



REPORT OF MINUTES

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING**

**BAY de NOC COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Besse Health & Applied Technology Building
Room 408
Escanaba, MI**

May 1, 2025

The meeting began with welcome and introductions at 12:10 p.m. ET by President Dr. Nerita Hughes.

Trustees Present: Joy Hopkins, Steve Soderman, Cory Kuchenberg, Terri Mileski

Trustees Absent: Wendy Middaugh, Katie VanEnkevort, Nick Chenier

College Representation: Dr. Nerita Hughes, Dr. Travis Blume, Caroline Carlson, Jim Cousino, Vicki DeGrand, Nick DuPont, Cindy Gallagher, Lynn Martinson, Penny Pavlat, Amy Reddinger, Jason Sullivan, Dan Williams

Guests: Rep. & Mrs. Dave Prestin
Aubrey Moore, U.P. Regional Director for Sen. Peters

Recorder: Laura Johnson, Assistant Board Secretary

Dr. Hughes presented college-specific information pertaining to Bay College and how the core outcomes of each strategic pillar have progressed.

Dean of Business, Technology & Workforce Development Jim Cousino, and Welding Instructor Nick DuPont, provided an informative presentation on the College's capital outlay project, the Manufacturing Innovation Center, which is pending construction authorization funding. Rep. Prestin emphasized that partnerships with the trades cannot be overstated and encouraged Bay to continue this work as Dr. Hughes referenced the College's Upper Peninsula Articulation Agreement to award advanced college credit for registered apprentices in the ten union construction trades who signed the agreement.

Dean Cousino communicated updates to the EMT and Paramedic programs, including the new paramedic certificate beginning with the fall 2026 semester. Rep. Prestin extended kudos to Dr. Hughes and the Bay team for putting the paramedic certificate into action.

Discussion was held regarding appreciation for bipartisan support of the Michigan Reconnect and Community College Guarantee tuition assistance programs which have tremendously helped students at Bay.

Rep. Prestin assured the College that there is bipartisan support to make sure education continues to be supported when property tax reform is enacted.

Aubrey Moore added that Bay College does not have a project on the committees Sen. Peters serves on (criminal justice and agriculture) and encouraged requesting congressionally directed spending to fund equipment for the Manufacturing Innovation Center next time if the capital outlay construction is approved. Sen. Slotkin has a strong desire to help with workforce training.

The meeting ended at 1:20 p.m. ET.

Laura L. Johnson
Assistant Board Secretary

Completion
Date:

Approval Date:

Terri T. Mileski
Vice-Chair

Approval Date: