

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

Wednesday, June 26, 2024, 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, June 26, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., at the Engle Conference Center, Rooms A and B, Canton Campus, Canton, Illinois.

1.0 GENERAL FUNCTIONS

1.1 Call to Order

Kevin Meade, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1.2 Roll Call

Members Present:

John Biernbaum
Linda Butler
Jerry Cremer (by phone and non-voting)
Dave Maguire
Kevin Meade
Phil Murphy
Kent Schleich

Members Absent:

Esmeralda Uribe

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; Andrea Thomson, Director, Human Resources; Sarah Gray, Chief Fiscal Officer; Dusty Berg, Director, Foundation; Becky Leverette, Psychology Faculty; Dr. Andrew Kirk, Speech Faculty; Brian Dalpiaz, Mathematics Faculty; Kaley Barbknecht, Coordinator, Academic Services; and Julie Hampton, Executive Assistant to the President and Board of Trustees/Recorder.

Also Present: Michelle Spiva, Spoon River Partnership for Economic Development; Michael Hainline.

1.3 Pledge of Allegiance

Kevin Meade led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.4 Welcome of Guests

Kevin Meade welcomed those in attendance.

1.5 Public Comment

Kevin Meade asked if any members of the audience wished to address the Board.

Clean Energy Jobs Act Grant. President Oldfield said he has invited public comment for the CEJA Grant that the College is scheduled to receive. As a part of the grant process, CEJA

requests input from stakeholders who are eligible for comment. The grant is due July 30 to DCEO, and fall funding would be expected. The floor is open for comment. Phillip Murphy asked what we lost by not having the funds. President Oldfield said we would have lost about \$100,000 in property tax each year. This is the first year we will see a reduction in EAV. Phillip asked if there is anything specific that the money was used for. President Oldfield said the power plants (Havana and Duck Creek) were the largest property tax contributors. Sarah Gray said we will see those reductions across all of our funds with the reduction in EAV funds. Phillip asked what fund was impacted the most. President Oldfield said the Ed Fund because it is the largest single levy fund. It is the fund that funds the majority of college operations. President Oldfield said the rules within the grant are to utilize for certain categories, and workforce is one as well as capital projects. Our HVAC program and Robotics program could be started and expanded with those funds. It will not allow us to put the funds in the general fund. We have to have projects identified. Kevin Meade asked for further comment. There were no additional comments.

1.6 Approval of Minutes

1.6.1 May 22, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

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

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approved the May 22, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes.

1.7 Report – ICCTA Representative

Mr. Dave Maguire presented the following report:

On June 7th at the Annual ICCTA Awards recognition program in Lombard, President Oldfield and I had the pleasure of hosting Brian Dalpiaz our Spoon River College Mathematics Faculty member who was recognized by ICCTA as an Outstanding Full-Time Faculty member. It is nice to be able to recognize our outstanding faculty on a state wide basis.

During the weekend conference the Illinois Community College Board held its regular meeting as well as the meeting of the Illinois Community College Presidents Council. ICCTA hosted a trustee training session covering an update on current transfer initiatives between community colleges and the four year institutions. The session also covered the current status and research on the Illinois community college baccalaureate program project. During the business meeting, the new officers for the 2024-2025 year were elected. Bishop Wayne Dunning, long time trustee from Richland Community College will be serving as president of ICCTA this next year.

Jim Reed, ICCTA Executive Director provided a report on this past year's efforts including legislative advocacy, trustee training, public relations, consultation, local board input and information and research services. We also received a report from ICCTA Legislative Counsel Jessica Nardulli on the concluding session of the Illinois General Assembly. She reported that ultimately, the budget proved to be the most contentious item this year. Despite holding 78 seats in the House, it took Democrats three tries to reach the 60 votes needed to approve more than \$1.1 billion in revenue increases, including a tax hike on sportsbooks and businesses, to balance the \$53.1 billion spending plan for fiscal year 2025. The spending plan passed the House 65-45 and the Senate 38-21. I would defer to President Oldfield to explain how the FY25 budget leveled-off funding for community colleges affects Spoon River College.

