

LANSING COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
March 10, 2008

**Special Meeting**  
Adopted Meeting Minutes

## **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m.

## **Roll Call**

Present: Canja, Hollister, Lavery, Proctor, Rasmusson, Woods, Smith  
Absent: None

## **Limited Public Comment Regarding Agenda Items**

Cindy Storie: Good evening I am Cindy Storie, President of MAHE. The Lansing Community College Faculty Association is who I am speaking on behalf of tonight. We worked hard to establish a collaborative relationship with the current Administration. We asked for a commitment from this Board to make sure the person you select as President will continue this commitment to continue the collaboration that is central to our negotiated collective bargaining agreement. MAHE supports an inclusive and transparent process to select the next LCC President with ample opportunity for public comment and participation. MAHE supports a decision from this Board of Trustees who selects a President who's first priority is to support the student and faculty mission for excellence and education.

Art Luna: My name is Art Luna and I live in Charlotte, MI. I have been on the school board there for eleven years. I am here to speak on behalf of Judith Cardenas in support for having her be the President of Lansing Community College. I have known her for 2 years. Ms. Cardenas has extended her hands to us and has done great things to help us. I formally served as the President of the UAW Local 602. She was very collaborative in working together with us in Delta Township with the new GM plant. We work with Mayor Hollister on the Blue Ribbon committee and we worked hard to bring that collaboration together. I believe that Ms. Cardenas can continue to do this here at the college. I hope the other candidates have the sense of growth and partnership of what we have done here in mid Michigan. I believe President Cardenas can do this and will continue to do this. I am speaking on behalf of keeping her as the President of Lansing Community College.

Chairperson Smith thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting and made the following statement:

Tonight, the board is meeting to review the information from the Presidential Search Committee, our interviews, the recent public forums and site visits and to present to you tonight our recommendation for the new President of Lansing Community College.

There are no shortcuts to success. That has been our motto through this process and I am confident our due diligence has paid off. We have before us 4 excellent and diverse candidates.

We will start tonight's hearing with public comment. After that, my colleagues and I will meet in closed session to discuss our options and make our recommendation.

## **Closed Session**

MOVED by Trustee Canja and supported by Trustee Rasmusson to enter into closed session to discuss a confidential written legal opinion.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Canja, Hollister, Lavery, Proctor, Rasmusson, Woods, Smith

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

The Board entered into closed session at 5:14 p.m.

The Board returned to open session at 6:01 p.m.

Roll call:

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

Absent: None

## **Selection of Lansing Community College President**

Chairperson Smith stated that in pursuant to the Board of Trustees Bylaws 1.2.3; the Chairperson shall provide leadership and planning the work of the Board and shall decide all questions of rule and order. She further stated that with this in mind as Chair of the Board she is asking that the process of selecting the

President of Lansing Community College be fair, open, thorough, efficient, timely, orderly and kept to the point. Chairperson Smith stated that with this in mind, she asked that a motion be entertained for all four finalists for the position of President for Lansing Community College.

MOVED by Trustee Rasmusson and supported by Trustee Hollister to nominate all four candidates for the Presidency of Lansing Community College.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Canja, Hollister, Laverty, Proctor, Rasmusson, Woods, Smith

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

Chairperson Smith proposed the following voting process to select the President of Lansing Community College:

- In the first round, each Trustee will select 2 candidates from the 4 candidates nominated. The 2 candidates that receive the most votes will proceed to the final round of 2 candidates.
- If there happens to be a tie vote of 3 candidates or 2 candidates tie along with a third candidate, these 3 candidates will be moved to another round and voting will repeat itself as in the first round. The 2 candidates receiving the most votes will move to the final round of 2 candidates.
- In the final round, each Trustee has 1 vote for one candidate. The candidate that receives a majority of the votes (4 votes being the majority) will become the Board of Trustees' selection as President of Lansing Community College.

