

**BAY MILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING**



April 11, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 9:56 a.m. by Board Chair, Whitney Gravelle, with a quorum present.

Board Members Present:

Whitney Gravelle, Chairperson
Stephanie Walden, Vice Chair
Beverly Carrick, Secretary
Mike McKerchie, Member
Jacques LeBlanc, Jr., Member
Clayton Kincheloe, Member

Board Members Absent:

Jane Rohl, Member
Gail Glezen, Treasurer

Others Present:

Duane A. Bedell, President
Anna Carrick, Executive Assistant to the President
Laura Postma, Vice President for Business & Finance
Stacey Walden, Director of Human Resources
Samantha Cameron, Vice President of Academic Affairs
Shelby Passage, Academic Affairs Administrative Assistant
Kendra Voris, Dean of Distance Education
Tanecia Hallai, Health & Fitness Faculty & Department Chair
Wendy Heyrman, Vice President of Student Affairs
Katie Corbiere, Financial Aid Director
Diana McKenzie, Dean of Science & Allied Health Education
Holly Powless, Policy Analyst
Carrie Perez, Director of Nursing Program
Rebecca Liebing, Legal Counsel

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Whitney Gravelle, Chair, asked for approval of the agenda. Whitney Gravelle, Chair, also asked to make an amendment to the agenda under New Business - Removing Item C: Resolution 25-04-11B due to not having a waiver of sovereign immunity and the articulation agreement can be signed by Duane Bedell on behalf of Bay Mills Community College. The Motion was made by Beverly Carrick, seconded by Stephanie Walden, to approve the agenda and remove Item C – Resolution 25-04-11B. *Motion carried with a vote of 5 for, 0 opposed, 1 abstaining, and 2 absent.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Whitney Gravelle, Chair, asked for approval of the minutes from January 17, 2025. The Motion was made by Stephanie Walden, seconded by Jacques LeBlanc, Jr., to approve the minutes for filing without comment. *Motion carried with a vote of 5 for, 0 opposed, 1 abstaining, and 2 absent.*

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Financial Statements for July 2024 – February 2025

Laura Postma, Vice President for Business and Finance, presented the Board with an overview of the Financial Statements for the eight-month period from July 2024 – February 2025. There are four new grants added: TCU Facilities Improvement and Repair Fund, Local Revenue Sharing Payment from Bay Mills Indian Community, and a TCU Faculty Professional Development Grant and Cultural Preservation Grant from the American Indian College Fund. Updates included highlights from the Balance Sheet for General Fund, Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance, Tuition and Fees, Investment Financials, and Schedule of Federal Financial Programs and Other Special Revenue. HEERF TCU Funding from the Department of Education, which was approved for the Allied Health Facility, was

changed to a reimbursement method. Duane added a discussion topic regarding grant funding with the current administration and how proud he is of Bay Mills Community College to be able to operate as normal. The Motion was made by Stephanie Walden, seconded by Beverly Carrick, to approve the Financial Statements for July 2024 – February 2025. *Motion carried with a vote of 5 for, 0 opposed, 1 abstaining, and 2 absent.*

Audited Financial Statements FY25

Laura Postma, Vice President for Business and Finance, presented information regarding the corrected audited financial statements. On the prior financial statements, there were formatting issues and spelling errors which have now been fixed.

NEW BUSINESS

Confer Degrees

Duane Bedell, President, presented the Board with the degrees to be conferred, in which there were 114 credentials in all. *A detailed list is attached to the minutes for reference.* The Motion was made by Stephanie Walden, seconded by Jacques LeBlanc, Jr., to confer the Degrees/Certificates. *Motion carried with a vote of 5 for, 0 opposed, 1 abstaining, and 2 absent.*

Resolution NO: 25-04-11A

Holly Powless, Policy Analyst, requested approval regarding Resolution NO: 25-04-11A. Resolution 25-04-11A grants a limited waiver of sovereign immunity for the master services agreement with Wolters Kluwer Health, which is a nursing license subscription software for the LPN Program. The Motion was made by Jacques LeBlanc Jr., seconded by Beverly Carrick, to approve Resolution NO: 25-04-11A. *Motion carried with a vote of 5 for, 0 opposed, 1 abstaining, and 2 absent.*

Resolution NO: 25-04-11B: Articulation Agreement with United Tribes Technical College

Duane Bedell, President, discussed the articulation agreement with United Tribes Technical College which will allow their students who earn an associate's degree in computer information systems to transfer into BMCC Bachelor's program. Students will be able to transfer 60 credits from their institution to Bay Mills Community College. This is a positive plan to keep students within tribal community colleges.