In all, the General Assembly passed 466 measures to the Governor for his consideration. The legislature has 30 days to present a bill to the Governor, and the Governor has 60 days after receiving the bill to sign, veto, or issue an amendatory veto. ICCTA is currently assessing the

effects of how any of these items will directly affect the colleges. Lawmakers will not return to Springfield until the Fall Veto Session scheduled for November 12-14 and November 19-21.

Fritz Larson, the West Central Regional Chairman has announced that the ICCTA West Central Region meeting will be Tuesday, September 24, 2024 at Black Hawk College, Quad Cities campus.

The next meeting of the Board of Representative will be September 13-14, 2024 at the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel in Springfield, Illinois.

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

Let me know if there are questions.

President Oldfield commented that even though the Governor has reported a 2% increase in funding, it will actually be \$50,000 less. That loss is mostly attributed to the loss of the equalization grant. It will be a trying year. We also heard from one of the chief budgeteers, Jehan Gordon Booth, a couple of weeks ago, and she made mention that FY26 will be even worse from funding standpoint. We have a year to prepare for the fiscal slow down and plan accordingly. This will be a retreat topic for the Trustees.

1.8 Report – Student Government Representative

Student Trustee Esmeralda Uribe was absent, and a Student Government Report was not given.

1.9 Report – Spoon River College Foundation

Dusty Berg presented the following report:

Dusty reported revenue since May 16: \$83,341.94. He explained that ongoing projects include a final approval on Spring appeals. Golf Outing fliers have been distributed, and we are receiving sponsorships and registrations. He also recorded an interview for the Canton radio station. The Membership Committee will meet, and the next Foundation Board Meeting is next month. We also have a possible candidate for a Board vacancy, which will be voted on at the July 17 Foundation Meeting. The Golf Outing is scheduled for August 9. President Oldfield asked what time golfers should arrive. Dusty said lunch is at 11 with tee off at 12 noon.

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 reported the following recent hires: Brandy Chasteen is the new Registrar, effective April 15, 2024. Janet Munson, who previously held this position, retired at the end of May. Brandy was a previous advisor for us as well as a TRIO advisor. Miah Zarello has been hired for the TRIO Retention Advisor in Macomb, effective May 27, 2024. This position was previously held by Johna Lawens. Sarah Fouts has been hired for the TRIO Retention Advisor in Canton, effective May 27, 2024. This position was previously held by Brandy Chasteen. Sarah was previously in an advisor position in Student Services.

President Oldfield shared that there is work going on at the Canton Campus parking lot with some islands being removed to improve access for snow removal during the winter. End islands will stay but will be filled with rock so they don't have to be mowed. Those islands used to contain trees and were removed for various reasons.

In Macomb, the MOC parking lot surface was completed. That partial repavement took place the last couple of weeks, so that will wrap up soon, and we are happy with that outcome. That project was funded with a grant from Representative Norine Hammond with DCEO funds Phillip Murphy asked about what is left. President Oldfield said 30 X 100 was completed and there is still a lot to be done. To completely redo the parking lot would cost in excess of \$4 million. CDB has asked us for deferred maintenance projects, and we have identified 3 needs. The high price option of those 3 is the complete redo of that parking lot. The middle option is tuckpointing and roofing work at the Canton Campus, and the third is curb work that needs to be done on Taylor Hall roof. President Oldfield said he, Mike Strauman, and Sarah Gray worked to identify those 3 deferred maintenance projects. Dave Maguire asked if striping is included as a part of the parking lot work in Canton. President Oldfield said we plan to stripe it ourselves.

