

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

Wednesday, May 4, 2022
6:00 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Spoon River College was held on Wednesday, May 4, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at Spoon River College, Taylor Hall, Room T201, Canton Campus, 23235 N. Co. 22, Canton, Illinois.

1.0 GENERAL FUNCTIONS

1.1 Call to Order

Mr. Cremer, Chair, called the meeting to order 6:00 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

Present were Mr. Curt Oldfield, President; Mr. Brett Stoller, Vice President; Mr. Brad O'Brien, Dean, Career and Workforce Education; Ms. Missy Wilkinson, Dean, Student Services; Ms. Holly Norton, Dean, Instruction; Ms. Andrea Thomson, Director, Human Resources; Mr. Colin Davis, Director, Foundation; Ms. Andrea Barbknecht, Director, Canton Outreach Center; Ms. Sherri Rader, Director, Marketing; Mr. Michael Maher, Sociology Faculty; Mr. Douglas Okey, English Faculty; and Mrs. Julie Hampton, Executive Assistant to the President/Recorder (on campus).

Also present: Mr. David Pistorius, First Midstate; Ms. Zoey Lane; Ms. Amy Lane; Mr. Seth Lane; Margaret Toothaker.

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

Mr. Cremer asked if there was any public comment. There were no requests or public comment.

1.6 Approval of Minutes

1.6.1 March 23, 2022 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

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 approved the March 23, 2022 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

1.7 Report – Board Member Comments

Mr. Murphy said it's nice to follow the girls' softball team on their quest to advance to Nationals.

1.8 Resolution Honoring Mary Toothaker, Spoon River College Student Trustee

Mr. Cremer read the following Resolution in to the record:

**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION
STUDENT TRUSTEE MARY TOOTHAKER
2021-2022**

WHEREAS, Mary Toothaker served as Student Trustee on the Spoon River College Board of Trustees from April 2021 to April 2022; and

WHEREAS, Mary was involved throughout her term in Board and College activities, representing the interests of students while attending Board meetings and College events, serving as an effective advocate in the role of the Student Trustee; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Trustees of Illinois Community College District #534 gratefully expresses to Mary Toothaker the appreciation and gratitude of the entire District for her service on the Spoon River College Board of Trustees.

Unanimously adopted by the Spoon River College Board of Trustees this 4th day of May, 2022.

President Oldfield presented Mary with her Portrait and a plaque of appreciation. Mary thanked the Board for letting her serve as student trustee.

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

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees adopted the Resolution of Appreciation, Student Trustee Mary Toothaker, 2021-2022

1.9 Seating of New Student Trustee
Ms. Zoey Lane – 2022 - 2023

1.9.1 Administer Oath of Office

Mr. Cremer administered the Oath of Office. President Oldfield said Zoey attended the March Board Meeting, and officially by law, she was student trustee as of April 15. We welcome her to the board.

Mr. Cremer said item 2.2.2 would be considered at this point in the meeting.

2.2.2 Resolution providing for the issue of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2022A, of the District for the purpose of paying claims against the District, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax sufficient to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the purchaser thereof.

President Oldfield introduced David Pistorius and said this issue is for the completion of the Macomb East facility on East Jackson in Macomb. This is the final step in the process. David Pistorius thanked President Oldfield and said he distributed the final maturity schedule and the bonds are sold. The total issue is 8.1 million. 8 million is for the project, and the \$100,000 covers part of the interest cost on the debt certificates, and the balance helps reduce the levy to keep it as low as possible. We are still working off of the 2020 EAV for the tax rates. David said this is a 12 year schedule for payback. We had local success with a couple of local banks for this issue. David reviewed the NIC and we came in at 4.3742%, so rates are on the rise. We have gone through a process to get here, and the close date is May 25, and that is when the funds will move and transfer. This particular amount pays off the debt certificate and the debt certificate is available and will be sent to the College. The bond ordinance or resolution that is adopted tonight will be filed with the district county clerks. There is a levy section for their reference each year. Finally, we do have a five year call, which is a short call. That allows for restructure, if needed without penalty.

Mr. Murphy said if he reads this right our tax rate would be less. David said this is the December 2022 levy which has not happened yet. There will be a bump for one year and then will drop down. Most of this is back loaded. President Oldfield said when we first started this process, David gave us all of the cautionary tales and that interest rates were starting to climb the levy rate might look a little different and then correct itself. He advised us accurately from the beginning.

