

**MINUTES**  
**NORTH CENTRAL MICHIGAN COLLEGE**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**SPECIAL MEETING (RETREAT)**  
**Bay Harbor Yacht Club – Founder’s Room**  
**Tuesday, December 10, 2024 (12:00 - 3:00 P.M.)**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 12:31 p.m.

2. ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Trustees Etienne, Fought, Keiswetter, Krom, Pretty, Rasmussen, and Shirilla

ABSENT: None

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Trustee Pretty and supported by Trustee Shirilla that the agenda be approved as written.

AYES: Trustees Etienne, Fought, Keiswetter, Kromm, Pretty, Rasmussen, and Shirilla

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

4. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF MEETING

Strategic Planning.

5. BYLAWS AMENDMENT

President Finley shared proposed amendments to the Bylaws. The Trustees reviewed the reasons for the proposed changes.

6. TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS IN ACCORD WITH STATED PURPOSE:

a. Campus Initiatives

i. HLC Reaccreditation

President Finley spoke to the status of the HLC Assurance Argument. The Argument has been drafted and is undergoing final reviews. We are on target and preparing for the HLC Comprehensive Evaluation visit March 11-12, 2025.

VP Strom provided excerpts from the Assurance Argument that relate to the Board of Trustees. He spoke to the team’s work on preparing the Assurance Argument and readying the campus for the visit

ii. Trust and Leadership Workshop

President Finley shared the Cabinet Team Agreement that was created with the help of Libby Wagner during their meeting sessions. He spoke about the work that has been done over the course of the past year by the Cabinet and Leadership groups.

Professor Jessick noted he has found both the individual counseling and the Leadership group sessions with Libby helpful. VP Platte noted she has also found the work done with Libby helpful.

iii. CATEE Complex Project/STEP Center

President Finley reported that construction document development is underway. Progress is being made towards demolition of the TECH building. Following demolition, construction will begin on the new TECH building as well as renovations of the HESC building.

VP Zeidel explained the bidding process and noted that bids will be brought to the board for approval. VP Platte shared that the Foundation has raised approximately 86% of the funds they need to raise for the project.

President Finley shared an overview of the 2026 Capital Outlay request that was submitted to the state earlier this year for the Skilled Trades Education Pathways (STEP) Center. VP Strom spoke to the needs of the area for a location and program(s) to train skilled trades workers.

iv. Child Care Initiative (CCAMPIS)

President Finley shared updates on the Child Care Initiative. Program build out is well underway. The Early Learning Center outdoor play area has been completed and renovations have begun on the interior. Funding comes from grants and other funding sources not in the operating budget.

v. Campus Signage Update

VP Zeidel shared an update on the signage installation. The final monument sign is scheduled to be installed in the next few weeks. Installation and connections for the electrical/lighting will be dependent on the weather and may not happen until next year.

b. DEI Resolution

Trustee Shirilla explained that the DEI Committee brought forth a proposed Resolution they would like to see approved by the Board of Trustees. The Personnel Committee has been reviewing and discussing this potential Resolution. Fellow trustees concurred with a statement proposed by Trustee Shirilla.

c. Dental Hygiene

President Finley shared an Executive Summary of the Dental Hygiene program proposal, including the Proforma. There is demand and a definite need for hygienists in the area.

VP Strom advocated for the consideration of a Dental Hygiene program. VP Zeidel spoke about the startup costs of the program, as well as the deficit that would be incurred annually unless a differential tuition rate or other opportunity is identified. VP Zeidel will continue to pursue ways to offset the deficit, including differential tuition.

d. Housing (New Dorm)

President Finley spoke to the continued need for an additional residence hall. The cost of construction is exceptionally high. The current market demand is for apartment-style living. In-district enrollment has continued to decrease, and student housing

remains a limiting factor for out of district students. Options to make this a reality will continue to be explored.

e. Annexation Inquiry

President Finley shared a memo received from Cheboygan County resident, Jim Conboy. Mr. Conboy expressed interest in discussing NCMC annexing all or part of Cheboygan County. This would provide residents with access to the benefits of the State Community College Guarantee, which is free community college tuition.

f. Commencement Speaker/Honorary Degree Ideas

President Finley shared a list of potential Commencement Speakers and Honorary Degree recipients and welcomed feedback and additional suggestions. All suggestions are good candidates. The group discussed pros and cons of each.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

8. OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Rasmussen motioned and Trustee Fought supported to go into closed session per President Finley's request to consider the following:

a. *Personnel Evaluation – Presidential Mid-Year Review*  
*Per OMA Act 267 of 1976, 15.268 Sec. 8. (1) (a) To consider a periodic personnel evaluation*

AYES: Trustees Etienne, Fought, Keiswetter, Kromm, Pretty, Rasmussen, and Shirilla

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The trustees met in closed session at 2:46 p.m.

The trustees returned to open session at 3:22 p.m.

ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Trustees Etienne, Fought, Keiswetter, Kromm, Pretty, Rasmussen, and Shirilla

ABSENT: None

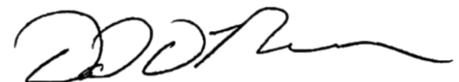
9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Rasmussen motioned and Trustee Pretty supported that the meeting be adjourned at 3:23 p.m.

AYES: Trustees Fought, Keiswetter, Kromm, Pretty, Rasmussen, and Shirilla.

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None



/S/ Daniel D. Rasmussen, Chairman



/S/ Melissa Keiswetter, Secretary