President Oldfield shared the Macomb Campus progress and said some demolition has begun with the removal of water sprinklers. Fencing will go up, and construction will begin July 8. President Oldfield said he visited with the CDB PR person who will work with the Governor’s office regarding a visit, and it will be coordinated with the Governor’s visit with WIU as well. We will keep the Board informed of what date works best for the Governor, and we expect that to be some time in July because of the Governor’s August schedule. A “wall breaking” ceremony will be scheduled. Dave Maguire said the progress is exciting. President Oldfield said the first change order came from Quick Electric to pay an expedited fee for switch gears because of long delays with production. The change fee will get the equipment here before April 2025. John Biernbaum asked for the cost of the change fee. President Oldfield said \$53,000. Dave said early build fees and expedition fees are becoming more common. President Oldfield said this was in the best interest of the project timeline. Kent Schleich asked if the TRIO position is in Macomb. President Oldfield said yes and with staff at both campuses. Kent asked if the government program is a pass through on salary. President Oldfield said we have the budget and the money comes from the grant. Missy Wilkinson said 75% comes from the grant for salary and 25% comes from the College because the TRIO positions are also responsible for student activities. Kent asked if student activities includes Student Government. President Oldfield said no. Missy said they do a lot of retention initiatives and collaborate with some of the clubs and organizations but is kept separate. Kevin Meade commented that Graham Hospital had a project in Galesburg and waited over a year for an electrical component. President Oldfield said the funds for that comes out of the contingency we have for the project.

2.2 Business and Finance Report

2.2.1 Authorize the following payments for the month of June, 2024:

Item	Amount
Payroll	\$911,762.09
Accounts Payable (excluding travel)	602,172.84
Accounts Payable Travel Expenses	18,851.72
Accounts Payable BOT Travel Expenses	448.48
Electronic Payments (Health/Life Insurance)	-0-
Student Refunds – Accounts Payable	187,090.75
Student Refunds – Nelnet (electronic)	<u>23,115.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$1,743,440.88

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

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees authorized the following payments for the month of June, 2024:

Item	Amount
Payroll	\$911,762.09
Accounts Payable (excluding travel)	602,172.84
Accounts Payable Travel Expenses	18,851.72
Accounts Payable BOT Travel Expenses	448.48
Electronic Payments (Health/Life Insurance)	-0-
Student Refunds – Accounts Payable	187,090.75
Student Refunds – Nelnet (electronic)	<u>23,115.00</u>

TOTAL: \$1,743,440.88

- 2.2.2 Approve a standing purchase order for the purchase of lifecycle computer equipment (PC, monitors, printers) for FY25. The total for the purchase order will not exceed \$150,000. Funds for this standing purchase order are available from the FY25 lifecycle funds. Purchases will follow all SRC purchasing policy requirements.

President Oldfield said this is from funds for the last year of the Tech Bond and is to upgrade hardware. Phillip asked if we are getting more for our money, and if costs are going down. Raj Siddaraju said it hasn't had a big increase. In fact, prices are back since COVID. Linda Butler asked about a new Technology Bond or other bonding funds. President Oldfield said the Board will need to consider a new Bond agent, and he and Sarah Gray plan to bring an RFP with proposals to the Board this fall. The Board will need to consider a Bond renewal for the Tech Bond and also for Jenzabar 1 which the Board signed the contract for the upgrade. Those funds will need to be available by July of 2025. Linda asked who tends to do that bond work in our area. President Oldfield said Sarah has been investigating that. Sarah said TMA is common in this area with an office in Springfield, and she spoke with them at the CFO Conference. Stifel is another option for us in this area. President Oldfield said we would do the RFP and bring the recommendations to the Board. Dave asked if this falls under BEP. Sarah said it does not. These are specialized services and are excluded.

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

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approved a standing purchase order for the purchase of lifecycle computer equipment (PC, monitors, printers) for FY25. The total for the purchase order will not exceed \$150,000. Funds for this standing purchase order are available from the FY25 lifecycle funds. Purchases will follow all SRC purchasing policy requirements.

- 2.2.3 Approve a contract with Unland Insurance & Benefits, Pekin, Illinois, in the amount of \$170,361 for property, auto, general liability, cyber, school board legal liability, crime, excess crime, treasurer's bond, and professional student medical malpractice insurance effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

Kevin Meade said the amount has been updated since the agenda was published. The correct amount is \$171,411. Phillip Murphy asked about the increase. President Oldfield said it is because of the new property in Macomb and additional side by sides. The initial amount provided by Unland did not have the updated Treasurer's Bond amount. The correct cost is \$171,411. All of our insurance increased by 9%. Kent Schleich asked how many ATVs we have. President Oldfield said there are 3 at the Canton Campus.

