

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

Wednesday, January 26, 2022
4:30 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Spoon River College was held on Wednesday, January 22, 2022, at 4:30 p.m. at the Macomb Outreach Center, Rooms B and C, 2500 East Jackson, Macomb, Illinois.

1.0 GENERAL FUNCTIONS

1.1 Call to Order

Mr. Jerry Cremer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

1.2 Roll Call

Members Present:

- Mr. John Biernbaum
- Mrs. Linda Butler
- Mr. Jerry Cremer
- Mr. Dave Maguire
- Mr. Kevin Meade
- Mr. Phillip Murphy
- Mr. Kent Schleich
- Ms. Mary Toothaker

Also present were Mr. Curt Oldfield, President; Mr. Brett Stoller, Vice President; Ms. Andrea Thomson, Director, Human Resources; Ms. Holly Norton, Dean, Transfer Education; Mr. Brad O'Brien, Dean, Career and Workforce Education; Allyson Smith, Agriculture Instructor; and Ms. Julie Hampton, Executive Assistant to the President/Recorder.

1.3 Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Cremer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.4 Welcome of Guests

Mr. Cremer welcomed the guests who were in attendance.

1.5 Public Comment

There were no requests for Public Comment.

1.6 Approval of Minutes

1.6.1 December 15, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Following a motion by Mr. Biernbaum, seconded by Ms. Toothaker, and a roll call vote of unanimous approval, it was,

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approved the December 15, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

1.7 Report – ICCTA Representative

Mr. Dave Maguire presented the following report:

ICCTA Report January 26, 2022

Since the first of the year, ICCTA has been busy responding to numerous new proposed legislation as well as planning to participate in the Community College National Legislative Summit in Washington, D.C. February 6-9.

Jessica Nardulli, ICCTA Legislative Counsel recently reported that there were several hundred Senate bills filed last week prior to the Senate's January 21 filing deadline. The House's deadline is this Friday, January 28, and it is anticipated there will be a comparable number of House bills filed. The General Assembly held a half day session early this month but remains adjourned until the call of the presiding officers in both chambers. They have been holding virtual/online committee meetings to consider legislation. This is troubling in that legislation is being passed through with little or no personal interaction or deliberation.

The ICCTA Executive Committee met online last Friday and two such pieces of legislation were discussed. House Bill HB 4436, being promoted by Chris Stone a lobbyist on behalf of SWIC, concerning a non-board member being made Secretary of the Board and changing the use a college's working cash fund. House Bill 4201, introduced by Representative Maurice West of Rockford, requires community colleges and universities to employ a Benefit Navigator with specific legislatively designated responsibilities. ICCTA took a position opposing both pieces of legislation in their current form.

The Governor, after much urging by the educational institutions, vetoed HB 2778 which would have required all educational institutions to provide additional paid time benefits in light of absences due to pandemic related issues. There appears to be a compromise reached with the education unions with the details still pending.

The House continues to convene virtual committee hearings this week, while the Senate will be out as previously scheduled. Provided that COVID cases continue on a downward trend, all lawmakers are likely to return next week for the Governor's February 2 State of the State/Budget Address.

Action at the committee level will increase in the coming weeks as more legislation is introduced and assigned to committees for consideration. Committee meetings can still be viewed online and can include testimony from the public. ICCTA is asking all members to review the ICCTA bill list. Due to the virtual committee process, it is vital that we know the colleges' positions so that legislation does not slip through unopposed.

As reported earlier, the Legislature is still on track to adjourn by April 8 with the budget being a major portion of the proposed legislative action this spring.

ICCTA will be having a Board of Representatives meeting on Monday February 7, 4:00 pm Eastern time in conjunction with the National Legislative Summit. An online attendance option will be available. This will be followed with the next Board of Representatives meeting being held March 11-12 in East Peoria.

I have also included a list of upcoming dates and meetings of interest with my report.

Upcoming dates and meetings of interest:

FEBRUARY 2022

February 2 Governor's State of the State/Budget Address, State Capitol, Springfield

February 6-9 Community College National Legislative Summit, Marriott Marquis Hotel, Washington, D.C.
February 7-8 ICCTA Board of Representatives meeting, location and day TBA
February 25 Deadline for ICCTA Awards (First Group)

MARCH 2022

March 11-12 ICCTA Board of Representatives and committee meetings, East Peoria
March 25 Deadline for ICCTA Awards (Second Group)
March 25 ICCB Meeting, Heartland Community College, Normal

APRIL 2022

April 8 Scheduled Adjournment of the Illinois General Assembly (Tentative)
April 28 Phi Theta Kappa Banquet, President Abraham Lincoln Hotel, Springfield, IL

MAY 2021

JUNE 2022

June 9-11 ICCTA Annual Convention, Awards Ceremony and Board of Representatives, Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile, Chicago, IL
June 28 Illinois Primary Elections (previously March 15)

OCTOBER 2022

October 26-29 ACCT Annual Leadership Congress, Marriott Marquis, New York, NY

FEBRUARY 2023

February 5-8 [Community College National Legislative Summit](#), Washington, D.C.

1.8 Report – Student Government Representative

Ms. Mary Toothaker presented the following report:

Congratulations to the students who were named to the academic honor lists for Fall 2021: President’s list with a grade point average of 3.6 or higher-148 full-time students and 182 part-time students. Dean’s list with a grade point average of 3.0-3.59 - 107 full-time students and 53 part-time students. To welcome students to the spring semester, free grab ‘n go snacks were available during the first week and a free lunch was offered in Canton and Macomb. Mary also reported that the Student Government has started an Instagram page.

1.9 Spoon River College Foundation

Mr. Phillip Murphy presented the following report:

- \$70,047.56 collected for the month
- The membership committee was appointed, and there are three vacancies on the Foundation Board. Please let Colin and Lori know if you have any ideas or suggestions.

1.10 Report - Board Member Comments

Mr. Maguire reported that he and President Oldfield met with John Bannon, Community Development Coordinator for the City of Macomb regarding the TIF. They will be meeting again tomorrow with the City of Macomb. The Current TIF for downtown Macomb expires, and they are looking to initialize a new TIF with a new process that would have it in place and approved by May or June and does not require legislative approval. Dave said he and President Oldfield indicated that the SRC Board has been supportive of TIF districts if it means more job and

employment to the community. President Oldfield said if it also provides increases in property values as well.

- 1.11 Regular Board Meeting Schedule. The proposed Regular Board of Trustees Meeting schedule is included in attachment 1.11. Meetings are scheduled for the fourth Wednesday at 6 p.m., except for the following: January and July Board Meeting times are scheduled for 4:30 in order to follow the scheduled Board Retreat. The November meeting date is the third Wednesday because of the Thanksgiving recess; and the December meeting date is the second Wednesday in order to accommodate the holiday schedule.

Mr. Cremer presented this item.

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 Regular Board Meeting Schedule.

2.0 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2.1 Communications

President Oldfield reported Kaley Barbknecht is the new LRC Office Assistant on the Canton Campus. This position was previously held by Natalie Orwig. Natalie is completely 100% supporting Adult Education now. Ellen Armstrong, former Business Office in Macomb is now Office Assistant in Instruction in Macomb. We are seeking a replacement for the Business Office position.

President Oldfield thanked the Trustees for their time today for the Board Retreat and felt it was a very good day. He also thanked staff for their time and efforts as well.

President Oldfield shared that he received a package from Shirley Reed, a former director of the LRC from 1973 to 1985 who donated a watercolor painting of the Spoon River. President Oldfield sent her a thank you for the donation.

2.2 Business and Finance Report

2.2.1 Authorize the following payments for the month and January 2022:

Payroll (3 pays)	\$ 786,329.89
Accounts Payable (excluding travel)	372,619.70
Accounts Payable Travel Expenses	15,790.26
Accounts Payable BOT Travel Expenses	1,704.75
Electronic Payments (Health/Life Insurance)	145,210.48
Student Refunds – Accounts Payable:	100.00
Student Refunds – Nelnet (electronic):	<u>58,428.00</u>

TOTAL: \$1,380,183.08

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 authorized the following payments for the month and January 2022:

Payroll (3 pays)	\$ 786,329.89
Accounts Payable (excluding travel)	372,619.70

Accounts Payable Travel Expenses	15,790.26
Accounts Payable BOT Travel Expenses	1,704.75
Electronic Payments (Health/Life Insurance)	145,210.48
Student Refunds – Accounts Payable:	100.00
Student Refunds – Nelnet (electronic):	<u>58,428.00</u>

TOTAL: \$1,380,183.08

- 2.2.2 Selection of First Midstate Inc. as Underwriter/Placement Agent and Chapman and Cutler LLP as bond/disclosure counsel to the Underwriter/Placement Agent with respect to the District’s General Obligation Debt Certificates.

President Oldfield presented this item and explained that this is the first step in the bond process with the selection of First Midstate and Chapman and Cutler. Mr. Biernbaum said they are both very good.

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

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approved the selection of First Midstate Inc. as Underwriter/Placement Agent and Chapman and Cutler LLP as bond/disclosure counsel to the Underwriter/Placement Agent with respect to the District’s General Obligation Debt Certificates.

- 2.2.3 Selection of First Midstate Inc. as Underwriter/Placement Agent and Chapman and Cutler LLP as bond/disclosure counsel to the Underwriter/Placement Agent with respect to the District’s General Obligation Community College Bonds.

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 selection of First Midstate Inc. as Underwriter/Placement Agent and Chapman and Cutler LLP as bond/disclosure counsel to the Underwriter/Placement Agent with respect to the District’s General Obligation Community College Bonds.

2.3 Institutional Planning

- 2.3.1 Approve the appointment of Allyson Smith to the position of Agriculture Instructor, effective January 18, 2022, at an annual salary of \$44,716. This is a full-time, tenure track faculty position, and a biographical résumé is included in attachment 2.3.1.

President Oldfield presented this item for approval. He said it is a pleasure to welcome her to the meeting.

Allyson said she is from Canton and her maiden name is Rumler. She said she graduated from high school in 2015 and while in high school was very active in FFA. From high school, she enrolled at WIU and majored in Ag Business, Animal Science, Crop Science. She spent her first two years at WIU planning to teach Ag. She worked at the WIU farm and found she liked the science side and her minor was Agronomy. During her time at WIU, she was on the Weed Science Team, a student recruiter for the School of Ag, and worked and conducted research at the University farm. After graduating from WIU, Allyson said she moved to Michigan to pursue a Master’s degree in Crop and Soil Science with a focus in Agronomy and Weed Science. For the last year, Allyson said she has been working at an Ag Experiment Station for the University of Missouri. Since accepting the Agriculture Instructor position at SRC, she has recently moved back to Canton. She said

it was always her dream to return to her hometown and teach at Spoon River College! She got married in October and has had a very busy few months. The last two weeks have been spent shadowing the Mr. Bash and Mr. Faulk. She has also been interacting with students, and there was a field trip last week to Tremont to Precision Planting. Our students want to learn more about crop and animal science, and she will work to shift the program in that direction. Crop demonstration plots will be implemented, and the goal is to have lecture on Tuesday and labs on Thursdays. As far as animal science, she doesn't think it is in our best interest to have livestock on campus. However, she views the animal science courses for us to participate with local community farmers. Her goal is to be on a one-to-one relationship with them so we can go to them to assist with sorting cattle, artificial insemination, etc. At WIU with the Intro to Animal Science course she took was very hands on and she wants SRC students to experience that as well. Mr. Meade asked her about her thoughts on the Arboretum. Allyson said she would like to bring it back up and established. She did take Forestry in college, so she has some background. Mary Toothaker said she enjoys the arboretum.

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 appointment of Allyson Smith to the position of Agriculture Instructor, effective January 18, 2022, at an annual salary of \$44,716. This is a full-time, tenure track faculty position.

3.0 ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Mr. Cremer said 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 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.

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

5.0 ADJOURNMENT

Following a motion by Mr. Maguire, seconded by Mr. Murphy, and unanimous approval, the Regular Meeting of the Spoon River College Board of Trustees, January 26, 2022 adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

Date

Mr. Jerry Cremer, Chair

Mr. Phillip Murphy, Secretary