

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

**Wednesday, September 27, 2023, 6:00 p.m.**  
**Spoon River College, Canton Campus, Engle Conference Center, Rooms A and B**  
**23235 N. Co. 22, Canton, Illinois**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Spoon River College was held on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., at the Canton Campus, Engle Conference Center, Rooms A and B, 23235 N. Co. 22, Canton, Illinois.

**1.0 GENERAL FUNCTIONS**

**1.1 Call to Order**

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

**1.2 Roll Call**

Members Present:	John Biernbaum
	Linda Butler
	Jerry Cremer
	Dave Maguire
	Phillip Murphy
	Kent Schleich
	Savannah Smith-Coulter

Members Absent:	Kevin Meade
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Present: Dr. Curt Oldfield, President; Holly Norton, Vice President of Educational and Student Services; Missy Wilkinson, Dean, Student Services; Brad O'Brien, Dean, Career and Workforce Education; Colin Davis, Foundation Director; Andrea Thomson, Director, Human Resources; Sarah Gray, Chief Fiscal Officer; Mike Strauman, Chief Operations and Safety Officer; Raj Siddaraju, Chief Information Officer; Bridget Loftus, Chemistry Faculty; Sarah Dalpiaz, Math Faculty; Brian Dalpiaz, Math Faculty; Todd Thompson, Diesel Tech Faculty; and Julie Hampton, Executive Assistant to the President and Board of Trustees/Recorder.

**1.3 Pledge of Allegiance**

Jerry Cremer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**1.4 Welcome of Guests**

Jerry Cremer welcomed those in attendance.

**1.5 Public Comment**

Jerry 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 August 23, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Following a motion by John Biernbaum, seconded by Kent Schleich, and a roll call vote of unanimous approval, it was,

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approved the August 23, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes.

#### 1.7 Report – ICCTA Representative

Dave Maguire presented the following report:

Early this month ICCTA met in Springfield. The meeting included the trustee roundtable, a seminar on “Understanding Dual Credit,” regular committee meetings and the Board of Representatives meeting.

On Friday morning a record 43 participants attending the Trustee Roundtable and discussed two topics: how to engage the community on and off campus, and mental health services for students and staff. During the two-hour session multiple approaches by colleges on both topics were shared by the attending trustees.

Friday afternoon ICCTA hosted an educational seminar on “Understanding Dual Credit.” The presentation panel included president Dr. Clyne Namou (Joliet), Ball-Chatham School District #5 superintendent Dr. Becca Lamon, student Eleanor Stuckey (Lincoln Land), and ICCB executive director Dr. Brian Durham. The information shared gave a good perspective and the various ways dual credit is being handled in the state.

ICCTA has applied for renewed grant funding to continue workforce research and policy development regarding community college baccalaureate degrees. It is continuing to be a legislative item of discussion and the data being gathered under the grant funding has assisted in building the case for community colleges.

Jessica Nardulli, ICCTA Legislative Counsel gave a preview of the upcoming Veto Session. The session will take place **October 24-26 and November 7-9**. In addition to considering the legislation vetoed by the Governor, lawmakers will also be considering whether to renew the Invest in Kids Act Tax Credit Scholarship Program, set to expire at the end of this year. According to a press release issued by a coalition supporting the credit, over 41,000 scholarships have been offered since the inception of the program. If the General Assembly does not take action, 9,500 current recipients will lose their scholarships.

She also discussed potential state legislative initiatives, including procurement reform and community college baccalaureate degree pilot programs. These along with other items of college concern may be included in ICCTA’s 2024 Legislative Goals to be adopted at its November 11 board meeting;

During the ACCT report portion of the meeting it was noted that the U.S. Department of Labor is announcing plans to increase the salary threshold for overtime eligibility — currently \$35,568 — to \$1,059 per week, or roughly \$55,068 per year. The final rule would include a threshold based on the most recent wage data available. Depending on how long the process takes and the calculation used, that could be more than \$60,000, according to DOL. The change will affect to some degree all community colleges.

ICCTA is assisting with ACCT’s November 30-December 1 Governance Leadership Institute which will be hosted by Heartland Community College. Registration information will be available soon.

The next meeting of the Board of Representative will be November 10-11 at the Chicago Marriott Schaumburg Hotel in Schaumburg.

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

## 1.8 Report – Student Government Representative

Savannah Smith-Coulter presented the following report:

The Speech and Debate Team has several student participants working on their speeches, with topics ranging from problems with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, or NAGPRA, to biodegradable plastics made from flies. Their first two tournaments are coming next month, so wish them luck!

