

Good grades for LMC prez

By RALPH HEIBUTZKI
HP Correspondent

BENTON TOWNSHIP — Superior communications and leadership skills are just two qualities that have earned Lake Michigan College President Bob Harrison a resounding “thumbs up” on his latest job evaluation.

LMC Board Chairman David Maysick reviewed Harrison’s latest job evaluation during Tuesday’s trustees meeting.

“My personal comment is that when he became president, it was like pouring oil on troubled waters – he did a lot, both outside the college, and inside the college, to make things better, and smooth things out,” he said.

Maysick said the board evaluated Harrison during a workshop before its regular meeting. Relevant categories included communications and leadership



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skills and institutional performance, Maysick said.

Trustees made their own comments, which are compiled into an overall narrative, Maysick said. No other board mem-

ber spoke about the evaluation at Tuesday’s meeting.

“It is the opinion of this board that, in every area, Bob exceeds our expectations. He is doing, has done and continues to do a tremendous job for this college,” Maysick said.

Maysick then quickly ticked off several areas where Harrison has excelled.

“He has done a great job of communicating the college’s mission, its goals, its plans,” Maysick said. “He has done a very

good job of developing a set of goals for the board to improve, to get us into the next four or five years. He communicates very well, both inside the college, and outside the college, and especially within the board.”

Harrison has been excellent in providing leadership and direction, especially when it comes to developing the college’s presence, Maysick said after the meeting.

As an example, Maysick cited the college’s plans to build dorms at the Napier Avenue campus. The dorms are to open next year.

“That is Bob, that’s going to change this college forever, and I don’t know if we realize yet how much that’s going to change us,” Maysick said. “Students here ‘24/7’ is very different from what we’re used to. I think that shows foresight, planning, and pushing all of us to it. He’s done a great

job of representing us in the community.”

Harrison became the college’s ninth president in January 2009, replacing Randall Miller. He also served as its interim president for five months in 2005.

Harrison joined LMC in 1999 and became its dean of community and business services. In 2003, Harrison added the title of dean of occupational studies. Three years later, in 2006, the college named Harrison as executive dean of career technical programs, and its Bertrand Crossing campus.

Prior to joining LMC, Harrison worked as chief operating officer for Lakeland Regional Health System.

Maysick said that the board will decide separately on any pay increases for Harrison in August. There is no board meeting next month.