

**Delta College  
Board of Trustees  
Special Board Meeting  
Virtually via Zoom (1-929-205-6099 Webinar ID 834 5008 1026)  
Held virtually in accordance with Public Act 254 of 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic  
Monday, January 25, 2021  
6:00 p.m.**

**BOARD PRESENT** M. Benecke, A. Buckley, R. Emrich, S. Gannon, D. Middleton, M. Nash, M. Rowley, M, Thomas

**OTHERS PRESENT** D. Allen, L. Brown, T. Brown, P. Clark, M. Crawmer, R. Curry, C. Curtis, S. DuFresne, A. Elias, D. Fairchild, J. Golder, L. Govitz, S. Harrison, T. Kienbaum, S. Lewless, D. McQuiston, C. Miller-Bellor, S. Raube, K. Rishe, E. Roth, K. Schuler, S. Shinkel, P. Sturdy, A. Ursuy, J. Wakefield

**PRESS PRESENT** None

**CALL TO ORDER** Board Chair, M. Nash read a meeting overview at 6:05 p.m.

“Good evening,

I would like to take a minute to explain how I will run tonight’s meeting.

The Board is authorized to hold this virtual meeting with participation through the Zoom platform in compliance with the Michigan Open Meetings Act as amended (Public Act 254 of 2020).

The Zoom platform allows participants to participate virtually via phone or computer and ensures that the public can participate in this meeting.

For those joining us today, we want to ensure everyone can hear the board meeting. To minimize audio feedback, we ask all virtual participants to NOT use any speakerphone options.

All participants are currently muted to prevent any background noise or feedback. Board members will be unmuted to allow full participation during the meeting when recognized by the Board Chair. *For clarity, please state your name prior to speaking.*

- If you are joining via phone and wish to be recognized, please press \*9.
- If you are joining via the video option on your computer, please press the “raise hand” option.

I have asked our Assistant Board Secretary, Talisa Brown, and Kay Schuler, Administrative Assistant in the President’s Office, to serve as moderators to assist me with today’s meeting.

Our moderators will note those who wish to address the Board and will unmute your lines one by one, announcing who is being unmuted.

Please note that all votes will be taken via roll call by our Board Secretary, Andrea Ursuy.

In addition, “the amendments (to the Open Meetings Act that went into effect on October 16, 2020) impose a new requirement for any member of the public body participating remotely to publicly announce, at the outset of the meeting, that he or she is participating remotely. If the announcing member's remote participation is for any reason other than military duty, the member must announce his or her physical location "by stating the county, city, township, or village and state from which he or she is attending the meeting remotely." The member's public announcement must be included in the meeting minutes.”

Therefore, our Board Secretary, Andrea Ursuy, will take attendance immediately after I call the meeting to order. When she calls your name, please say “here” and announce the city, township, or village; county; and state from which you are attending the meeting remotely.

If members of the public wish to address the Board, you may do so during the public comment portion of the meeting, which is on our agenda and will be announced by the Board Chair. At that time, those wishing to address the Board should indicate their desire to speak by pressing \*9 (star-9) or the “raise hand” option.

Notes on rules for public comment, please press \*9 or the “raise hand” option to be recognized. When you are acknowledged, we ask that you state your name and you may state your county of residence. As outlined in the Board of Trustees Bylaws, please limit your comments to five minutes.

Again, note all participants have been muted, except for the Board Chair. I will recognize you and you will be unmuted.

Board Chair Nash called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

Board Secretary A. Ursuy took attendance. Each Trustee indicated their presence, township or city, and county of residence in Michigan from which they were participating in this meeting.

M. Benecke – Present, Frankenlust Township, Bay County  
A. Buckley – Present, Midland, Midland County  
R. Emrich – Present, Saginaw Township, Saginaw County  
S. Gannon – Present, Jerome Township, Midland County  
D. Middleton – Present, Williams Township, Bay County  
M. Nash – Present, Larkin Township, Midland County  
M. Thomas – Present, Saginaw Township, Saginaw County

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA** Board Chair Nash called for the approval of the agenda. R. Emrich made a motion to approve the agenda. S. Gannon seconded the motion.

The results of the roll call vote to approve the agenda are as follows:

M. Benecke – Yes  
A. Buckley – Yes  
R. Emrich – Yes  
S. Gannon – Yes  
D. Middleton – Yes  
M. Nash – Yes  
M. Thomas – Yes

Motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Board Chair Nash called for public comment.