Dave Maguire made a motion to approve a contract with Unland Insurance & Benefits, Pekin, Illinois, in the amount of \$171,411 for property, auto, general liability, cyber, school board legal liability, crime, excess crime, treasurer's bond, and professional student medical malpractice insurance effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025;

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

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approved a contract with Unland Insurance & Benefits, Pekin, Illinois, in the amount of \$171,411 for property, auto, general liability, cyber, school board legal liability, crime, excess crime, treasurer's bond, and professional student medical malpractice insurance effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

- 2.2.4 Approve a contract with Accident Fund, agent Unland Insurance & Benefits, Pekin, Illinois, in the amount of \$27,946 for Worker's Compensation insurance effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

President Oldfield presented this item and recommended approval.

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

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approved a contract with Accident Fund, agent Unland Insurance & Benefits, Pekin, Illinois, in the amount of \$27,946 for Worker's Compensation insurance effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

2.3 Institutional Planning

- 2.3.1 Salary increases for Professional Support (2024-2025)

President Oldfield presented this item for the Board's consideration and recommended a 4% salary increase for Professional Support (2024-2025).

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

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approved 4% salary increases for Professional Support (2024-2025).

- 2.3.2 Salary increases for Administrators (2024-2025)

President Oldfield presented this item for the Board's consideration and recommended a 4% salary increase for Administrators (2024-2025).

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 4% salary increases for Administrators (2024-2025)

- 2.3.3 Employment Contract, President

- FY25 Salary not to Exceed \$198,400
- Establish FY25 Goals
- Add one year to the end date of the employment contract

Kevin Meade said this is an item eligible item Closed Session if anyone would prefer. Linda Butler said the contract was reviewed by the College's labor law employment attorney. The terms were also address as the Board discussed last month. The terms are a salary increase as well as a stipend that President Oldfield has received for many years for a vehicle allowance which is now changed to salary. It is not an increase just a change

in how it is treated and allows him a greater opportunity to participate in retirement funding for his own benefit. The contract is rolled for one more year to a 3 year contract.

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

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approved the Employment Contract, President

- FY25 Salary not to Exceed \$198,400
- Establish FY25 Goals
- Add one year to the end date of the employment contract

3.0 ADDITIONAL ITEMS

July Board of Trustees Retreat – Wednesday, July 24, 2024, Macomb Outreach Center – Kevin Meade reminded the Trustees of the upcoming Retreat. President Oldfield said we are still seeking agenda items. The format will be changed some this time and include more of the Strategic Planning and be future focused. The FY25 budget will be presented and reviewed during the Retreat. The budget is on display and will be presented for adoption at the July Board meeting. Raj Siddaraju will also provide a Jenzabar 1 update at the Retreat as well as the Network Security Audit report. The rest of the day will be future focused based on the themes that emerged from his goal development from his evaluation process. If you have topics along those future focused lines, please present those for conversations and considerations and research. We will have subpoints under each of the goals for consideration and discussion. Dave Maguire asked about discussion on labor counsel. President Oldfield said the memo was posted in SharePoint regarding the labor counsel, and that will be presented at the July Board Meeting for consideration. President Oldfield thanked Sarah Gray for the work on Robbins Schwartz.

Linda Butler said prior to the start of the Retreat, at 9:30 a.m. there will be a Closed Session Minutes Committee Review Committee Meeting.

Michael Hainline came forward and addressed the Board and said he is a graduate of SRC as well as his stepdaughter. He was in Washington, DC earlier this month, and there is a big movement to train truck drivers. There are efforts to fast track veterans in to those positions. This is a big effort, and Michael said he attended here in 2016, and he has sent information to the Trustees for review. He had issues when he was in the truck driving program at SRC and asked the Trustees to please not write me off and consider what he is saying. Chuck Edwards from North Carolina has started this initiative for truck driving. He has shared some ideas and research with the Trustees. It is a good opportunity for a lot of people who don't want a four year degree.

4.0 CLOSURE. 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; 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.

Kevin Meade said there was not a call for Closed Session.

5.0 ADJOURNMENT

Following a motion by John Biernbaum, seconded by Linda Butler, and unanimous approval, the Regular Meeting of the Spoon River College Board of Trustees, June 26, 2024, adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Jerry Cremer, Chair

Date

Linda Butler, Secretary