



We deliver lifelong learning opportunities to transform lives and enrich our communities.

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Special Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, August 7, 2024
President's Office Conference Room
Tanis Building

4:00 p.m. Meeting

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Pledge of Allegiance
- D. Review of Agenda and approval of additions, deletions, or rearrangements

II. PUBLIC INPUT

Each person wishing to address the Board during public comment must be present and shall provide their name, address, city, phone, and issue to be addressed on a form provided prior to the meeting. The topic addressed should be related to business within the jurisdiction of the Board. Forms will be collected and given to the Board Chair prior to the call for order. Comments will be limited to three minutes in length per speaker.

III. ACTION ITEMS

- E. **Annexation of Benzie County Ballot Language** (Pursuant to Policy A-106.00 Other)
Recommend adoption of an updated resolution proposing annexation of Benzie County to join the Northwestern Michigan College district, which includes ballot proposition language.

IV. REVIEW OF FOLLOW-UP REQUESTS

Confirm requests made by the Board that require administrative follow-up for information to be provided to the Board at a later date.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Upcoming Board Meeting Dates:

All board meetings are open to the public.

August 26, 2024 - Timothy J. Nelson Innovation Center, Room 106/107
September 23, 2024 – Timothy J. Nelson Innovation Center, Room 106/107
October 21, 2024 – Timothy J. Nelson Innovation Center, Room 106/107 ****Third Monday**
November 25, 2024 – Timothy J. Nelson Innovation Center, Room 106/107
December 16, 2024 – Timothy J. Nelson Innovation Center, Room 106/107 ****Third Monday**

Northwestern Michigan College
State of Michigan

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees of Northwestern Michigan College, State of Michigan, was held in the President’s Office Conference Room, Traverse City, Michigan, on August 7, 2024, at 4:00 p.m., local time.

PRESENT: _____

ABSENT: _____

RESOLUTION PROPOSING
ANNEXATION OF BENZIE COUNTY

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Trustee _____ and supported by Trustee _____.

WHEREAS, Northwestern Michigan College (the “College” or the “Community College District”) is a community college district organized under Part I, Chapter 1 of Act 331, Public Acts of Michigan, 1966, as amended (“Act 331”); and

WHEREAS, under the provisions of Part I, Chapter 1, Section 21 of Act 331, a community college district organized by a county may propose annexation of another county to the community college district that is not already included within the area of a community college district; and

WHEREAS, the College proposes annexation of Benzie County to the Community College District under the provisions of Act 331; and

WHEREAS, Section 21(2) of Act 331 provides that the college’s board of trustees shall obtain the approval of the proposed annexation from the State Superintendent of Public Instruction (the “State Approval”), and upon receipt of the State Approval, the secretary of the board of trustees shall file certified copies of the annexation resolution and the State Approval with the county clerk of the county to be annexed; and

WHEREAS, Section 21(3) of Act 331 provides that after the receipt of the annexation resolution and the State Approval, the county clerk shall place before the electors the question of annexation to the community college district and of approving the maximum tax rate existing in the community college district.

WHEREAS, if the annexation proposal is approved by the State and the voters, the College has proposed to invest approximately \$2 million per year of the additional millage revenues to establish local satellite College locations in Benzie County and offer various programming to Benzie County including employee and job training programs in conjunction with local employers and college and job skill training programs for high school students in conjunction with local school districts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The College proposes annexation of Benzie County to the Community College District under the provisions of Act 331. The Secretary of the Board of Trustees is hereby directed to file a certified copy of this Resolution with the State Superintendent of Public Instruction together with any other materials which shall be required to obtain the State Approval of the proposed annexation. The officers, administrators, agents and attorneys of the College are hereby authorized and directed to take all other actions necessary or convenient and to execute and deliver any documents and certificates as may be required to obtain the State Approval.

2. Upon receipt of State Approval of the proposed annexation, the Secretary of the Board of Trustees is hereby directed to file a certified copy of this Resolution and the State Approval with the Benzie County Clerk.

3. The College hereby requests that, after a certified copy of this Resolution and the State Approval have been filed with the Benzie County Clerk, that the Benzie County Clerk call a general election to be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, within Benzie County, for the purpose of voting on an Annexation Proposition and an Annexation Millage Proposition, which both shall be stated on the ballots and/or voting machines in substantially the forms attached hereto as Exhibit A.

4. The officers and administrators of the College are authorized to do all other acts and things as required or permitted by law to be done by the College in order to cause the propositions proposed by this Resolution to be submitted to vote of the electors of Benzie County.

[Remainder of page intentionally left blank.]

5. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this Resolution be and the same hereby are rescinded.

AYES : _____

NAYS: _____

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED

Secretary, Board of Trustees
Northwestern Michigan College

I hereby certify that the attached is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of Northwestern Michigan College, State of Michigan, at a special meeting on August 7, 2024, and that public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that minutes of the meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act 267.

Secretary, Board of Trustees
Northwestern Michigan College

EXHIBIT A

**NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE
ANNEXATION PROPOSITION**

If this proposal is approved,

- Residents of Benzie County would join the Northwestern Michigan College district.*
- Benzie County residents would pay the lower, in district tuition rate and those eligible for the Community College Guarantee or Michigan Reconnect would receive free tuition.*
- Northwestern Michigan College would provide increased access to skilled training and certifications.*
- Northwestern Michigan College would provide local educational services, programming and opportunities for Benzie County residents.*
- Northwestern Michigan College would invest approximately \$2 million each year into Benzie County for educational programs, local facilities and economic development.*
- Two Benzie County residents will be added to the Northwestern Michigan College Board of Trustees and an advisory board composed of local Benzie County residents and businesses will be created to advise the College how to invest in Benzie County.*

Shall Benzie County be annexed as a part of the community college district of Northwestern Michigan College, State of Michigan, in accordance with the provisions of Act 331, Public Acts of Michigan, 1966, as amended?

YES

NO

Under Michigan law, the annexation is only effective if both this Annexation Proposition and the Annexation Millage Proposition below are approved.

NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE

ANNEXATION MILLAGE PROPOSITION

If this proposal is approved,

- o Residents of Benzie County would join the Northwestern Michigan College district.*
- o Benzie County residents would pay the lower, in district tuition rate and those eligible for the Community College Guarantee or Michigan Reconnect would receive free tuition.*
- o Northwestern Michigan College would provide increased access to skilled training and certifications.*
- o Northwestern Michigan College would provide local educational services, programming and opportunities for Benzie County residents.*
- o Northwestern Michigan College would invest approximately \$2 million each year into Benzie County for educational programs, local facilities and economic development.*
- o All millage funds are subject to annual independent audits and all spending will be disclosed on a public website to promote transparency and fiscal responsibility.*
- o Two Benzie County residents will be added to the Northwestern Michigan College Board of Trustees and an advisory board composed of local Benzie County residents and businesses will be created to advise the College how to invest in Benzie County.*

To support College operations and education programs and skilled training programs in Benzie County, shall taxes currently authorized to be levied by Northwestern Michigan College, State of Michigan be assessed as new additional millage, in an amount not to exceed 2.033 mills (\$2.03 per \$1,000 of taxable value) beginning in 2025 and in perpetuity, on taxable property in Benzie County annexed as a part of the community college district of Northwestern Michigan College? If approved this millage would raise approximately \$3,516,409 for College operations when first levied in 2025.

YES
NO

Under Michigan law, the annexation is only effective if both this Annexation Millage Proposition and the Annexation Proposition above are approved.