**VOTE TO GO INTO  
CLOSED SESSION**

R. Emrich made a motion that the Board go into closed session to discuss Material Exempt from Disclosure Under the Attorney-Client Privilege, MCL 15.243(1)(g), pursuant to MCL 15.268(h), specifically: The written legal opinion prepared by the law office of Cummings, McClorey, Davis & Acho, P.L.C. regarding the Open Meetings Act and the Presidential Search Process. S. Gannon seconded the motion.

The results of the roll call vote to go into closed session are as follows:

M. Benecke – Yes  
A. Buckley - Yes  
R. Emrich – Yes  
S. Gannon - Yes  
D. Middleton – Yes  
M. Nash – Yes  
M. Thomas - Yes

Motion passed unanimously.

The Board went into closed session at 6:10 p.m.

**OPEN SESSION  
RESUMES**

The closed session ended and the Board went back into open session at 7:18 p.m.

Board Chair Nash said that the Board is returning to open session from closed session where the Board reviewed and discussed the written legal opinion prepared by the law office of Cummings, McClorey, Davis & Acho, P.L.C. regarding the Open Meetings Act and the Presidential Search Process. The Board is taking no action based upon the legal opinion reviewed and discussed during the closed session.

M. Rowley joined the meeting. M. Rowley indicated his presence, township or city, and county of residence in Michigan from which he was participating in the meeting.

M. Rowley, Present, Hampton Township, Bay County

**APPROVAL OF  
PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH  
FIRM**

Board Chair Nash asked for a motion to hire ACCT Search Services as the firm that will help the Board to find the next President of Delta College.

**(BA5362)**

R. Emrich made a motion to hire ACCT Search Services. D. Middleton seconded the motion.

M. Rowley said he is happy that the Board is taking advantage of the search expertise available through ACCT. He noted that the Board has been a member of ACCT for many years.

Julie Golder, Vice President of ACCT Search Services, and Dr. Jill Wakefield, former Chancellor and ACCT Search Consultant introduced themselves to the Board.

The results of the roll call vote to approve the motion to hire ACCT Search Services are as follows:

M. Benecke – Yes  
A. Buckley – Yes  
R. Emrich – Yes  
S. Gannon – Yes  
D. Middleton – Yes  
M. Nash – Yes  
M. Rowley – Yes  
M. Thomas – Yes

Motion passed unanimously.

**DISCUSSION OF  
PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH  
TIMELINE**

Chair Nash provided an overview of the Presidential Search Timeline that is being developed in collaboration with ACCT.

M. Thomas asked how the process will be communicated. M. Nash said that various approaches will be used including email, website, Facebook, and the TV and radio stations through Delta College Public Media.

M. Rowley said that the Board will need to work through the details regarding the Farmhouse. R. Emrich added that the Board will need to decide if the President will be required to live in the house.

Chair Nash said he would send the timeline out for review when it was complete.

**DISCUSSION OF  
PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Chair Nash said that he has been working on the composition of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee. At this time, he plans to have M. Benecke serve as the Chair of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee. Trustee Thomas and Trustee Emrich will also serve as Board representatives on the group.

M. Thomas asked how to recommend committee members. M. Nash said to send the recommendations to him.

M. Benecke said that we will not be able to put everyone on the search committee that we would like. She said as a committee member she will commit to collecting the ideas and thoughts of constituents.

M. Nash said he will bring back the proposed search committee membership to the Board for approval.

**TRUSTEE COMMENTS**

M. Thomas said this was a very informative meeting. She said she would send her recommendations for the Presidential Search Advisory Committee to M. Nash.

R. Emrich thanked M. Nash for his leadership.

S. Gannon thanked M. Nash and M. Benecke for their work in coordinating the search process.

D. Middleton thanked M. Nash for his leadership. She told Jill Wakefield and Julie Golder that she is excited to work with them. She also thanked Patrick Sturdy for his wise counsel. She said she looks forward to engaging in the process.

M. Rowley thanked Chair Nash for getting this process started and thanked him for making the recommendation to the full Board to hire ACCT.

**CHAIR COMMENTS**

Chair Nash said that hiring the next President of Delta College is a critical function of the Board. We will need to work together and keep the best interest of the College and our students at the center of our work. He thanked Patrick Sturdy, Jill Wakefield, and Julie Golder for joining us this evening. He also thanked Andrea Ursuy, Kay Schuler, and Talisa Brown for their assistance.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Nash adjourned the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

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Andrea Ursuy, Board Secretary