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 the Resolution providing for the issue of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2022A, of the District for the purpose of paying claims against the District, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax sufficient to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the purchaser thereof.

1.10 Report – ICCTA Representative

Mr. Dave Maguire presented the following report:

There was a meeting of the Illinois Community College Trustee Association (ICCTA) West Central Region hosted by Carl Sandburg College March 25 at their Galesburg Campus. Trustee Cremer, President Oldfield and I were able to attend. Part of the program included presentations by Carl Sandburg two of their unique developing programs. ICCTA Executive Director Jim Reed gave an update about the status of end of session deliberations in Springfield and other issues facing community colleges. There was considerable discussion by trustees from the colleges on several issues facing our region.

On Friday, April 29 ICCTA met in Springfield for committee meetings, educational seminar and the quarterly Board of Representatives meeting. The meeting followed the Thursday evening Annual Phi Theta Kappa Illinois Scholars Recognition Banquet and program.

The Annual Phi Theta Kappa Illinois Scholars Recognition Banquet held last Thursday is partially sponsored by ICCTA. It was great to be able to recognize in person student scholars from community colleges from around the state. Two of the three Spoon River College student scholars were able to be present to be recognized.

The Friday afternoon seminar covered Seminar Collegial Creativity: Today and Tomorrow. There were presentations by Dr. Keilin Janke, professor from the University of Illinois, Mr. Lin

Warfel, former trustee from Parkland College, and Dr. Terri Winfree, retired community college president, Prairie State College. The session focused on how colleges can embrace creative thinking in an ever changing environment. Materials from the session should be available of the ICCTA website.

During the Board of Representatives we were updated on the budget, outcomes of the Spring Legislative Session, the status of the community college baccalaureate (CCB) initiative, proposed change in the dues structure, officer nominations for next year and federal issues.

The FY 2023 State budget of \$45.6 billion has been signed by the Governor. The details can be found in the 3,448 page HB 900. The budget provides a fiscal year 2022 supplemental 5% increase for community colleges, which is also included in the fiscal year 2023 budget. The fiscal year 2023 budget includes a 5% increase in funding for Adult Education and Career & Technical Education. Funding for MAP grants increases \$122 million and expands the program to include students seeking short-term credentials and certificates, as well as increasing the maximum grant award for students. It also includes \$1.9 million for new community college capital projects and \$979 million re-appropriation of prior year capital projects. The re-appropriation includes the Spoon River College capital projects.

There is a list of bills that affect community colleges have passed both chambers and pending the Governors approval. They range from administrative leave related to COVID-19 to designating a benefits navigator to assist students. They can be found of the recent legislative report on the ICCTA website.

ACCT will be hosting an ACCT Regional Meeting (via Zoom) on May 11 at 1:00 p.m. This includes trustees from colleges throughout the Midwest region. Illinois continues to be a very active participant in working on national community college issues.

The next ICCTA Board of Representatives meeting will take place on Saturday, June 11th in conjunction with the Annual ICCTA Convention, June 10-11 at the Chicago Marriott Downtown Hotel in Chicago. The Annual meeting is when we recognize our students, faculty, alumni and community college partners for all of their efforts and accomplishments over the past year. It is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate all that the community college system does.

My report also includes a list of upcoming dates and meetings of interest. Let me know if there are any questions.

Mr. Cremer said the West Central Trustees meeting was a day well spent, and it is nice to hear what others are doing.

Upcoming dates and meetings of interest:

MAY 2021

May 11 ACCT Regional Meeting (via Zoom)

JUNE 2022

June 9-11 ICCTA Annual Convention, Awards Ceremony and Board of Representatives, Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile, Chicago, IL

June 17 ICCB Meeting, Harry L. Crisp II Community College Center, Springfield
June 28 Illinois Primary Elections (previously March 15)

AUGUST 2022

August 19 & 20 ICCTA Executive Committee Retreat, Glen Ellyn, IL

SEPTEMBER 2022

September 9-10 September 16	ICCTA Board of Representatives Meeting – Location to be determined ICCB Meeting, Richland Community College, Decatur, IL
OCTOBER 2022 October 26-29	ACCT Annual Leadership Congress, Marriott Marquis, New York, NY
NOVEMBER 2022 November 11-12	ICCTA Board of Representatives Meeting – Location to be determined
DECEMBER 2022 December 2	ICCB Meeting, Harry L. Crisp II Community College Center, Springfield
FEBRUARY 2023 February 5-8	Community College National Legislative Summit , Washington, D.C.
MARCH 2023 March 10-11	ICCTA Board of Representatives Meeting – Location to be determined

