

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SPOON RIVER COLLEGE

Wednesday, February 22, 2023, 6 p.m.
Spoon River College, Engle Conference Center, Rooms A and B
Canton Campus, Canton, Illinois

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Spoon River College was held on Wednesday, February 22, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., at Spoon River College, Engle Conference Center, Rooms A and B, Canton Campus, Canton, Illinois.

1.0 GENERAL FUNCTIONS

1.1 Call to Order

Mr. Jerry Cremer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1.2 Roll Call

Members Present:	Mrs. Linda Butler
	Mr. Jerry Cremer
	Mr. Dave Maguire
	Mr. Kevin Meade
	Mr. Phil Murphy
	Mr. Kent Schleich

Members Absent:	Mr. John Biernbaum
	Ms. Zoey Lane

Present: Dr. Curt Oldfield, President; Ms. Holly Norton, Vice President of Educational and Student Services; Ms. Missy Wilkinson, Dean, Student Services; Mr. Brad O'Brien, Dean, Career and Workforce Education; Mr. Mike Strauman, Chief Operations and Safety Officer; Ms. Andrea Thomson, Director, Human Resources; Ms. Sarah Gray, Chief Fiscal Officer; Ms. Bridget Loftus, Chemistry Faculty; Dr. Andrew Kirk, Speech Faculty; Ms. Becky Leverette, Psychology Faculty; and Ms. Julie Hampton, Executive Assistant to the President and Board of Trustees/Recorder.

Also present: Ms. Jennifer Burge.

1.3 Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Cremer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.4 Welcome of Guests

Mr. Cremer welcomed those in attendance.

1.5 Public Comment

Mr. Cremer asked if any members of the audience wished to address the Board. There were no requests or public comments.

1.6 Approval of Minutes

1.6.1 January 25, 2023 Closed Session Minutes Review Committee Minutes

Following a motion by Mrs. Butler, seconded by Mr. Maguire, and a roll call vote of unanimous approval, it was,

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approved the January 25, 2023 Closed Session Minutes Review Committee Minutes.

1.6.2 January 25, 2023 Board Retreat Minutes

Following a motion by Mr. Meade, seconded by Mr. Schleich, and a roll call vote of unanimous approval, it was,

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approved the January 25, 2023 Board Retreat Minutes.

1.6.3 January 25, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Following a motion by Mr. Maguire, seconded by Mr. Meade, and a roll call vote of unanimous approval, it was,

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approved the January 25, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

1.6.4 Pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act 120, Section 2.06, paragraph (c), the Board of Trustees, having approved the minutes of the closed meetings that meet the written meetings requirements of the Open Meetings Act and having determined that no less than 18 months has expired since the meetings were recorded, hereby approves the destruction of the recorded closed session recordings for the meetings as listed below:

May 26, 2021

Following a motion by Mrs. Butler, seconded by Mr. Murphy, and a roll call vote of unanimous approval, it was,

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approved the destruction of the recorded closed session recording for May 26, 2021.

1.6.5 Pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act 120, Section 2.06, paragraph (d) (1), having reviewed the minutes of all closed meetings of the Board of Trustees that have not been previously been made available for public inspection, the Board of Trustees has determined that the need for confidentiality still exists and are listed in attachment 1.6.5 to the agenda.

Mr. Murphy thanked Mrs. Butler and Mr. Maguire for serving on the committee.

Following a motion by Mr. Maguire, seconded by Mrs. Butler, and a roll call vote of unanimous approval, it was,

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approved that pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act 120, Section 2.06, paragraph (d) (1), having reviewed the minutes of all closed meetings of the Board of Trustees that have not been previously been made available for public inspection, the Board of Trustees has determined that the need for confidentiality still exists and are listed in attachment 1.6.5 to the agenda.

1.7 Report – ICCTA Representative

Mr. Dave Maguire presented the following report:

This month has been a fair busy one for community colleges.