Resolution NO: 25-04-11C

Holly Powless, Policy Analyst, requested approval regarding Resolution 25-04-11C which grants a limited waiver of sovereign immunity and consent to waiver of tribal court jurisdiction for the National Student Clearinghouse agreement. BMCC has a master agreement with the National Student Clearinghouse which helps with data reporting to the Department of Education. There needs to be an additional component added to the master services agreement to include more services with new reporting requirements. The Motion was made by Beverly Carrick, seconded by Clayton Kincheloe, to approve Resolution NO: 25-04-11C. Motion carried with a vote of 5 for, 0 opposed, 1 abstaining, and 2 absent.

Resolution NO: 25-04-11D

Holly Powless, Policy Analyst, requested approval regarding Resolution 25-04-11D which grants a limited waiver of sovereign immunity and consent to waiver of tribal court jurisdiction for a limited services agreement with Chegg, Inc. This resolution covers the free trial for 170 students to assist with tutoring and if the services work well, there will be another resolution to approve the purchasing of Chegg, Inc. The Motion was made by Beverly Carrick, seconded by Jacques LeBlanc Jr., to approve Resolution NO: 25-04-11D. Motion carried with a

vote of 5 for, 0 opposed, 1 abstaining, and 2 absent.

Resolution NO: 25-04-11E

Holly Powless, Policy Analyst, requested approval regarding Resolution 25-04-11E which grants a limited waiver of sovereign immunity and consent to waiver of tribal court jurisdiction for the services agreement with Farm Compliance Services. This agreement will be paid for from the USDA Conservation Program Contract and will upgrade the study to ensure the Waishkey Bay Farm is in compliance with the comprehensive nutrient management plan (CNMP). The Motion was made by Jacques LeBlanc Jr., seconded by Stephanie Walden to approve Resolution NO: 25-04-11E. *Motion carried with a vote of 5 for, 0 opposed, 1 abstaining, and 2 absent.*

Policy 100.111 Board of Regents Tuition Award Policy (Revised)

Katie Corbiere, Financial Aid Director, presented to the Board Policy 100.111. This policy was prompted for revision due to being eligible to receive the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver (MITW) as of the 2024-2025 Academic Year. After discussion, it was determined this policy needs to be put in place for students to be aware of the new explicit requirements for MITW before receiving Board of Regents, which will now be a last dollar program for eligible students. Being eligible to receive the MITW allows BMCC to utilize state aid programs which have not been allowed to be used in the past including Tuition Incentive Program (TIP) as an example. There was a clause put in Part B for a hierarchy of aid to protect the programs that are out there which are last dollar including WOCTEP, Michigan Reconnect Program, and others; having this policy in place and the Board of Regents being last dollar is not going to supersede their policies already in place. There was a question raised about concerns regarding reimbursement timelines and if BMCC is concerned about receiving the reimbursement from the

state in a timely manner; Laura stated the funds are being sent on the date which is noted on when it will be received. Whitney discussed State Legislation Proposals which should be watched for, one of which is mandatory funding which has often been pushed for the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver. Additionally, there is a Legislative push to remove the blood quantum requirements in the MITW so there may be outreach from other tribes regarding this matter. The Motion was made by Beverly Carrick, seconded by Stephanie Walden to approve Policy 100.111 Board of Regents Tuition Award Policy (Revised). *Motion carried with a vote of 5 for, 0 opposed, 1 abstaining, and 2 absent.*

Policy 400.305 Anti-Hazing Policy

Holly Powless, Policy Analyst, requested approval regarding Policy 400.305 Anti-Hazing, which complies with the new Anti-Hazing Federal Law. The Motion was made by Beverly Carrick, seconded by Jacques LeBlanc, Jr., to approve Policy 400.305 Anti-Hazing Policy *Motion carried with a vote of 5 for, 0 opposed, 1 abstaining, and 2 absent.*

Policy 200.111 Revision: Student Fees

Katie Corbiere, Financial Aid Director, requested approval regarding Policy 200.111 to restructure the BMCC Student Fees. Initially, BMCC was charging a \$10 per credit hour student fee and a \$20 online distance learning fee per credit hour. Katie is requesting to combine these fees with a standard \$30 per credit hour fee for all students, online or on campus. The reason for this request is to encompass the amount of cost of services offered. Additionally, state aid programs are pushing out more initiatives and will only cover mandatory fees which makes the additional online learning distance fee having to be paid out of pocket by the student. Joining these fees allows the costs to be covered by the state along with remaining transparent to student billing accounts. The Motion was made by Beverly Carrick, seconded by Stephanie Walden, to

approve Policy 200.111 Revision: Student Fees. Motion carried with a vote of 5 for, 0 opposed, 1 abstaining, and 2 absent.