MOVED by Trustee Canja and supported by Trustee Rasmusson to utilize the voting process proposed by Chairperson Smith.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Canja, Hollister, Laverty, Proctor, Rasmusson, Woods, Smith

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

The Trustees had discussion on each of the nominated candidates.

The Chair requested that a vote be taken on the Trustee's selection of two candidates.

Canja: Dr. Brent Knight/Dr. Darnell Cole  
Hollister: Dr. Brent Knight/Dr. Darnell Cole  
Lavery: Dr. Judith Cardenas/Dr. Brent Knight  
Proctor: Dr. Darnell Cole/Dr. Ron Wright  
Rasmusson: Dr. Judith Cardenas/Dr. Brent Knight  
Woods: Dr. Darnell Cole/Dr. Ron Wright  
Smith: Dr. Darnell Cole/Dr. Brent Knight

Chairperson Smith stated that Dr. Brent Knight and Dr. Darnell Cole will move forward to the second round of voting.

Canja: Dr. Brent Knight  
Hollister: Dr. Brent Knight  
Lavery: Dr. Brent Knight  
Proctor: Dr. Darnell Cole  
Rasmusson: Dr. Brent Knight  
Woods: Dr. Brent Knight  
Smith: Dr. Brent Knight

Chairperson Smith announced that the new President of Lansing Community College is Dr. Brent Knight.

The Chair requested a brief recess to call the candidates.

MOVED by Trustee Lavery and supported by Trustee Hollister to recess for 15 minutes.

Roll call vote:

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

Motion carried.

The Trustees reconvened at 7:25 p.m.

Roll call:

Present: Canja, Hollister, Lavery, Proctor, Rasmusson, Woods, Smith  
Absent: None

Chairperson Smith stated that Dr. Brent Knight graciously accepted the position and is honored and delighted to serve as President of Lansing Community College. She stated that Dr. Knight wanted to give a heartfelt thank you to the Presidential Search Committee and to the Board of Trustees for a thorough and great process.

MOVED by Trustee Woods and supported by Trustee Lavery to negotiate a contract with Dr. Brent Knight.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Canja, Hollister, Lavery, Proctor, Rasmusson, Woods, Smith

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

## **Public Comment**

Trustee Proctor stated that he was pleased that the Board was able to get to this point on this evening. He stated that the Board has done a commendable job. He further stated that this was a difficult choice because the Board had excellent candidates. Trustee Proctor stated that as the College moves forward he expects nothing but great things for the College and nothing but great things from the Board by making sure Lansing Community College is where success begins and that everything the Board does and says, affects one of the 32,000 students attending Lansing Community College.

Trustee Hollister offered a special thanks to the Administrative Assistant to the Board for all of her hard work. He stated that she has done a commendable job at keeping the Trustees on track during this process.

MOVED by Trustee Woods and supported by Trustee Lavery that the Board offer a resolution to Dr. Cardenas for the service she has provided to the College.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Canja, Hollister, Lavery, Proctor, Rasmusson, Woods, Smith

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

Trustee Canja recognized Ms. Claire Cherniawski, for accompanying them on the site visits as a student body representative. She stated that her input and perspective was greatly appreciated.

Trustee Lavery stated he felt good about the process and that overall the process had a lot of integrity. He also stated that a lot of work went in to making the process open and transparent. Trustee Lavery stated that he felt good about the way the process was conducted on this evening and how the Trustee's deliberated and came up with a good and fair final vote. He stated that the College has an excellent candidate moving forward and is looking forward to working with Dr. Knight.

Chairperson Smith thanked the Community for the way they rallied together in the process. She stated that several people stopped her to comment on the public forums and expressed that they know the Board will do what is best for the institution. Chairperson Smith stated that the Board took this assignment to heart and that Dr. Brent Knight is what is best for this institution. She further stated that truly LCC is where success begins and that she looks forward to seeing the many successes the College will have under the leadership of Dr. Brent Knight.

## **Adjournment**

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

Ayes: Canja, Hollister, Lavery, Proctor, Rasmusson, Woods, Smith

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.