Earlier this month ICCTA in conjunction with ACCT and AACC, Illinois had over 90 community college leaders attend the National Legislative Summit in Washington D.C. We had the opportunity to meeting with 15th District Congresswoman Mary Miller and 17th District Congressman Eric Sorensen. Congresswoman Miller serves on the House Committee on Agriculture and the House Committee on Education and the Workforce. Congressman Sorensen is serving on the House Agriculture Committee.

During the Summit the entire Illinois delegation had a group meeting with Senators Durbin and Duckworth. One of the items we were able to speak to was our concern about support for the community college amendment to the Farm Bill concerning capacity building grants. We received a positive response from Senator Durbin

At the Monday session, we heard first hand from Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg and Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack along with other representatives of the administration who spoke to the needs of community colleges. A few of us in the Illinois delegation met with Noah Brown who is now Senior Advisor, Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education. He was exploring with us on behalf of the Secretary of Education, a possible free tuition pilot project in Illinois. It was uncertain whether the Secretary is at a point to proceed with such a pilot project.

On February 15 the Governor Pritzker gave his State of the State and Budget Address to the General Assembly. The Governor's budget reflects a \$19.4 million (7%) increase in operating funds. Other highlights of the Governor's fiscal year 2024 budget relating to higher education include:

- \$100 million increase for MAP
- \$10 million for a new grant program to develop noncredit programs in Advanced Manufacturing and Elective Vehicle Technologies
- \$1 million for data center curriculum development
- \$3.2 million for a new community college Dual Credit Grant program
- \$5.2 million for new community college Noncredit Workforce Training Grants
- \$2.8 million increase to Minority Teachers of Illinois Scholarship to recruit and retain minority teachers
- \$2.75 million to expand English as a Second Language (ESL) and for digital instruction in adult education programs
- \$2.0 million to provide grants and supports to End Student Housing Insecurity

The next part of the budget process is in the hands of the Legislature though indications are they are someone what in agreement with the Governor's recommendations. It will be important for the college trustees to be in contact with our legislators as the budget process develops

At last count there are 3,980 house bills and 2,530 senate bills under consideration. The following are some bills of interest to community colleges:

- House Bill 1005: Requires the City Colleges of Chicago to provide nursing programs at each college o House Bill 1013: Requires all public universities and community colleges to provide childcare
- House Bill 1055: Requires free community college tuition in areas designated as R-3 under the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act
- House Bill 1133: Allows a community college district to spend down its Working Cash Fund to zero o House Bill 1264: Requires trustee subdistricts in college districts with a population above 300,000
- House Bill 1408: Allows public bodies to continue conducting meetings via audio or video conference
- House Bill 1630: Establishes a pilot bachelor of science in nursing program
- Senate Bill 93: Requires greater accountability for-profit colleges (cap on default rates)
- Senate Bill 150: Requires public universities and community colleges to adopt free-speech policies

ICCTA is drafting a letter for trustees to send to members of the Illinois General Assembly's higher education committees from their college districts.

Wednesday May 3rd will be the community college Lobby Day in Springfield. While late in the session, the major decisions will probably be under consideration at that time.

As a reminder, the deadlines for ICCTA Award nominations are fast approaching. The first-round deadline is this Friday February 24, 2023 and the second deadline is Friday March 31.

Spoon River College in conjunction with Carl Sandburg College will be hosting the West Central ICCTA Meeting at the Macomb SRC Outreach Center, Friday March 17, 2023. WIU President Haung and the WIU Provost will be the major portion of the program.

The next meeting of the ICCTA Board of Representatives and committees will be March 10-11, 2023, at the Westin Chicago Lombard Hotel in Lombard

Included with my report are a list of dates and meetings of interest.