On September 5 and 6, SRC Theatre/STAGE held auditions and interviews to select cast and crew members for the upcoming production of Eugene Ionesco's 1963 drama *Exit the King*. Sixteen current students were selected to participate in the play, including Savannah Smith-Coulter as Stage Manager for the production. (The students selected are printed out for review at your seat.) The group met for lunch and a first read-through of the script on September 10, with rehearsals beginning September 11. If you see a member of our company, please congratulate them! Performances of *Exit the King* will run November 3-5. We look forward to seeing members of the Board in our audience. Savannah shared the poster for the play that was designed by student Elliott Dalpiaz.

Student activities for September include:

- T-shirt tie-dye party and
- Officer Candi Buhl from the Canton Police Department provided safety information and a self-defense demonstration

TRIO hosted a "Meet Me at the Game!" for the Lady Snappers Volleyball.

The Healthcare Enthusiasts and Leaders Association (HEAL) and student retention hosted a Wellness Fair last week on both the Canton and Macomb sites. HEAL purchased water and snacks for both events and then HEAL, in partnership with the healthcare career programs, put together "how to take care of you" information packets.

Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) held their first club meeting September 13<sup>th</sup> and have 23 active club members.

Canton and Macomb Student Government Associations have met and plan to elect officers soon. To begin their fall semester activities, both associations are planning October blood drives.

Students for Environmental Action (SEA) meets on Thursdays and will be working with Maintenance to acquire outdoor furniture for the area outside of the Cafeteria.

Students selected for the *Exit the King* company include:

Ella Alexander  
Owen Bohn  
Tiffany Carlin  
Tori Cooper  
Elliot Dalpiaz  
Ava Dunham  
Jace Emery  
Xander George Fields  
Celia Hale  
Grace Havens  
Rachel Hickie  
Haiden Lee  
Kayla Ray

El Roderick  
Savannah Smith-Coulter  
Stacy Smith

The Illinois State Police visited the Macomb Campus yesterday and Canton Campus today bringing awareness to the dangers of drunk/impaired driving through the use of drunk goggles and driving simulator.

#### 1.9 Report – Spoon River College Foundation

Phillip Murphy presented the following report:

- The SRC Foundation Board called a special meeting and met Wednesday, September 20 at 7:30 a.m. via Zoom with some present on campus.
- A couple of weeks ago, several staff members at SRC met to review our scholarship application and make changes for the 2024-25 application, which usually is released in October.
- Our fall appeal letter began hitting mailboxes about a week ago, and it focuses on an Adult Education student who utilizes our Student Needs Center (formerly our Campus Food/Supply Pantries) to help provide food to her and her children while she works to obtain her GED. We're now hard at work on our next appeal, which will release in mid-November to coincide with #GivingSPOONday.
- The Alumni Awards Reception and Athletic Hall of Fame Dinner will be held at 5 p.m. on November 4 at the Canton Campus. The reception will begin at 6 p.m. and will honor:
  - Distinguished Alumni Award: William ("Bill") Thomas of Atlanta, IL
  - Alumni Achievement Award: Stephanie & Wes Carithers (Astoria), Dr. Kayla Miller (Havana), Julie Reeder (Canton), Dr. Tony Roberts (Havana)
  - Outstanding Service Award: Larry Peterson (Canton)
  - Distinguished SRC Retiree Award: Bonnie Swedell (Adair)
  - Athletic Hall of Fame: Dick Brown (Elkhart, IL), DeAndre Alexander (Arcadia, LA)Please plan to attend and feel free to bring a guest. RSVP to the Foundation Office when you can for a food count.
- The next meeting of the SRC Foundation is scheduled for October 18 at 7:30 a.m. via Zoom. Side note: Colin will be attending (and presenting) at the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) Conference for Community College Advancement in Palm Springs next week but will be reachable by email or cell phone. He looks forward to bringing back several ideas to share with the Foundation and hopefully implement!

Colin Davis presented the following report:

- This meeting was held for the purposes of considering two contracts that Colin had negotiated on behalf of the Board:
  - The first was the contract for 2023-24 with Rescigno's for consulting and the production, fulfillment, and mailing of our annual campaign. The Board was joined by Stacey Mallo, Rescigno's Vice President and our lead contact, who walked through some of our accomplishments and the new contract.
  - The second was a three-year contract with GiveCampus, our online donation form host and credit card processor.
  - After several questions and some discussion, both contracts were approved unanimously, and we look forward to working with both to further the efforts of the SRC Foundation.
- From the scholarship application review meeting, the Foundation Board considered and approved a change to its Scholarship Policy which should allow a few more students each year to be eligible for scholarships.
  - Additionally, for the first time, we'll have a digital scholarship application form that is both ADA-compliant and available on the SRC website, giving students an additional option to complete their scholarship applications. The 2024-25 application will be

released around October 1, with digital and paper options both available for prospective applicants.