1.11 Report – Student Government Representative

Zoey Lane presented the following report:

Congratulations to the new members who were inducted into the Nu Delta Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. Currently, 116 PTK members are enrolled in coursework at SRC. Phi Theta Kappa students Emma Gilliland, Henry Mordiva, and Allison Mortland were honored as members of this year’s All-Illinois Academic Team at a banquet held in Springfield. The Macomb/Rushville PTK students spruced up the Macomb Campus front lawn.

Events happening this month for Student Government Association included... a blood drive on Canton Campus, an evening retreat of dinner and games that brought Canton and Macomb members together, and a Crunch Time Study event.

The Speech and Debate team has six new members (so far) joining the squad for the 2022-23 competitive season. Coach Dr. Andrew Kirk is hard at work helping them prepare their first set of events for what's looking to be the first in-person season (for now) in several years. Wish them luck!

TRIO concluded the spring workshop series on April 6, with our final workshop of the semester. The topic was managing anxiety. A gift card drawing was held for students that attended all three workshops in spring semester. TRIO students went to Springfield on April 29 for a campus tour of University of Illinois-Springfield and a visit to the Lincoln Museum.

The Healthcare Enthusiasts and Leaders Association (HEAL) heard from Rachel Frakes, graduate of SRC and ISU. Ms. Frakes discussed her educational journey at SRC, her goals for the future, and also shared some advice and insight with the students. Over the last month the students have been working on a community service project-purchased items and created a donation basket for the Fulton-Mason Crisis Service Center dinner auction. Our basket was a \$300 value that auctioned for \$450. The students also shared domestic violence statistics and information over social media and on campus. For the final HEAL on-campus activity of the spring semester, the students decorated the SRC Campus sidewalks with positive phrases and also put out “Encourage-mint” baggies on all 4 sites. The “Encourage-mint” baggies have some inspirational and motivational words for students, some helpful hints to prepare for finals week, and also some peppermints to use while studying and taking exams! Peppermint has been shown to have notable effects on the human brain by enhancing cognitive functions, so besides spreading some positivity with encouraging phrases, HEAL also wanted to help the students get the most out of their studying!

1.12 Report - Spoon River College Foundation

Mr. Phillip Murphy presented the following report:

- Financials: Revenues: Unavailable for this month due to illness; will report at May meeting.
- The SRC Foundation Board met Wednesday, April 20 at 7:30 a.m., remotely with a few members present in person.
- The Foundation Board appropriated funds to purchase a new Donor Wall to replace the current display in the entry foyer in Centers here on the Canton Campus. Because the display itself will be much smaller than the current display, we are internally working on options to fill the leftover space with photos and infographics that will make it a more pleasing experience for the donor and a more inspiring experience for students, employees, and prospective donors. The plan is for this to be up and ready by the President's Reception, which is the evening of Thursday, June 30 this year, and I'd ask you to mark your calendars and plan to attend if possible.
- Discussion was held on potential updates to the Foundation's By-Laws and Policies & Procedures, which will be evaluated by the Executive Committee and voted upon by the full Board at our May meeting, when we also vote upon the new members and Executive Committee, approve the unrestricted budget, review the year's accomplishments, and so on.
- The sign at the SRC Havana Center is up and functional, and we appreciate the team effort from the SRC Facilities and Marketing teams and The Great Display Company on bringing Trustee Butler's idea to life. We encourage you to take a look the next time you are in the area.
- The Spring 2022 appeal, highlighting the food/supply pantries at our facilities and the food insecurity problems that many SRC students face, dropped about 3 weeks ago and some gifts have been coming in since. We'll have a more substantive update probably at the June meeting to give it enough time for a proper analysis.
- Additionally, we are currently working on appeals to prospective teams and sponsors for the 2022 Golf Outing, to be held on Friday, July 29 at Wee-Ma-Tuk. More updates to come, and we hope to get those letters out this week.
- The Barry Cloyd concert being presented by the SRC Community Chorus had to be pushed back from this Sunday until later in the year, and will now be held on Sunday October 23. The next production of the SRC Community Chorus will be the summer production of *Into the Woods*, for which rehearsals are now being held several days per week. Tickets will go on sale to the public on May 15 for productions June 23-26. All ticket sales support scholarships at SRC, and it includes a cast/crew of ~50 people, including students, alumni, staff, and members of the community.
- The Foundation has been or will be represented at all district high schools' senior awards assemblies, honoring those students who were awarded scholarships for the 2022-23 academic year. Highlights from this year's scholarship awarding include:
 - 142 scholarships awarded, more than ever before
 - Average award amount higher than ever
 - Minimum award amount higher than ever
 - Every student who applied and met the minimum qualifications for scholarships received at least one award.
- Additionally, though not part of the above awards, we now have five students who have been awarded the Graham Health System Scholarship for the Advancement of Rural Healthcare. This includes students in the nursing, HIM, CIS, and MLT programs – a great turnout for year one of this scholarship opportunity given that it is limited to \$50,000 in total awards per year. We look forward to this program continuing to grow and evolve.