Upcoming dates and meetings of interest:

FEBRUARY 2023

February 24	Deadline for First Round of ICCTA Award Nominations
February 24	ICCTA East Central Region meeting, Heartland College, Normal

MARCH 2023

March 9	Illinois Council of Community College Presidents joint meeting with Chief Academic Officers and Chief Student Service Officers, Westin Chicago
March 10-11	ICCTA Board of Representatives Meeting – Westin Chicago, Lombard
March 17	West Central ICCTA Meeting – Macomb SRC Outreach Center
March 24	ICCB Meeting, Illinois Valley Community College, Oglesby
March 31	Deadline for Second Round of ICCTA Award Nominations

APRIL 2023

April 1-4	AACC Annual Conference, Denver, CO
April 4	Illinois Consolidated Election (including community college trustee elections)
April 27	Phi Theta Kappa Banquet, President Abraham Lincoln Hotel, Springfield

MAY 2023

May 2	ICCTA Board of Representatives & Committee Meetings, Springfield
May 3	ICCTA Lobby Day, Springfield
May 19	Scheduled adjournment of Illinois General Assembly, Springfield

JUNE 2023

June 2	ICCB Meeting – Bloomington-Normal Marriott Hotel & Conference Center, Normal, IL
June 2-3	ICCTA Annual Convention – Bloomington-Normal Marriott Hotel & Conference Center, Normal, IL

AUGUST 2023

August 18-19	ICCTA Executive Committee Retreat - Joliet, IL
August 24-25	ICCTA Professional Administrative Assistants Conference, College of DuPage

SEPTEMBER 2023

September 8-9	ICCTA Board of Representatives and committee meetings, Springfield
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OCTOBER 2023

October 9-12

ACCT Annual Leadership Congress, Aria Resort & Casino, Las Vegas, NV

NOVEMBER 2023

November 10-11

ICCTA Board of Representatives and committee meetings, Chicago
Marriott Schaumburg Hotel, Schaumburg

Mr. Murphy said that the increase in MAP and Pell grants along with scholarships that we offer at SRC could really help with students attending at little or no cost. President Oldfield said that definitely helps our students.

1.8 Report – Student Government Representative

Ms. Zoey Lane was absent. President Oldfield read the following report:

The newly formed Gay Straight Alliance Club (GSA) held the first meeting by Interactive Video System. Advisors, Alex Kellerman and Andrea White reported that ten people were in attendance from both the Canton and Macomb Campus locations. An additional eight individuals expressed interest but were unable to attend.

Students and staff participated in the Tie-Dye Party that was held in Canton and Macomb. Attendees had a great time trying different methods of tie-dying! Photos of finished shirts will be shared soon on social media. This event was sponsored by SRC Student Retention and Human Resources.

Pizza with the Prez events were held in Canton, Macomb, and Rushville. President Oldfield served pizzas and talked to students about their SRC experiences. Havana will also host separate Pizza with the Prez events.

TRIO hosted stress management workshops. A special part of the workshop was having two OSF St. Mary therapy dogs come for a visit. Caesar and Lola were so fun to have as a part of our workshop, and their owners were very knowledgeable about the benefits of therapy dogs. We hope to invite the OSF therapy dogs back to SRC again! At the workshop, students also participated in pottery painting, a discussion on how to journal to reduce stress and identifying their stress triggers.

TRIO also hosted a budget workshop. This included a special focus on how to do a homemade and thrifty gift for their Valentine. Students learned how to keep a monthly budget and then also a grocery cost breakdown for the thrifty, homemade gift.

The Spoon River College HEAL Student Association and the Student Nursing Association are hosting a field trip for the current members of each group and also any current nursing and healthcare career students. The field trip is this Friday, February 24. The morning will be spent at Jump Simulation & Education Center at OSF Healthcare. OSF and Jump Simulation & Education Center have created a three-hour event which will include a tour and several activities within their Anatomy Lab and STEAM Classroom.

Student Trustee voting will be held online March 1st and 2nd. The candidate bio is available on the website. Missy said the candidate is currently taking classes in Canton and is excited about this opportunity.

1.9 Report – Spoon River College Foundation

Mr. Phillip Murphy presented the following report:

Financials: \$58,162.67. The Foundation has revised and updated the Scholarship Policy and the Financial authorization Procedure. Mr. Murphy reported that Colin updated the Board on

Foundation activities and recent gifts. Colin asked the Foundation Board to review the current three-year plan. At next month's meeting, the plan will be reviewed and updated. Mr. Murphy also said that Colin has asked the Foundation Board for all possible to attend the President's Reception that is scheduled for April 13. The next meeting is March 15.

