highlights included:

- The American Public Television Stations Summit will be held virtually this year on March 2 and 3.
- The station hired a consultant to help navigate the implementation of ATSC 3, which would give the station the capability to work with the city to provide real-time information during emergencies.
- The station will be working in May with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra on the production of two programs: "Copeland & Twain: America at 250" and "America the Beautiful: a Musical Journey from Spirituals, Gospel to Ragtime and Blues."
- The station has been working with the Milwaukee County Historical Society on the creation of curriculum to go with the five-hour program Making of Milwaukee. These materials will be located on the station's website and available in Milwaukee Public Schools for grades 1 to 3.

**7 f. Sustainability Report**

Discussion Ms. Laura Tenpenny, manager, Energy, and Mr. Paul Zinck, vice president, Administration and Operations, were available for questions from the Board regarding the pre-recorded presentation.

**ITEM 8. BOARD MONITORING**

**8 a. Office of Community Impact Update**

Discussion Mr. Michael Rogers, vice president, Student Engagement and Community Impact, and Ms. Rebecca Arcos-Piedra, manager, Office of Community Impact, provided a presentation on the Office of Community Impact. Mr. Rogers and Ms. Arcos-Piedra were joined by two student peer mentors, who shared their perspectives on working in the Office of Community Impact's peer mentoring program.

**ITEM 9. NEW BUSINESS**

Director Baker asked for the administration to follow up with the student who spoke at Public Comments.

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**ITEM 10. FUTURE EVENTS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a. February 8-11, 2026, ACCT National Legislative Summit, Washington DC.
- b. February 24, 2026, MATC District Board Meeting, 4:00 p.m., Downtown Milwaukee Campus, Board Room (M210).

**ITEM 11. CLOSED SESSION**

**11 a. President's Semi-Annual Performance Evaluation**

**ITEM 12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Peter Kovochich*

On behalf of Board Secretary Waleed Najeeb

\* 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 (c) of the Wisconsin Statutes. The board may return to Open Session to take action on any item discussed in Closed Session.

*Reasonable accommodations are available through the ADA Office for individuals who need assistance. Please call 414-297-6719 to schedule services at least 48 hours before the meeting.*