

LANSING COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
February 22, 2008

Special Meeting
Adopted Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Canja, Hollister, Lavery, Proctor, Woods, Smith
Absent: Rasmusson

Trustee Woods left at 6:20 p.m.

Chairperson Smith opened the meeting with stating the following:

Good evening, I am Trustee Robin Smith, chairperson of the Lansing Community College Board of Trustees. I want to thank you all for coming out tonight to take part in a critical time in LCC history.

As you are aware, over the past several months, LCC has been gathering a pool of strong candidates for President of the College. The Presidential Search Committee has narrowed the field to four candidates and we now look to the community to assist in the selection process.

I want to thank the members of the LCC community for participating in the open forums that have taken place this week. Your response has been overwhelming but also very exciting and encouraging to this Board, which is faced with making one of its most important decisions in just a few weeks.

Tonight, the Board of Trustees will interview Dr. Darnell Cole, President of Milwaukee Area Technical College. Dr. Cole will answer a series of prepared questions from our Board and then we will take brief comments from audience members.

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Cole.

Limited Public Comment Regarding Agenda Items

Marc Thomas: Good evening, I am Marc Thomas, a faculty member in the Social Science Department and a member of the Executive Board of our faculty association. Our faculty President Cindy Storie was called away at the last

moment and will not be here tonight. She wanted to make sure that thanks was extended to the Board of Trustees for conducting the open forum and thanks to the applicants for being candid and forthright in their answers and their willingness to participate in this process. Thank you.

Interview of Dr. Darnell E. Cole

Dr. Cole gave the Board a brief introduction.

The following questions were asked by the Board of Trustees:

1. What is your management style and how is it evident in your work?
Please provide an example of your employment of your management style in a specific situation. What, if any, assessment did you make of how your management style affected the outcome of that situation?
(Chairperson Smith)
2. What will you need to accomplish to be viewed as successful in three to five years and how will the performance be measured? *(Trustee Hollister)*
3. What has been your role in enhancing the quality of student life beyond the classroom? *(Trustee Laverty)*
4. Describe a decision you made as a Community College President that you wish most, in hindsight, you could take back.
What factors guided your initial decision-making?
How did you come to the conclusion that your course of action was not correct?
What did you do then?
What have you done differently as a result of the experience?
(Trustee Canja)
5. What core values do you bring to your profession? Give an example of how these core values are evidenced in your work. *(Trustee Proctor)*
6. From your experience, provide an example of a complex and sensitive issue that required you to build consensus with others to support you/your organization in something that may have required them to change their

- views or give up something. What was your role, the key challenges, and how did you work through those challenges? In retrospect, what would you have done differently? *(Trustee Canja)*
7. What is your philosophy and leadership practice in cultivating an environment of trust with the Board of Trustees? How do you see your role in preparing the Board of Trustees in making a difficult policy situation? *(Chairperson Smith)*
 8. Please share your experiences to engage and sustain community involvement with the Community College. How do you engage the community to take ownership and have pride in their institution? What role do you see the LCC Foundation, LCC Alumni Chapter, etc. in this endeavor? *(Trustee Woods)*
 9. What is your experience in working with institutions that grow faster than their system capacity? What steps did you develop and implement to ensure that the organization was able to adapt and run effectively? Please share the process you used to obtain buy-in from employees and the board? *(Trustee Hollister)*
 10. Is there anything else regarding your qualifications that you would like to share with the Board? *(Trustee Laverty)*
 11. Do you have any concerns about this position? *(Chairperson Smith)*

Audio CD of answers is on file with the official Board meeting materials.

Public Comment

Chairperson Smith made the following closing statement.

As this chapter in the Presidential Search concludes, I want to thank our candidates, our Board and everyone who took time from their busy schedules to participate in this process.

Having the community at large, the students, the faculty and staff involved in this process was vitally important to the Board of Trustees. Seeing such large turnouts and hearing such insightful and engaging questions was wonderful.

The Board will have a difficult decision to make – but that’s actually a good thing. We have four outstanding candidates to be President of LCC and that means that no matter who is chosen, the College wins.

Now, members of the Board of Trustees and the Presidential Search Committee will move on to the next step. In the next two weeks, we will be conducting site visits at all four schools to engage with people who have been working with our candidates. We want to gather as much first hand knowledge about our candidates’ successes and challenges as we can.

We are on track to select a president within the next several weeks. During that time, the community at large and the LCC community should feel free to continue offering input on who they feel the next President should be. We are selecting a President on their behalf, but it is their President.

Again, thank you to everyone for your commitment and involvement throughout this process to date and during the next few weeks.

Adjournment

MOVED by Trustee Laverty and supported by Trustee Hollister for the meeting to adjourn.

Ayes: Canja, Hollister, Laverty, Proctor, Smith
Nays: None
Absent: Rasmusson, Woods

Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.