1.10 Report – Board Member Comments

There were no additional comments from the Board Members.

2.0 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2.1 Communications

President Oldfield shared that this is CTE Month. Brad's group of faculty are getting national recognition for the contributions of CTE programs and the roles they play throughout the nation. It certainly is an important part of our academic offerings.

President Oldfield reported that Pizza with the Prez has been a neat experience to meet with students and hear what they have to offer. Many are wanting to major in education, and it is exciting to see that is a viable pipeline for us. He also met some of our ESL students at the Rushville Center which include French speaking individuals who are from Congo. It is very apparent that Schuyler County has become a very diverse county. It is wonderful for us to be able to provide the ESL support. We also have a 70-year-old individual from Havana, Cuba, who was an engineer by trade. He was in the Miami area before coming to Rushville. It is a nice opportunity to meet with the students and allow them to practice their conversational English.

President Oldfield shared that we received notice that in January the Governor approved funding for Mental Health Early Action on Campus grants. The Governor signed a bill to fund the grant, and we received \$71,512 that has to be spent by June 30 for processes and procedures that support student mental health on campus. We will follow the guidelines and expend those funds.

- Exploring the Factors that Influence Undergraduate Retention: What Do We Need to Know?
– Jennifer Burge presented the following report:

President Oldfield introduced Jennifer Burge and said that she has been with us as a part of her completion requirements for her doctoral degree. We are very happy that she has been with us and it has been a pleasure to support her through this process. Jennifer thanked President Oldfield and the Board of Trustees for the opportunity to complete this requirement.

Retention Defined: The continued enrollment of first-time, full-time students within the same institution from the fall semester of the student's first year to the fall semester of the student's second year (National Center for Educational Statistics, n.d.).

Background:

- 66% of first-year students return to their starting institution for a second year (National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, 2022)
- Some retention rate differences by race/ethnicity
- Focus on a midwestern private university
- Five-year average: 84.41% (J. Steffen, personal communication, February 6, 2023)
- Retention efforts are often unsystematic (Sweat et al., 2013)

Research Questions:

1. What factors influenced undergraduate students' decisions to return to the university for a second year?
2. How do the factors that influenced undergraduate students to return to the university for a second year differ by demographic group?

Research Methodology and Methods

- Survey Research
 - Quantitative and qualitative questions based on literature review
- Internal Collaboration
- Setting
 - Midwestern private university
 - Emailed anonymous Qualtrics survey
 - Self-reported demographic variables
- Population
 - Students entered Fall 2020 and returned Fall 2021
 - 113 total respondents

Factors that Influenced Decisions to Return

- Academics
 - Major courses
 - Faculty in class
 - Academic advisor
 - Desire to graduate
- Social
 - Friends
 - Other students
 - Campus organizations
 - Comfortable environment
 - Social environment
- Financial
 - Financial assistance
 - Scholarships or grants
 - Continued enrollment
 - Textbooks and materials
 - Some activities

How do the factors that influenced undergraduate students to return to the university for a second year differ by demographic group?

Characteristic	N	%
Race/Ethnicity		
Asian	5	4.5
Black or African American	4	3.6
Hispanic/Latino	10	8.9
Two or more races	1	.9
White	83	74.1
Prefer not to say	9	8.0
College or Program		
College 1	15	13.3
College 2	16	14.2
College 3	21	18.6
College 4	23	20.4
College 5	36	31.9
Undecided Program	2	1.8

	Parent Bachelor's Degree		
	Yes	69	61.6
	No	38	33.9
	Unsure	5	4.5
	Gender or Gender Identity		
	Male	37	33.0
	Female	65	58.0
	Non-binary/third gender	6	5.4
	Prefer not to say	4	3.6
	Pell Grant		
	Yes	30	26.8
	No	51	45.5
	Unsure	31	27.7
	State Grant		
	Yes	25	22.3
	No	51	45.5
	Unsure	36	32.1