- Fellheimer Scholarship applications will be available later this week for Fall 2023 students who reside in McDonough County.
- West Central FS Scholarship applications have been distributed to students in the agriculture program and ag-related fields (including Diesel), with a due date of October 20. Applicants will interview for these scholarships the morning of October 27.
- We also have graduated our first two students from the Graham Health System Scholarship for the Advancement of Rural Healthcare, and we were able to add three new students to this program for this fall. Currently, we have 5 students going through the program – one MLT, three nursing, one HIM.
- Speaking of #GivingSPOONday, we've begun preparations for the annual day of giving that takes place on Giving Tuesday, which this year is November 28. In addition to the digital scholarship form, Mitch Williams from IT has been gracious enough to create a new page on the SRC website (which will launch in a few weeks), and we'll begin working on the #GivingSPOONday video very soon.
- The SRC Community Chorus has begun rehearsals each Thursday evening for its annual holiday concert, *The Wonder, Full World of Winter: An International Concert*. Concert dates are December 2 and 3, with tickets for all three performances going on pre-sale beginning tomorrow. All funds will benefit the new Susie McMillen Memorial Scholarship. If you are interested in purchasing tickets and attending, please contact Colin, as the 60+ members of the Chorus who volunteer their time and talent for our scholarship program would love to see more members of the college community in attendance.
- Special thanks goes out to the organizers of the Tom Zaborac Memorial Golf Outing (which raised over \$13,000 for the Millie & Tom Zaborac Education Scholarship and Dee Zaborac Memorial Scholarship), as well as those who donated, volunteered, or shopped at Helping Hands Resale Shoppe in Canton earlier this week. We are grateful for our partners in the community who support our mission!

Phillip Murphy also added that the Fellheimer scholarship is for McDonough County students. He also added that the Chorus has now achieved 8 scholarships from past performances and is working on the ninth.

#### 1.10 Report – Board Member Comments

Dave Maguire announced that Monday, October 23 the Macomb Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Legislative Luncheon with four legislators in attendance. If you can be available to attend, it would be good for the SRC presence. Phillip Murphy said he reviewed the legislative districts map, and it is really a challenge.

#### 1.11 Board Policy Revision

1.11.1 POLICY TYPE: GOVERNANCE PROCESS

POLICY TITLE: BOARD COMMITTEES

This policy revision incorporates detail of the Closed Session Minutes Review Committee Guidelines.

President Oldfield presented this item for the Board's consideration. He thanked Linda Butler and Dave Maguire and Julie Hampton for their work on the Guidelines. This demonstrates past practice for future reference and consistency.

Following a motion by Linda Butler, seconded by Dave Maguire, and a roll call vote of unanimous approval, it was,

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approved the Board Policy Revision:

POLICY TYPE: GOVERNANCE PROCESS

POLICY TITLE: BOARD COMMITTEES

This policy revision incorporates detail of the Closed Session Minutes Review Committee Guidelines.

## 2.0 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### 2.1 Communications

President Oldfield reported hires: Catherine Calvert, started September 18 as Student Success Coach at the Canton Campus.

Rodney Hunter was hired as the Assistant Men's Basketball Coach. He and our head men's coach have coached together in the past.

Kenny Schockency was hired as the Bowling Coach. Kenny is from Canton and is familiar with Linn Lanes, which is where we will compete. He will begin recruiting to be prepared for Fall of 2024. Phillip Murphy said Kenny has bowled eighty, 300 games.

President Oldfield reiterated the dates Colin Davis and Phillip Murphy shared about the Alumni event in November. He said it is always nice to have Trustee presence at this very nice event, and it is a great opportunity to hear the successes. He anticipates a larger crowd this year based on the popularity of the alumni. It will be a great evening.

President Oldfield reported that we have continued to work on safety planning, and we are meeting on a regular basis with the hopes to achieve active shooter table drills and move from there. Mike Strauman has taken the lead and is attending conferences and preparing to share with the teams.