- The next meeting – the Annual Meeting – of the SRC Foundation is scheduled for 7:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 18, via video conference.

2.0 PRESIDENT’S REPORT

2.1 Communications

President Oldfield commented on Sherri Rader’s attendance tonight, and he said she and Sally Shields produced The Bridge. Julie Hampton assisted with editing. One feature article is on Michael Maher. Mr. Murphy said he had received compliments on the issue as well. It’s nice to have this printed again. President Oldfield said Havana Printing did the printing for us again this year. He wanted to acknowledge Sherri and Sally.

President Oldfield reminded everyone that Commencement is Thursday, May 12 at 6 p.m. in the Multipurpose Building. He asked participating Trustees to arrive by 5:15. Caps and gowns will be in the weight room for Trustees. It will be a shorter ceremony, and we will not have a keynote speaker. There are some changes from our traditional ceremony, but we expect it to be very nice this year as well. Nursing pinning will be included in the ceremony as well. Brad O’Brien said the students are excited about the pinning ceremony this year.

President Oldfield said tomorrow evening is the employee recognition dinner where we will recognize employees for years of service as well as retirees who are choosing to be recognized. It will be held in the Snapper Café. On Friday, thank you to Holly Norton, we are hosting a Transfer Symposium that is offered by the University of Illinois, and Holly is working with them to coordinate the day. We will have high school guidance counselors in attendance from Lewistown High School and Spoon River Valley High School, and representatives from the following institutions: Carl Sandburg College, Illinois Central College, Illinois State University, Lincoln Land Community College, Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, University of Illinois-Chicago, University of Illinois-Springfield, University of Illinois System, University of Missouri, Western Illinois University, and of course, Spoon River College. The idea is to build bridges for transfer pathways so we can assist students with transfers from community colleges to universities.

2.2 Business and Finance Report

2.2.1 Authorize the following payments for the month of April 2022:

Payroll	\$ 973,888.91
Accounts Payable (excluding Travel)	266,465.22
Accounts Payable Travel Expenses	9,507.39
Accounts Payable BOT Travel Expenses	191.71
Electronic Payments (Health/Life Insurance)	137,736.19
Student Refunds – Accounts Payable	1,244.40
Student Refunds – Nelnet (electronic)	<u>67,003.80</u>
TOTAL:	\$1,456,037.62

Following a motion by Mr. Murphy, 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 April 2022:

Payroll	\$ 973,888.91
Accounts Payable (excluding Travel)	266,465.22
Accounts Payable Travel Expenses	9,507.39

Accounts Payable BOT Travel Expenses	191.71
Electronic Payments (Health/Life Insurance)	137,736.19
Student Refunds – Accounts Payable	1,244.40
Student Refunds – Nelnet (electronic)	<u>67,003.80</u>

TOTAL: \$1,456,037.62

2.2.3 Bargaining Unit Labor Contract between Spoon River College Faculty Association and the Spoon River College Board of Trustees.

President Oldfield presented this item and thanked Todd Thompson, Bridget Loftus, and Sarah Dalpiaz who were the faculty bargaining unit representatives and Andrea Thomson who helped represent the Board of Trustees. We used Interest Based Bargaining again, and met three times and arrived at a tentative agreement that was ratified by the Faculty for a 2.5% increase for FY2023. President Oldfield said this was a reopener for salaries only.

