Manatee Technical Institute  
Board of Governors  
Minutes for May 23, 2013


John Ziemnicki called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

Minutes of the January 24, 2013, Meeting: The minutes of the January 24, 2013, MTI Board of Governors meeting were approved as submitted.

Mr. Ziemnicki spoke of the upcoming MTI graduation ceremony and what an exciting time this is for our students and teachers. He thanked all for what they have done this year for our students.

Introductions were made. Mary Cantrell introduced the new Criminal Justice Training Director, Jay Romine.

Marketing and Grants: Maura Howl presented and provided a grants update handout. Handout attached.

Grants:
- Most important news is in the box titled Grants News. Funding for the Displaced Homemakers Grant which supports the MTI New Options Program has been cut. The funding ends June 30, 2013. Ms. Howl is exploring ways to continue the services currently provided from the grant.
- Explained other grant applications that are in process. See handout for information.

Marketing:
- The new website went on-line February 14. The new web address is manateetech.edu. Ms. Howl asked everyone to take a look at the new site and let her know if anything needs changed or what you like. She displayed and reviewed the website. On the home page there is an area titled News and Events to keep press releases. There is also a link for Board of Governors.
- Each program will have their own website to post photos, assignments, announcements, etc. Nikki Harville, MTI Marketing and Public Relations Assistant, is in the process of training the instructors how to put together the program websites and post information to the site.
- Mr. Ziemnicki commented that the website is beautiful. The site has links to the MTI Foundation and the Alumni Association too.
- The main vehicle for publicizing classes in print is the TechTimes. The Marketing Department is looking to redesign this publication to be more in-line with the website. The revised version will be half the size of the current TechTimes to save dollars.
**MTI Foundation and Alumni Association:** Virginia Sirocky thanked all who have donated a plaque to the donor mural located in the MTI Main Campus lobby. There has been great response to this project. Ms. Sirocky distributed a brochure and donation form for the donor mural.

Tim Hyden, newly elected Alumni Association President, spoke of his 20 plus years relationship with MTI. Mr. Hyden spoke of the successful First Responders Challenge sponsored by the Alumni Association. The association welcomes ideas that would encourage students to join. Mr. Hyden encouraged BOG members who are alumni to join as well. Copies of the Alumni Association News were distributed.

Mr. Ziemnicki suggested having Alumni Association meetings at the alumni’s various shops/business much like the Chamber has morning coffee at their members’ businesses.

**Workforce Funding:** Doug Wagner presented and provided a handout that lists District Workforce Funding Issues. Handout attached. Mr. Wagner expressed that we have had some success in the area of workforce funding.

- In 2012-13 the MTI budget was $8.7 million and for 2013-14 it will be $9.1 million. The budget amounts are listed on the second page of the handout for the past four years.
- Technical center enrollment is down across the state. Therefore, remaining workforce funds have been distributed. MTI received $861,353. This money is restricted and can only be spent on specified programs.
- A proposed tuition increase of 3 percent passed but was vetoed by the Governor.
- MTI receives 70 percent of the FTE earned for high school students who attend MTI. In the past, the funding for high school students who are dual enrolled at colleges did not follow the student. Public schools are now required to pay tuition costs for dual enrolled students attending colleges.
- Cost Factors: For the past many years, districts have received less funding for career and technical education programs than for academic programs. Cost factors are now equal for both programs.
- To have a $9 million budget for next year is huge for MTI. It is wonderful for MTI to be moving closer to being fully funded as opposed to being under-funded $2-3 million per year.
- Mr. Ziemnicki stated that he attended the Pancakes and Politics event last Monday and personally thanked Senator Galvano and Representatives Boyd, and Steube for their help in receiving these funds. He did, however, remind them that a little more work needs to be done to make this permanent. All three are committed to making sure this happens.

**Director’s Report:**

- Approve Purchases in excess of $10,000 – None.
- Budget: For 2011-12, MTI received $8 million in Workforce funding. We saved $1.2 million to roll forward for purchases for the new building and to establish new programs.
- Would like to start a new program in 2013-14 called dot net.
- Council on Occupational Accreditation (COE): COE is the accrediting agency for MTI. We were required to have a team visit to accredit the new campus. The team was here May 15 and 16 for the inspection. We passed with flying colors.
- SkillsUSA: We are heading to Kansas City at the end of June to go for year ten winning more medals than any other school at the conference
  - Florida SkillsUSA: The state conference has been held in Pensacola last year and this year. This is a very far distance for everyone to travel to attend the conference. Dr. Cantrell does not believe that it is fair to continue to expect the membership to travel this distance. If the conference is not moved to a more central location, she does not
intend to participate in SkillsUSA next school year. It is not fair to the majority of the members to continue to hold the state conference in Pensacola.

- **HOSA:** This will be the fourth year for MTI to attempt to be number one with the most medals. The HOSA National Conference is in Nashville, Tennessee, this June.
- Dr. Cantrell announced that the MTI high school automotive students under the direction of teacher Richard Falco placed first in the state at the AAAFord competition and will continue on to national competition.
- The MTI networking students have been conducting a service learning project where they take donated computers and clean the hard drives, refurbish the computer, install educational software, and donate them to non-profits such as Children’s Academy of Southwest Florida.
- The optometric students worked with the Lion’s Club to provide vision tests for children at three sites in the community.
- Dental and optometric students participated in the We Care Clinic.
- Construction students build corn hole boards for the Kiwanis Corn Hole Classic. Auto refinishing students painted the boards.
- All MTI programs participate in service learning and community service projects.
- Digital design program student Marcos Aviles received an honorable mention in the 2013 Congressional Art Competition. His work will be displayed Ringling Museum for six months.
- Schedule Board of Governors Meetings for 2013-14 school year. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to hold the 2013-14 Board of Governors meetings on the fourth Thursday of the month in August, October, January, and May.
- Two big things Dr. Cantrell is working on are calendars and a new staffing model.
  - A draft of the new staffing model has been submitted to Doug Wagner and will be brought to the Board of Governors before approval.
  - Calendars: August through June may work great for K-12 but not if you are attending school to learn skills to obtain a job. Frequently, when these students are out of school for six weeks in the summer, they tend to find some type of employment and then do not return to school in August.

  Dr. Cantrell will be proposing a calendar that has 235 work days for the teachers and 219 attendance days for the students. The students would have two weeks off in the Summer, one week at Thanksgiving, two weeks at Winter Break, and one week at Spring Break. The following programs have agreed to pilot this schedule for the 2013-14 school year: HVAC, Automotive, and Culinary.

  Adult Education programs (GED Prep and ESOL) need to go year-round. Dr. Cantrell is proposing that these programs have three 72-day terms with students attending six hours per day.

- Graduation: MTI Graduation will be held on Sunday, June 30, at 3 pm, at the Bradenton Area Convention Center in Palmetto.

**Other Business:**
Mr. Ziemnicki thanked all for all they do for the students at MTI, especially Mr. Wagner.

**Adjourn:** Meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

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