		Strongly Disagree		Disagree		Agree		Strongly Agree			
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	M	SD
I believe [the] University cares about me as an individual		18	15.9	25	22.1	60	53.1	10	8.8	2.55	.87
I intend to graduate from [the] University		3	2.7	7	6.2	38	33.6	65	57.5	3.46	.73
I have the financial resources to purchase all required course materials.		14	12.4	16	14.2	64	56.6	19	16.8	2.78	.87
I have the financial resources to fully participate in University activities, such as paying organizational dues or participating in		12	10.6	19	16.8	67	59.3	13	11.5	2.73	.81

Factors by Demographic Group

- Race/Ethnicity
 - Some differences across all items
- College
 - College 1 and College 2 – had similar difficulties
- Financial Need
 - State grant institution cares
 - Purchase materials
 - Engage in activities
- Gender/Gender Identity
 - University cares
- First-generation status
 - Purchase materials
 - Engage in activities
 - Desire to graduate

Discussion

- Opportunity to reinforce internal connections within an institution (Tinto, 1993; Pascarella & Terenzini, 2005)
- Students engage with the institution (Farrell et al., 2018)
- Connections to peers, friendships, and classroom engagement key to belonging (Bronkema & Bowman, 2019; Kriby & Thomas, 2022)
- Connections and belonging important for first-generation students (Pratt et al., 2019)
- Financial stress and support are important considerations (Allan et al., 2021; Britt et al., 2017)
- Demographic breakdowns provide opportunities (McNair et al., 2020)
- Enrollment influenced by institutional commitment to students (Meyer, 2021; Savage et al., 2019)

Implications for Practice

- All members of the institution are educators (McNair et al., 2016)
- Support faculty and staff collaboration to ensure services are clearly communicated to students (Tevis & Britton, 2020)
- Workshops or professional development to support work in the classroom (Elliott, 2018; Guzzardo et al., 2021; O'Leary et al., 2020; Schademan & Thompson, 2016)
- Recognize financial limitations facing students
 - Additional loans may have a negative impact on enrollment (Herzog, 2018)

Limitations

- Single midwestern private university
- Results are not generalizable
- Small sample sizes, especially within demographics
 - Consider more targeted outreach next time
- Study timing
- A single cohort of students

Conclusion

- Consider the institutional context

- Remember that all institutional employees are educators
- Academic experiences, social experiences, financial support
- Some opportunities to better understand group experiences
- Ensure faculty and staff are supported through professional development
- Consider financial aid packages and their impact on retention

Mr. Murphy said he has always felt like the teacher/student relationships are really what makes it all happen at all levels.

Mr. Cremer asked about finances and if Jenny considered students who work part-time or away from school. She said she did not ask those questions but that is definitely something to consider. For this first round, she focused on scholarships and grants. President Oldfield said we collect that data as well. Missy Wilkinson said the number of students who work has increased dramatically. President Oldfield said our students are working more hours each week in order to meet financial needs. Missy said we ask that each semester as our students register.

Mr. Cremer thanked Jennifer for her report. President Oldfield said Jenny and Missy have also been working on our Equity Plan that is due at the end of the semester. We are thankful for Jenny's work with us over this last year.

2.2 Business and Finance Report

2.2.1 Authorize the following payments for the month of February 2023:

Payroll	\$470,919.67
Accounts Payable (excluding travel)	377,583.23
Accounts Payable Travel Expenses	8,832.17
Accounts Payable BOT Travel Expenses	240.12
Electronic Payments (Health/Life Insurance)	328,039.07
Student Refunds – Accounts Payable	-0-
Student Refunds – Nelnet (electronic)	<u>21,685.66</u>
TOTAL:	\$1,207,299.92

Following a motion by Mrs. Butler, seconded by Mr. Schleich, and a roll call vote of unanimous approval, it was,

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees authorized the following payments for the month of February 2023:

