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# LMC on verge of search for new president

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**BENTON TOWNSHIP** — There are still a few blanks to fill in yet, but the search for Lake Michigan College's next president will get underway by the end of this month.

LMC's search consultant, The Pauly Group, is finalizing ad copy for the job posting that's going out nationally. That will officially kick the process off, once the presidential search committee holds its first meeting on Sept. 26, LMC Board Chairman Mary Jo Tomasini said.

"When the committee meets, there should be some resumes in the hopper," Tomasini said. "There is a website up, but it's a shell. We have to plug in the committee members, and we have to plug in the criteria (for the next president)."

Tomasini expects those details to be finalized over the next couple of weeks.

"Our consultant feels that we'll have better candidates if we wait until the school year starts, so we're following that advice," she said.

According to the current website information, the college expects to sit down with its semi-finalists by November, followed by final interviews — and a contract offer — in January 2017.

Tomasini, Vice President Michael Lindley and Secretary Debra Johnson are the three board representatives on the committee that will lead the search for a successor to President Emeritus/Acting CEO Bob Harrison.

Harrison returned to his old job after the board fired his replacement, Jen-

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nifer Spielvogel, at a May 5 public hearing. The board cited allegations of unauthorized spending and unprofessional behavior as its reasons for Spielvogel's dismissal after only a few months in the position.

Spielvogel has since sued the college for breach of contract, claiming that the board micromanaged her, and undercut her authority during her brief tenure at LMC. No court date has been set yet.

Harrison, who retired in December 2015, is earning \$5,000 per month in his current role.

The board decided at a special meeting in June to launch a national search, for which it authorized spending \$63,347.

The figure includes \$45,000 for hiring The Pauly Group, of Springfield, Ill., which specializes in community college and university searches, plus related costs, such as candidates' travel expenses.