



**Northwestern
Michigan
College**

Office of Timothy J. Nelson, *President*

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April 2, 2014

VIA EMAIL/ORIGINAL POSTED

Mr. Neal Ronquist, Publisher
Traverse City Record-Eagle

Mr. Mike Tyree, Executive Editor
Traverse City Record-Eagle

Re: Your correspondence dated March 26, 2014 (received in my office on
March 28, 2014)

Gentlemen:

Page two (2) of your correspondence identifies specific activities which you allege violate the Michigan Open Meetings Act.

I have requested the College's legal counsel to review these allegations and prepare a report to be reviewed by the Board of Trustees. It is my expectation that counsel will establish a process for investigation, which could lead to potential recommendations for future action. As of the date of this letter, coordinating a full meeting of the trustees seems improbable within the next two weeks. Currently, four of our trustees are out of the area. However, it is my intention to have this matter reviewed at the next meeting of the NMC Board of Trustees. Referral to legal counsel under circumstances such as these is consistent with practice and past actions during my administration at Northwestern Michigan College. I anticipate public discussion of the final report.

I do note that the allegations referenced in your correspondence relate to the Board's actions to consider videotaping, televising, or otherwise maintaining electronic records of NMC Board meetings. Based on the fact that the NMC Board of Trustees has reviewed a video policy during its last two scheduled Board meetings, NMC intends to proceed with its decision to adopt the current video policy approved at the March 24, 2014, meeting of the Board inasmuch as the policy does not appear to be impacted by allegations contained in your correspondence.

Your correspondence is being shared with all members of the Board of Trustees. As noted above, the full Board will discuss this matter at its next scheduled meeting on April 21, 2014.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. Nelson
President