Payroll	\$470,919.67
Accounts Payable (excluding travel)	377,583.23
Accounts Payable Travel Expenses	8,832.17
Accounts Payable BOT Travel Expenses	240.12
Electronic Payments (Health/Life Insurance)	328,039.07
Student Refunds – Accounts Payable	-0-
Student Refunds – Nelnet (electronic)	<u>21,685.66</u>
TOTAL:	\$1,207,299.92

2.2.2 In-district tuition and fees effective fall 2023 semester.

President Oldfield presented this item for the Board's consideration and said this is a continuation of the discussions from the January Retreat. He said based on those discussions, the recommendation is as follows: a \$0 tuition increase; a \$10 per credit hour course fee increase; and \$10 science fee increase. Sarah Gray said that takes the science fee to \$30 which is the same as the Career and Tech fee.

Following a motion by Mr. Meade, seconded by Mr. Schleich, and a roll call vote of unanimous approval, it was,

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approved the following in-district tuition and fees: a \$0 tuition increase; a \$10 per credit hour course fee increase; and \$10 science fee increase effective fall 2023 semester.

2.2.3 Out-of-district tuition and fees effective fall 2023 semester.

President Oldfield presented this item based on the Board's discussions at the January Board Retreat. He explained that this recommendation will still have us above the 150% requirement. The recommendation is: \$0 tuition increase; a \$10 per credit hour course fee increase; and \$10 science fee increase.

Following a motion by Mrs. Butler, seconded by Mr. Maguire, and a roll call vote of unanimous approval, it was,

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approved the following out-of-district tuition and fees: a \$0 tuition increase; a \$10 per credit hour course fee increase; and \$10 science fee increase effective fall 2023 semester.

2.2.4 Out-of-state tuition and fees effective fall 2023 semester.

President Oldfield reviewed the following recommendation: and fee This covers international students as well.

Following a motion by Mr. Schleich, seconded by Mrs. Butler, and a roll call vote of unanimous approval, it was,

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approved the following out-of-state tuition and fees: a \$0 tuition increase; \$10 per credit hour course fee increase; and \$10 science fee increase effective fall 2023 semester.

2.2.5 On-line tuition and fees effective fall 2023 semester.

President Oldfield presented a \$0 tuition increase and fee increase for the Board's consideration.

Following a motion by Mr. Meade, seconded by Mrs. Butler, and a roll call vote of unanimous approval, it was,

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approved a \$0 on-line tuition and fees increase effective fall 2023 semester.

2.2.6 Dual credit tuition and fees effective fall 2023 semester.

President Oldfield presented a \$0 increase for the Board's consideration.

Following a motion by Mrs. Butler, seconded by Mr. Meade, and a roll call vote of unanimous approval, it was,

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approved a \$0 increase in dual credit tuition and fees effective fall 2023 semester.

2.2.7 Commercial Driver Training tuition and fees effective fall 2023 semester.

President Oldfield said the recommendation is as follows: \$550 increase for the four-week CDT class; a \$400 increase for the 15-week CDT class; and a \$200 increase for the refresher course. President Oldfield said most of this increase is due to the increase in diesel fuel costs and consumables.

Following a motion by Mr. Schleich, seconded by Mr. Maguire, and a roll call vote of unanimous approval, it was,

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approved the following increases in Commercial Driver Training tuition and fees effective fall 2023 semester: \$550 increase for the four-week CDT class; a \$400 increase for the 15-week CDT class; and a \$200 increase for the refresher course.

Mr. Murphy said during his time on the board this is only the second time we have had a \$0 increase in tuition. Mr. Maguire asked President Oldfield if there is any more information about the Dual Credit Grant program that the Governor mentioned in his budget address. President Oldfield said that there are no details at this point. Mr. Maguire said there are few funding opportunities to support dual credit tuition. President Oldfield said there is a national discussion about the inequities of financially able and financially unable for paying that tuition. Mr. Murphy said that dual credit is a benefit. President Oldfield said it definitely provides an academic advantage, if the student can take the classes.

