

# Meeting Minutes

Montcalm Community College Board of Trustees  
December 9, 2025  
Regular Board Meeting

A regular meeting of the Montcalm Community College Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:34 p.m. by Chairperson Kurt Peterson in room D305 in the Beatrice E. Doser Building on MCC's Sidney campus.

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

Trustees absent: Robert Marston, Trustee

Others present: Dr. Bradley J. Barrick, MCC President  
Dr. Jodi Bennett, Dean of Arts, Sciences and K-12 Partnerships  
Lisa Lund, Executive Director of the MCC Foundation  
Taylor Male, MCC Director of Operations  
Francisco Ramirez, MCC Dean of Student & Enrollment Services  
Theresa Rowland, MCC Vice President of Finance and Administration  
Cory Smith, Daily News Senior Staff Writer  
Shelly Springborn, MCC Assistant Board Secretary  
Connie Stewart, MCC Senior Vice President and COO  
Kevin Wagenmaker, MCC Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Emily Miller, MCC Ag Program Alumna

The Trustees reviewed minutes from their November 11, 2025, regular meeting. Mr. Peterson said the minutes stand approved as read.

The trustees reviewed financial reports. Mr. Peterson said the financial report stands approved as presented.

The trustees reviewed the remaining agenda items and asked for special meeting to be set for the week of December 15, 2025, to receive the audit report.

Dr. Barrick shared his president's report. Topics included a report from MCC Ag Program Alumna Emily Miller; introduction of Dr. Jodi Bennett, Dean of Arts, Sciences and K-12 Partnerships; a report from Trustee Bob Byram on the MCCA Governance Leadership Institute that he and Dr. Barrick attended; a Spring 2026 enrollment update; and an announcement regarding the development of financial assistance for out-of-district students in Ionia County through the MCC Foundation to expand access and higher education opportunities.

The Trustees discussed BOT policy review and assigned a committee consisting of Board Chair Kurt Peterson, Trustee Dr. Esther Combs, and Trustee Bob Byram, as well as MCC President Dr. Bradley J. Barrick and Assistant Board Secretary Shelly Springborn to consider next steps.

Trustee Bob Byram presented an update regarding Key Person Insurance to cover Dr. Barrick. Estimated premium for a \$500,000 key person life insurance policy is \$550 per year, as quoted by Jake Kemp in Greenville. This falls within the parameters of the motion approved during the Board's Nov. 11, 2025, regular meeting, and the Board will move forward with this.

The Trustees discussed succession planning.

The Trustees discussed Futuring and the Role of the Board.

The Trustees heard a five-year financial forecast from Dr. Barrick and Connie Stewart.

Upon motion duly made by Joyce Kitchenmaster and supported by Carol Deuling-Ravell, the following resolution was unanimously approved.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, That Melissa McQueen is the 2025 recipient of Montcalm Community College's Alden Perkins Dedicated Service Award.

Upon motion duly made by Carol Deuling-Ravell and supported by Josh Stump, the following resolution was unanimously approved.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, That Tracy Zamarron is the 2025 recipient of Montcalm Community College's Leadership Award.

The Trustees discussed 2026 Distinguished Service Award recommendations.

Upon motion duly made by Josh Stump and supported by Bob Byram, the following resolution was unanimously approved.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, That Montcalm Community College is authorized to enter into membership in the West Michigan Health Insurance Pool (WMHIP) for a minimum three-year period, and will remove Connie Stewart as the college's Trustee and replace her with Theresa Rowland as the college's Trustee.

The Trustees reviewed coming dates.

At 8:14 p.m., Joyce Kitchenmaster moved that the meeting adjourn. Esther Combs supported the motion, which carried unanimously.