Manatee Technical Institute  
Board of Governors  
Minutes for August 22, 2013


John Ziemnicki, MTI Board of Governors Chairman, called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

Introductions were made.

Mr. Ziemnicki extended congratulations to MTI for being ten times national champions with the number of medals won at SkillsUSA and for HOSA being four times national champions.

Mr. Ziemnicki shared the MTI Foundation’s desire to create design charettes in conjunction with Manatee County government, the MTI Foundation, and business partners. They would like them to be located at both the State Road 70 campus and the 34th Street property. This would give MTI students internship experience.

Overview of State Road 70 Property:

Mike Pendley, Executive Planner in the Construction Services Department, and Jane Dreger, Director of Capital Projects, presented. Mr. Pendley reviewed the newly Board adopted procedure for property surplus and sale. There are six steps to the process. The entire process takes approximately one year. The six steps are

1. Property Inventory – This step has been completed and the list of surplus property may be found at the District’s website.
2. Stakeholder Input – This step is why they are here today. During this phase, which the district is in now, is when information is compiled from those affected to be presented to the Superintendent and then to the Board.
3. Compliance
4. Offers
5. Contract
6. Closing

The property being discussed at this meeting is a ten-acre parcel to the west of the MTI Main Campus and is on the corner of State Road 70 and Caruso Road and a 7.6-acre property to the east of the campus.

Several people made comments, stated concerns and provided input. These are listed below.

- Will the property be sold as one property or sub-divided? The guess is that each would be sold as a lump sum.
- What about the property north of Braden River High School? That property already has a plan approved for a K-8, elementary, or middle school. However, there is not a need for a new school at this location now.

- MTI is now land-locked. Currently, with all of the MTI campus locations, we now have only one classroom that is not in daily use for day classes. MTI is currently utilizing all our available space now. We need more space as we are still growing. This land would be a good place for future MTI growth.

- We need these parcels for MTI growth

- Who determines that these properties are available for sale and why has it been considered as we need this for future growth. MTI is attracting businesses to the area that need a skilled workforce.

- The properties are actually part of Braden River High School. However, both MTI and BRHS are part of the School District of Manatee County.

- Mr. Pendley and Ms. Dreger will deliver the land-locked concern message to the Superintendent.

- Would like to hold on to this property for future MTI growth.

- Selling either of these two properties is not acceptable. We need to protect the ability to grow.

- Currently the Auto Body and Cosmetology areas are too small and other programs need to expand as well.

- The MTI Foundation Board likes these two pieces of property and does not want to see them sold. They would like the property to operate Centers of Excellence. Businesses would build on the sites and the utilize MTI students to work as interns in the businesses. The Foundation would operate the properties and give profits back as scholarships to students. Using the property for this purpose would continually generate funds instead of just selling off the property and paying a few bills and then the money is gone. We need more square footage and partners with businesses could build the academies would generate income for years to come instead of a one-time $3 or $4 million. The foundation is especially interested in the 10-acre property and could build approximately 50,000 square feet on this site.

- How much of the seven-acre site is wetlands? A little under two acres. There are approximately five acres that are buildable.

- The current site is an attractive place to drive by. If these two front areas are sold that could change. Currently there is no place for the high school Automotive Technology program. Our building is too small now. Like so many other schools, by the time the keys are handed over the school is already too small.

- Sell property behind Braden River High School and keep these two parcels. Answer: Can’t because it is restricted.

- I have a 15 year old attending Braden River High School. The traffic is a nightmare now trying to get in and out of the school. Don’t want additional business to make the traffic worse. Where would these people park?

- Turn the back property into farmable land.

Ms. Dreger will compile the comments and forward to Mary Cantrell to make sure she has it all. Mr. Pendley and Ms. Dreger will also be meeting with Braden River High School’s School Advisory Council for their input. Alan Anderson asked about the time frame. Ms. Dreger responded that we are probably be two months out from providing the compiled information to the Superintendent. These are just two out of five parcels that they are working on now.

**Enrollment:** Jan Ferreira, MTI Applications Support Manager, gave an update on the school’s new student data system. Beginning this school year MTI will be using FOCUS. Mr. Ferreira
feels that this will be a good system for MTI. He spoke of the benefits of FOCUS and the reporting capabilities of the program.

**MTI Foundation and Alumni Association:** Virginia Sirocky spoke about the First Responder Challenge that is sponsored by the MTI Alumni Association. She asked all to save the date of November 16, 2013, on your calendars for this event. Funds raised at the challenge are given to the MTI Foundation for scholarships. They are currently seeking sponsors for this event. If you are interested, please see Ms. Sirocky for a sponsor form.

The first graduating class from the new Baking and Pastry Program wanted to have a $100 sponsor space on the Donor Board. They baked and sold cupcakes and were able to purchase a $1,000 spot. The class is throwing out a challenge to other programs to do the same.

**Finance Report:** In Frances Tamayo’s absence, Doug Wagner spoke. MTI has received $9.1 million from the state for our 2013-14 budget. Approximately $8.2 is for our general fund. $861,000 is set aside for manufacturing, automotive, networking, and cyber programs. This is not a problem for MTI since we offer these programs. Mr. Wagner stated that the accurate reporting of our student data is so important for us to be able to receive full funding.

**Director’s Report:**
- Approve Purchases in excess of $10,000 – Human Patient Simulator for East Campus. Joan Barrese gave a power point presentation showing the benefits and need for a new/additional Human Patient Simulator for the Nursing, Patient Care Technician, Emergency Medical Technician, and Paramedic programs to use. The cost for a new simulator is $66,474. A motion was made to approve purchasing a new Human Patient Simulator for the East Campus pending financial approval from the MTI Business Manager. The motion was seconded and approved.
- We have several vacancies on this Board. Dr. Cantrell is going to ask the Braden River High School Principal to be the high school representative and Daisy Vulovich to be the State College of Florida representative. Bob Gause is the School Board representative at least until the Board reorganization in November.
- Staffing Model – Dr. Cantrell reviewed handouts showing her proposed staffing model for MTI. A motion was made to approve the staffing model presented by Dr. Cantrell. The motion was seconded. Motion was amended to add an Assistant Director of Business and Industry Services to the plan. Motion was approved.
- There will be an Open House at the MTI Main Campus on September 18 from 7:30 am to 9:30 pm. All were invited to attend.

**Other:**

Mr. Ziemnicki thanked all for attending.

Bill Lee invited everyone to come to a car show at Desoto Mall on October 12. The show benefits United Way of Manatee County.

**Adjourn:** Meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

**Future Meetings**
- October 24, 2013
- January 23, 2014
- May 22, 2014