Program Proposal: Certificate of Completion Fitness Training

Tanecia Hallai, Health & Fitness and Liberal Arts Department Chair & Faculty, is seeking approval for a Certificate of Completion Fitness Training which consists of one course, ES109 – Conditioning and Strength in Training. This course is already part of the Health & Fitness Curriculum. The reasoning for the request is due to needing this course if a student may be interested in becoming a fitness trainer, most commonly a certified personal trainer, they only need a high school diploma then will go to an organization and take a certification exam to become certified. On those exams, there is a lot of content which students can self-purchase resources including the textbook and supplemental materials from the organization to self-study for the exam. With this course, ES109, it allows for the material from the National Strength and Conditioning Association textbook and a detailed content outline to be provided to the student which prepares them for the certification exam. This course is geared towards those students who are not wanting to pursue an associate's degree yet but would like to complete an instructor led course to prepare for the certification exam instead of having to self-study. Allowing the course to be offered through a certificate will also improve completion rates if a student successfully completes the course. The Motion was made by Jacques LeBlanc Jr., seconded by Beverly Carrick, to approve the Program Proposal: Certificate of Completion Fitness Training. Motion carried with a vote of 5 for, 0 opposed, 1 abstaining, and 2 absent.

Program Proposal: Associate of Arts in Sport & Fitness Management

Tanecia Hallai, Health & Fitness and Liberal Arts Department Chair & Faculty, is seeking approval for the proposal to offer an Associate of Arts in Sport & Fitness Management.

This is a very popular field where over twenty colleges and universities in Michigan offer either an associate or bachelor's degree in this program. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, estimated growth is 11% which is higher than average. The benefit of this program for BMCC is that this program will not need any new courses created. The program consists of the general education requirements and for the program specific requirements, half of the courses are in the health and fitness program and the other half are in the business program. The new program is going to be marketed to a new population of students and increase enrollment in the courses that are already being offered. The Motion was made by Jacques LeBlanc Jr., seconded by Stephanie Walden, to approve the Program Proposal: Associate of Arts in Sport & Fitness Management.

Motion carried with a vote of 5 for, 0 opposed, 1 abstaining, and 2 absent.

President's Report

Duane Bedell, President, presented the Board with the following updates:

- One of the intentions of the Board of Regents meeting is to introduce staff of BMCC to the members. As of late, there have been various new faces presenting items to the BOR. This is being done because these staff members are subject matter experts as well as allowing them the chance to meet the BOR members.
- The Spring Feast was held on Wednesday and was a huge success. Howard Webkamigad was the guest speaker and gave an excellent presentation.
- The Director of Human Resources, Stacey Walden, is taking on a new role in Bay Mills Indian Community and leaving BMCC.

- There was a record number of credentials being awarded for this academic year.
- There is a staff gathering being planned for May 9th. At that time, Duane will recognize all graduates from BMCC staff who are graduating from various locations with many different degrees. There will be an update provided regarding celebrations over the academic year and future planning. There will be some changes made to the staff gathering after the one-on-one meetings.
- The paperwork was submitted to USDA and is still waiting on a response from them regarding loan approval for the new facility. Duane will sit down with Kathy Adair to get an email sent to USDA to see where BMCC is in the process. The packet will go out for bid after Duane sends it over to Rebecca for review to ensure everything is in compliance.
- Duane sat down with the Nursing Team and had a discussion regarding the initial self-study submission which was not approved, but the requested changes were made and submitted again. This is up for review on May 1st. There is a site visit scheduled for May 5th from the State of Michigan to come on campus and ensure BMCC has all necessary resources needed for the Nursing program. The goal is to start the program in Fall 2025, which means there will be a quick turnaround to ensure everything is ready to go including creating courses and getting classrooms ready. There will be two full-time nursing faculty; one will start in May and the other in July. Depending on

approval, the other faculty may start sooner to start working on designing the courses for the Nursing program.

- Three weeks ago, Duane went to LSSU for a MyMichigan Health meeting. The MyMichigan Health team is really excited about the LPN program BMCC is launching and has multiple staff members who are eagerly waiting for the announcement on when they can start signing up for classes.
- There have been updates happening at Mikanuk Fitness Center including renovations to fix some of the damaged walls from equipment. There has been diamond plate backing on the walls to protect them from further damage along with refreshing the paint. The free weights which are in the treadmill room will be moved to the classroom where Karol Healy's current office is. Karol's office will be moved to the MyMichigan Health area of the fitness center. The adjustment will be made in the agreement with MyMichigan based on the square footage cost BMCC is charging them currently.
- Four older televisions have been removed and three new ones installed. The subscriptions for Satellite TV services have been cancelled since smart TVs were purchased. YouTube TV is unable to be purchased under an organization, but the smart TVs come with some free channels; the team will work on trying to find a service which can be purchased.
- There were two new water fountains added which are equipped with the water bottle filling capacity option.
- There are five new pieces of equipment coming from Life Fitness which should arrive at the end of April or early May. Any equipment which came

over from when IHS was at the Waishkey Center will be donated to the Wildland Fire Department or Bay Mills Fire Department depending on confirmation if they would like to receive these items.