2.3 Institutional Planning

- Spoon River College, Johnson Street Facility, Macomb, Discussion

President Oldfield said we have received the appraisal on the Johnson Street facility, and he is looking for direction from the Trustees regarding an RFP or a sale by sealed bids. We will need to start the process fairly soon. Mr. Murphy said he assumes there will be a minimum. President Oldfield said yes. Mrs. Butler said we can advertise the right to refuse all. She asked the timeframe. President Oldfield said we will need a decision probably by June or July at the latest. We anticipate moving out of the facility in July of 2024. Mrs. Butler asked if we choose the sealed bid method, how widely would we advertise. President Oldfield said he assumes we would pursue a large audience. She asked about online postings. President Oldfield said yes and we would want to work with commercial realtors as well. Mr. Murphy said he assumes we would have to have something to cover emergencies. President Oldfield said yes. Timing issues with the construction is a consideration as well. Mrs. Butler asked about if using a realtor, so often now, they are not exclusive. Would that be the case with this? President Oldfield said he would assume it would be a part of an MLS system. Mr. Maguire said an RFP from realtors and their percentages and successes are issues. President Oldfield said we can outline the requirements and include the experience issue. Mrs. Butler said typically you have realtors with specialties with unique properties. Mr. Maguire asked if we went with a sealed bid process you will have to still market it to get good responses. Who would handle that marketing? President Oldfield said that is the advantage to selecting a realtor and the disadvantage is the commission rate that goes with it. He asked the Board to consider this and be prepared. Mr. Maguire asked if anyone in Canton or Macomb has had experience with this type of building and this type of process. Mr. Cremer said MAEDCO could may be answer that. President Oldfield said he isn't aware of any recent contracts. Mr. Meade said you can also outline the best use of the building and not have to take the high bid if you don't like what they plan to do. President Oldfield said he cannot think of any recent public sales that mirror this or are similar. Mr. Cremer said in the Macomb area there was the former Industry school. Mrs. Butler said that was a bid process. Mr. Cremer said an advantage of a realtor is the nation-wide network. Mr. Maguire said Macomb has seen a lot of out of town money come in on investments. Mr. Meade asked about the Macomb housing market. Mr. Cremer said it depends on what you are looking for. Mr. Meade said a lot of times older buildings like this are turned into apartments. Mr. Murphy said Macomb has empty housing now, depending on the quality.

President Oldfield said we will revisit this, and he asked the Board to consider recommendations. President Oldfield said ideally, once we start construction at the MOC we can list the building and narrow down the variables of the schedule. Mr. Maguire asked if there is any revisions on the timeline for construction. President Oldfield said there have been no major changes. CDB has approved the 50% drawings, and the architects are working on the 75% drawings with the goal to be complete by the middle of March. We have a check-in meeting scheduled for next week. We will also have some discussions about budget. We are about \$2 million over budget with an escalator built in. We will have that discussion about that as well. Mr. Maguire said they are proceeding with the parking lot. President Oldfield said that money has not been awarded yet for the west side of the parking lot. Funds are there but have not been released. CDB will release the funds as a separate project from the building project. Mr. Maguire asked if it is a 60/40. President Oldfield said right now it is an 80/20 legislatively appropriated project. Mrs. Butler asked if that project can be done in conjunction with the building completion. President Oldfield said it would be done after the heavy equipment portion of the building project is complete. Mr. Murphy asked if there are inquiries on the Johnson Street facility. President Oldfield said we have had 3 different entities inquire and/or tour the facility.

3.0 ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Mr. Cremer reported that there were no additional items for the Board.

4.0 CLOSED SESSION. In accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act, Section 2 (c), the Board of Trustees will adjourn to Closed Session for the purposes of paragraph 1) the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body; 2) collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees.

Mr. Cremer said there was not a call for Closed Session.

5.0 ADJOURNMENT

Following a motion by Mr. Meade, seconded by Mrs. Butler, and unanimous approval, the Regular Meeting of the Spoon River College Board of Trustees, February 22, 2023, adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Mr. Jerry Cremer, Chair

Date

Mr. Phillip Murphy, Secretary