



CMI

BOARD OF REGENTS

College of the Marshall Islands

Accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges

P.O. Box 1258
Uliga Campus

Tel: (692) 625-3394/3291/4931
Fax: (692) 625-7203
Email: bor.regents@cmi.edu

Special Board of Regents Minutes - Approved July 15, 2026

Members Present

Interim Chair Thomas Kijiner Jr.	Regent Timothy Owens	Regent Julius Lucky
Regent Katt Chonggum	Student Regent Willy J. Lebeau	Regent Kino Kabua
Regent Dr. Yukiko Muller	Regent Jelton Anjain	

Member Absent/Excused

Regent Roanna Zackhras Regent Morean S. Watak

CMI employees and others in attendance:

Meitaka Kendall-Lekka, Interim President
Meria Bollong, Secretariat

The meeting was called to order @ 12:07 PM

Agenda Items

1. Opening prayer & Roll call, and call to order
2. Matters for Discussion/Approval
 - 2.1. Cabinet Paper (CP) - Stabilization Fund Request

Minutes

1. OPENING PRAYER, ROLL CALL, AND CALL TO ORDER

Interim Chair Kijiner commenced the BOR meeting and officially called the meeting to order at 12:07 PM.

Regent Owens led the opening prayer.

2. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION/APPROVAL

- 2.1. Cabinet Paper (CP) - Stabilization Fund Request.
 - 2.1.1. Interim Chair Kijiner reported that CMI is experiencing cash flow challenges due to accumulated obligations of approximately \$5.5 million. He discussed seeking one-time Government assistance while emphasizing that CMI must demonstrate its own commitment to financial recovery.
 - 2.1.2. Interim President Kendall-Lekka clarified that CMI's current revenue stream is generally sufficient to support operations; however, accumulated obligations are consuming funds that would otherwise support current programs.



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- 2.1.3. Interim Chair Kijiner noted that major outstanding obligations, including approximately \$500,000 owed to MEC, cannot be immediately paid without affecting College programs.
- 2.1.4. Regent Kabua requested clarification on CMI's contribution toward the approximately \$5.5 million in obligations and recommended that the Cabinet Paper clearly distinguish that the stabilization request includes a "cost savings plan" instead of a "recovery plan".
- 2.1.5. Interim President Kendall-Lekka reported approximately \$2.6 million under the annual cost-saving plan and agreed that the proposal should prioritize critical obligations, including MEC and Federal programs, Withholdings, while clearly identifying CMI's contribution and the amount of Government assistance required.
 - 2.1.5.1. Interim Chair Kijiner emphasized prioritizing critical obligations, limiting new activities and programs during the stabilization period.
- 2.1.6. Regent Kabua also suggested a separate memo letter from Interim President to the Cabinet to summarize and clarify in more detail stabilization fund request
- 2.1.7. Interim President Kendall-Lekka reported that stronger internal controls, approval procedures, and fund-transfer processes are being implemented to improve financial accountability and compliance.
- 2.1.8. Interim Chair Kijiner emphasized the importance of the President having timely access to current financial and bank information for proper oversight. He directed the Interim President to revise the Cabinet Paper to clearly identify CMI's actual funding needs, prioritized obligations, cost-saving measures, internal controls, and CMI's contribution toward financial recovery.
- 2.1.9. Interim President Kendall-Lekka expressed confidence that with cost savings plans and a one-off stabilization fund, CMI will move towards financial stability and emphasized the importance of continued Board support.

Meeting adjourned at 12:47 PM

Signed by:

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Scribe

Kelly Luce Sebastian,
Recording Secretary

Signed by:

677F88DBF98E447...

Reviewed & Approved by

Thomas Kijiner Jr.,
Interim Chair, Board of Regents

September 11, 2026

Date Approved