### 2.2 Business and Finance Report

#### 2.2.1 Authorize the following payments for the month of September 2023:

Item	Amount
Payroll	\$500,430.79
Accounts Payable (excluding travel)	502,392.96
Accounts Payable Travel Expenses	1,038.67
Accounts Payable BOT Travel Expenses	259.38
Electronic Payments (Health/Life Insurance)	337,471.22
Student Refunds – Accounts Payable	-0-
Student Refunds – Nelnet (electronic)	<u>4,729.00</u>

**TOTAL: \$1,346,322.02**

Following a motion by John Biernbaum, seconded by Savannah Smith-Coulter, and a roll call vote of unanimous approval, it was,

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

Item	Amount
Payroll	\$500,430.79
Accounts Payable (excluding travel)	502,392.96
Accounts Payable Travel Expenses	1,038.67
Accounts Payable BOT Travel Expenses	259.38
Electronic Payments (Health/Life Insurance)	337,471.22
Student Refunds – Accounts Payable	-0-
Student Refunds – Nelnet (electronic)	<u>4,729.00</u>

**TOTAL: \$1,346,322.02**

## 2.2.2 Acceptance of the SRC Risk Management Plan

President Oldfield presented this item and recognized Sarah Gray for her work to update the plan. She also reviewed the assigned responsibilities to areas to reduce risk or recognizing risk or liability issues to be corrected. The Plan is very similar to the past plans but has been updated and reflects changes with our most recent insurance policy that the Board approved in June. Sarah said the addition of Mike Strauman and the new position was a change in the plan which also resulted in some recalculations in percentages. Linda Butler asked about a narrative to summarize the changes. Sarah said she will be happy to do that for the Board.

Following a motion by Phillip Murphy, seconded by Linda Butler, and a roll call vote of unanimous approval, it was,

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approved acceptance of the SRC Risk Management Plan.

## 2.2.3 Approve the purchase of real estate located at 2550 East Jackson Street, Macomb, Illinois, belonging to the Estate of Dorothy J. Finn, in the amount of \$386,000. College Reserve Funds will be used for this purchase.

President Oldfield presented this item for the Board's consideration. He asked the Board to consider in this motion that this purchase will come from College Reserve funds so a payback is not required, but we would like that acknowledged in the motion.

Following a motion by Dave Maguire for the purchase of real estate located at 2550 East Jackson Street, Macomb, Illinois, belonging to the Estate of Dorothy J. Finn, in the amount of \$386,000. Further, Dave Maguire noted that College Education Reserve funds will be used for this purchase and this funding will be coming from the secondary education fund reserve and will not be repaid.

John Biernbaum said he will support this but will be unsympathetic when we come over on the bid for the east end project by \$400,000 or more.

Dave Maguire said this is a unique opportunity for the College to acquire this property immediately to the east of the Outreach Center. President Oldfield said it also provides flexibility with the addition of this property. Phillip Murphy said we discussed about moving the house off of the property. President Oldfield said he has contacted Balagna Moving Company which has been on site for measurements. They are working on getting us an estimate. Jerry Cremer said it is a very marketable house wherever it sits. Dave asked for Mike Strauman to keep the two driveway globes turned on at night. Mike said he thinks those should be moved to the MOC entrance.

Mr. Schleich seconded the motion, and following a roll call vote of unanimous approval, it was,

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approved the purchase of real estate located at 2550 East Jackson Street, Macomb, Illinois, belonging to the Estate of Dorothy J. Finn, in the amount of \$386,000. College Reserve Funds will be used for this purchase, and this funding will be coming from the secondary education fund reserves and will not be repaid.

## 2.2.4 Acceptance of bid for the purchase of two semi tractor trailers for the Commercial Driver Training program pending EDA approval: two (2) 28" length, 96" width, and 12'6" overall height swing door trailers.

President Oldfield reported that we will not be able to take action because we did not receive any bids. This would have been for the 28 foot trailers which shipping companies are purchasing as quickly as they are made, so there definitely is a shortage. Brad O'Brien is working with EDA, and the challenge is if the Federal government shuts down Saturday, communication may slow, which will further delay this. We will keep the Board informed. Brad shared that one of the other issues from those that did not bid was because of our timeframe was an issue, so we will address that with EDA as well. Brad said the cost of raw materials is also a concern. Jerry Cremer said we can continue to operate the program without. President Oldfield said yes, and when the new tractors arrive, we can use the current trailers but will not be able to expand without additional trailers. Linda Butler said from our standpoint, we don't have to table this, just remove it from consideration. President Oldfield said yes. We will bring this back to the Trustees when we have more guidance from the EDA on how to move forward.

## 2.3 Institutional Planning

President Oldfield said he didn't have anything to report under Institutional Planning.

## 3.0 ADDITIONAL ITEMS

President Oldfield said there were no additional items.

- 4.0 CLOSED SESSION. In accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act, Section 2, Subsection c, 1). The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity; (5) The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired; (6) The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body; and (11) Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probably or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting.

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

## 5.0 ADJOURNMENT

Following a motion by Dave Maguire, seconded by John Biernbaum, and unanimous approval, the Regular Meeting of the Spoon River College Board of Trustees, September 27, 2023, adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

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Jerry Cremer, Chair

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Date

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Linda Butler, Secretary