- BMCC has a new logo which will be unveiled at the staff gathering. The team is currently looking for someone who can create a metal sign to replace the current logo that is in front of the fitness center.
- There are options being reviewed to replace the placeholder for the vending machine at the fitness center.
- Multiple staff from BMCC attended the Higher Learning Commission Conference in Chicago to keep up on the criteria which need to be reported on. Duane attended the conference for the first time this year as the ten-year renewal is approaching quickly. He attended the session that concentrated on the new criterion four which was titled, “Sustainability Institutional Effectiveness Resources and Planning” which consists of planning and the financial aspects which Laura is the primary author of that criterion. There was an email sent out recently asking for collection of data. Anna Carrick organized the HLC SharePoint folder system to ensure data can be easily gathered and input in the correct areas to send to HLC for review.
- Duane met with State Legislation and spoke to the multiclient lobbying team. Duane spent the day in meetings with all the Legislators which represent the Upper Peninsula and several of them which represent other tribal colleges in the lower part of Michigan. The key meeting to highlight was with Representative Markkanen who chairs a Higher Education Appropriations

Committee and is very familiar with tribal colleges as Keweenaw Bay Ojibwe Community College has been in his district for a while and would love to support BMCC as well. Duane attended a dinner which had the entire Upper Peninsula Delegation present and was able to relay the asks. If the entire UP Delegation team can back up the asks, particularly Markkanen who is the Chair, there is a good chance to obtain the asks which have been relayed. When Duane met with Senator John Damoose, he asked Duane if he would review the State proposed budget. Damoose asked Duane why BMCC is not listed under the State Community Colleges for their State Aid formula, and it was explained that due to being a tribal community college and since becoming members of Michigan Community College Associate (MCCA), BMCC promised to not take from that existing fund unless it grew. Damoose wants to support funding BMCC, but Duane would like to have a meeting with MCCA and other tribal community colleges to ensure they are okay with the ask. Duane has a meeting scheduled for today to meet with the Presidents of MCCA and the tribal colleges in Michigan to discuss the topic of Damoose's drive to support the funding ask. There is going to be an ask of a \$3 million increase in the State Aid Fund and this will use a formula based off the FTE enrollment between the three tribal colleges. Duane advocated for Charter schools as well regarding funding in the proposed budget.

- The Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver will pass Legislation, and the only discussion will be based around the potential removal of blood quantum requirement.

- Duane has started working with the data team to start compiling the report required on an annual basis and will follow up next week to see what numbers will be reported to the State.
- Duane sits on the Executive Committee for the American Indian College Fund and has been tasked to finding a way to fairly distribute funds to tribal colleges. There is a meeting scheduled today with the College Fund to discuss the details of this task.
- Commencement is scheduled for May 16th and Duane will send invitations to the Board members.
- There will be a team traveling to Little Traverse Bay Band on Monday to meet with the Education Department to discuss potential programming and keep the relationship with the tribe and their education department strong.
- There is an open house scheduled for April 25th for the local school district.
- BMCC traveled along with Bay Mills Indian Community to meet with Secretary Benson.
- Duane shared the news that Governor Whitmer designated the month of April as Community College Month, and this includes tribal colleges as well.
- Nebraska Indian Community College staff will be on campus on May 5, 2025, to sign an articulation agreement with the Early Childhood Education Program.
- Upcoming Travel:

- Leech Lake Tribal College for a Peer Review on Criterion 5 at the end of the month.
- Duane will be traveling to New York for the American Indian College Fund Board Meeting in May. BMCC's commencement speaker, Ahniwake Rose – President of AIHEC, will be accompanying Duane on return travel from the Board Meeting.
- Duane will be traveling to Lansing on April 24th to welcome our school leaders and board members from the public academies BMCC authorizes.

Departmental Updates

H.R. Update

Stacey Walden, HR Director, presented the Board with the following updates:

Resignation

- Dylan Carrick, Recruiting Specialist
- Stacey Walden, Director of Human Resources

Transfers/Promotions:

- Anna Carrick, Executive Assistant to President to Director of Human Resources

Current Vacancies

- Recruiting Specialist
- Executive Assistant to the President

Colleague of the Month

- Danielle Schofield – February
- Anna Carrick – March

- Richard Schofield - April

Employee Satisfaction Survey

- Changed to twice a year from quarterly
 - 47 promoting statements
 - 4 detractor statements

Waishkey Bay Farm

Duane Bedell, President, gave the following updates:

- The farm is working on bringing in more poultry, including chicken and turkeys.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting date is scheduled for July 11, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Whitney Gravelle, Chair, adjourned the meeting without objection.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

Respectively Submitted:

Minutes Taken By:

Beverly Carrick, Secretary

Raelynn Hunter

Executive Assistant to the President

