

Meeting Minutes

Montcalm Community College Board of Trustees
March 10, 2026, Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Montcalm Community College Board of Trustees was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairperson Kurt Peterson Renucci's Bar & Restaurant in Ionia.

Trustees present: Robert Byram, Trustee
Dr. Esther Combs, Trustee
Carol Deuling-Ravell, Vice Chairperson
Joyce Kitchenmaster, Secretary
Robert Marston, Trustee
Kurt Peterson, Chairperson
Joshua Stump, Treasurer

Trustees absent: None

Others present: Dr. Bradley J. Barrick, President
Terry Frewan, Ionia County Commissioners Chairperson
Haliegh Leslie, Ionia County Health Department Director
Lisa Lund, Executive Director of the MCC Foundation
John R. Milewski II, Mayor of the City of Ionia
Beth Milewski, Dental Hygienist at Ionia Family Dentistry
Hailee Patterson, President of Michigan One Community Credit Union
Cassie Rice, Ionia Downtown Development Authority Director
Sara Rittersdorf, Co-Advisor of MCC's Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society
Theresa Rowland, Vice President of Finance & Administration
Ray Shippey, Manager Orthopedics – UM Health Sparrow, Carson, Clinton
and Ionia
Shelly Springborn, Assistant Board Secretary
Abby Stalker, Talent Solutions Manager with West Michigan Works
Aubree Stalker, MCC student
Tori Thelen, Vice President of Member Experience with PFCU Credit Union
Jennifer VanderSlik, Co-Advisor of MCC's Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society
Kevin Wagenmaker, Vice President for Academic Affairs
Ryan Wilson, Executive Director of the Ionia County Economic Alliance
Lynelle Wilson, Executive Director of the Ionia Area Chamber of Commerce
Sophia Friedrich-Wolthuis, MCC Phi Theta Kappa chapter officer

The Trustees reviewed minutes from their February 17, 2026, regular meeting. Mr. Peterson said the minutes stand approved as read.

The Trustees reviewed financial reports. Mr. Peterson said the financial reports stand approved as presented.

Mr. Peterson introduced public comments and invited guests to address the Board. Guests expressed their gratitude for the Ionia County Guarantee, for MCC's growing presence in Ionia County and their desire

for the college to have a physical presence in Ionia County in the future, and their desire to continue to collaborate with MCC to offer more opportunities throughout Ionia County.

Mr. Peterson asked for additions or changes to the remaining items of order of consideration. Mr. Peterson said the order stands as presented.

Dr. Barrick shared his president's report. Topics included an update from MCC student Aubree Stalker regarding her experience with MCC; discussion of the Ionia County Guarantee; and sharing about "MCC Out in the Community" to support the college's employees and local restaurants and coffee shops, including establishments in Ionia County. In addition, Phi Theta Kappa co-advisors Jennifer VanderSlik and Sara Rittersdorf, along with PTK chapter officer Sophia Friedrich-Wolthuis, provided an update about PTK activities and five awards the chapter is receiving. Dr. Barrick also presented MCC's Game Ball to Jennifer and Sara in recognition of their work with PTK.

The Board approved a motion made by Joyce Kitchenmaster and supported by Dr. Esther Combs to name Dr. Kirk and Celeste Faber as the recipients of the 2026 MCC Stanley & Blanche Ash Distinguished Service Award. The motion carried.

Upon motion made by Joyce Kitchenmaster and supported by Bob Byram, the following resolution was unanimously approved:

BE IT RESOLVED, That Kurt Peterson and Joshua Stump be added as authorized signatories on all Montcalm Community College bank and investment accounts effective March 10, 2026.

Chairman Peterson appointed the Presidential Evaluation Committee to include Chair Bob Marston and members Joyce Kitchenmaster and Bob Byram.

The Board approved a motion made by Dr. Esther Combs and supported by Joyce Kitchenmaster to present an honorary degree to 59th Annual Commencement Speaker Dr. Scott Koenigsknecht. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed upcoming dates.

Carol Deuling-Ravell moved that the meeting adjourn at 6:21 p.m. Joyce Kitchenmaster supported the motion, which carried unanimously.