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

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approved the Bargaining Unit Labor Contract between Spoon River College Faculty Association and the Spoon River College Board of Trustees.

2.3 Institutional Planning

- Canton Outreach Update – Brad O’Brien and Andrea Barbknecht

President Oldfield introduced Andrea Barbknecht who presented the following report:

Andrea thanked President Oldfield, the Trustees, and Brad O’Brien for allowing her to report tonight.

- Partnered with the Guided Heritage Center Tours – 1 session for Cuba High School students. You can go to the museum on weekends for free, but our classes provided guided tours from community members. We were excited for their participation, and then we had an entire class from Cuba High School attend.
- City Management Certificate – Planned for City of Canton - 20 attendees - and ended up with 33 attendees from 8 municipalities. This has been very successful.
- Michael Maher’s Athletics, Activism & American Sports – had 8 student athletes attend as well as community members.
- Online Microsoft – added Excel, Level 2 and had 3 enrolled the first day we marketed it – also 1 in Intro to Excel and 1 in Outlook
- Virtual Job Fair on Friday in conjunction with Illinois WorkNet. This will be a virtual job fair this year. 10 to noon Friday.
- Contract Training – Nature’s Grace HR Training, working on CPR/First Aid training
- IH Fire presentation at the Central Illinois Fire Investigators Association conference in Peoria – Kevin Stephenson, Mike Elam, Jack Pollitt, Jim Campbell and Andrea Barbknecht. It was an honor to be asked to present.
- Continue to provide training for the Youth Leadership Academy – College Prep & campus tours for sophomores, Mock Interviews for juniors. We partnered with several local businesses for this event.
- Facility rentals and larger programs can begin SOON!
- Summer Youth Plans Underway – Kids & Adults
- Plans for full underway – Communications series, Lifelong Learning Conference, Community Leadership Academy

Andrea thanked the Trustees for the opportunity to present her report.

- Employee Satisfaction Survey Results – Andrea Thomson

President Oldfield welcomed Andrea Thomson, Human Resources Director, who review the Employee Satisfaction Survey. Andrea said the survey was available in January with a month for employees to respond. Andrea provided an overview that reflected a five year trend. She said we feel that some declines were due to COVID, and we are beginning to recover from that. We had 102 people participate in the survey, which is about the average for each year. Andrea said the *Policies and guidelines are easy to follow* statement saw a decline, and she attributes that to COVID testing on campus. Andrea reviewed areas with declines and improvements. Brett commented that *the College makes good decisions and solves problems well* question/responses was due to COVID. Mrs. Butler said there are areas that don't follow, so she is glad to hear that. Andrea said communication improved in both areas surveyed. Andrea reviewed the Leadership section and said improvements were reflected. Andrea said nothing really stood out to her other than pandemic related comments. Phil said 2019 was the COVID year with all of the high marks. President Oldfield said that was the year before. COVID was 2020. Andrea said we didn't feel the impact of COVID until March of 2020. Andrea said 2019 was really our best year, and then the pandemic threw off 2020 but we are gaining some of that ground back.

Andrea said *compensation and benefits* saw declines in both areas surveyed. Facilities saw some good changes here. Corporate Clean made a lot of efforts to be on campus and survey staff for input for improvement following last year's survey. The overall positive responses are up this year over last year.

Mr. Biernbaum said in the three years he has been on the board he is surprised how high the numbers are for the survey. Andrea said we are happy with the results but know there is always room to improve. Mr. Cremer said some of the areas that were down were the comments pandemic related. Andrea said yes as well as comments about the salary increase last year. *Recommending employment to a friend* was also lower. President Oldfield reminded the Board that cost of living was on the rise, too, and we were not aware of that at the time of the salary increases, and some of that was reflected in the comments. Jerry said human nature will tell that most people don't feel they are being paid what they should be. President Oldfield thanked Andrea for her leadership on the survey and her work with Lucas Buchan to pull those results together. President's Cabinet reviews the survey regularly as well to make changes and improvements.

3.0 ADDITIONAL ITEMS

There were no additional items for the Board's consideration.

- 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 Mrs. Butler, seconded by Mr. Biernbaum, and unanimous approval, the Regular Meeting of the Spoon River College Board of Trustees, May 4, 2022, adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Mr. Jerry Cremer, Chair

Date

Mr. Phillip Murphy, Secretary