

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

Wednesday, July 24, 2024, 4:30 p.m.
Spoon River College, Macomb Outreach Center, Rooms B and C
2500 East Jackson, Macomb, Illinois

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Spoon River College was held on Wednesday, July 24, 2024 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

Jerry Cremer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

1.2 Roll Call

Members Present:	John Biernbaum Linda Butler Jerry Cremer Dave Maguire Kevin Meade Phil Murphy Kent Schleich
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Members Absent:	Esmeralda Uribe
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Present: Dr. Curt Oldfield, President; Holly Norton, Vice President of Educational and Student Services; Andrea Thomson, Director, Human Resources; Mike Strauman, Chief Operations and Safety Officer; Raj Siddaraju, Chief Information Officer; Sarah Gray, Chief Fiscal Officer; Dusty Berg, Director, Foundation; Brian Dalpiaz, Mathematics Faculty; Elaine Lucas, Health Science Faculty; Michael Maher, Sociology Faculty; Kaley Barbknecht, Coordinator, Academic Services; and Julie Hampton, Executive Assistant to the President and Board of Trustees/Recorder.

Also present: Rich Eggers, WIUM

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 March 27, 2024 Closed Session Meeting Minutes

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 the March 27, 2024 Closed Session Meeting Minutes

1.6.2 April 24, 2024 Closed Session Meeting Minutes

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 the April 24, 2024 Closed Session Meeting Minutes

1.6.3 May 22, 2024 Closed Session Meeting Minutes

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 the May 22, 2024 Closed Session Meeting Minutes

1.6.4 June 26, 2024 Regular Board 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 June 26, 2024 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

(Attachment 1.6.4)

1.7 Report – ICCTA Representative

Dave Maguire presented the following report:

July 1st began the start of the new ICCTA fiscal year. As I had mentioned earlier, Bishop Wayne Dunning, long time trustee from Richland Community College is the new ICCTA President.

The ICCTA Executive Committee will be holding its annual planning session August 9th & 10th at Richland Community College in Decatur. President Dunning will be sharing his plans for the coming year. A major agenda item will be addressing changes to the ICCTA Strategic Plan. I have once again been asked to serve on the Executive Committee this next year.

Last week, ICCTA Legislative Counsel, Jessica Nardulli sent out an updated Legislative Report. She reported that both chambers of the 103rd Illinois General Assembly have adjourned and will not return to the State Capitol until the Fall Veto Session, which is scheduled for November 12-14 and November 19-21. The 104th General Assembly is scheduled to be inaugurated on January 8, 2025. Included with her report is a July 24, 2024 summary of all legislation this year that affects higher education and those that are specific to community colleges. The report can be accessed through the ICCTA website.

Fritz Larson, the West Central Regional Chairman, is planning the next meeting of the ICCTA West Central Region for Tuesday, September 24, 2024 at Black Hawk College, Quad Cities Campus. The meeting will include the five colleges that compose our region.

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.

1.8 Report – Student Government Representative

Student Trustee, Esmeralda Uribe was absent. No report was provided.

1.9 Report – Spoon River College Foundation

Dusty Berg presented the following report:

Dusty reported we are hiring Penny Hunt for the part-time Foundation Office Assistant. She will begin in early August and will be assisting the Foundation with office work. She has a good understanding of the functions of the Foundation. We are also sponsoring the McDonough County CEO breakfast this fall. We have 13 teams signed up for the August 9 golf outing. Dusty said he will be promoting the event on the radio next week, and there is still time to sign up. We are also transitioning the new Foundation Board officers. They also voted to fill the vacancy on the Board with Melissa Wherley. Phillip Murphy asked where the new hire will be located. Dusty said she will be in Macomb.

1.10 Report – Board Member Comments

John Biernbaum thanked the folks who prepared reports today for the Retreat. He feels the College is well positioned and thanked everyone for their efforts.

Dave Maguire commented that Black Hawk College will be recognizing Dr. Keith Miller as President Emeritus. He was with us prior to being President at Black Hawk. He has just recently retired from Greenville Technical College.

Jerry Cremer commented that he was here earlier this summer and there was a conference that week in the Outreach Center, and it may have been township road commissioners. As he sat and waited and watched the people as they were leaving, each walked by Velvet Powell and thanked her for her work and efforts for their meeting. She has us well covered here.

1.11 Appoint designees of Board Secretary Linda Butler to handle the details of the Board of Trustees election to be held on Tuesday, April 1, 2025. Petitions will be delivered to the Canton Campus.

President Oldfield presented this item and Andrea Thomson and Heather Myers have handled this in the past and are his recommendation for this designation.

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 appointed Andrea Thomson and Heather Myers as designees of Board Secretary Linda Butler to handle the details of the Board of Trustees election to be held on Tuesday, April 1, 2025. Petitions will be delivered to the Canton Campus.

2.0 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2.1 Communications

President Oldfield thanked the Trustees for their work today during the Board Retreat, and he feels as though a lot was accomplished with future planning. He appreciates their attendance and support and guidance.

President Oldfield reported some additional hires:
 Nikki Rittenhouse, Director, Financial Aid
 Danielle Cheatham, Assistant Director, Athletics & Intramurals
 Beth Wilson, Advisor, Recruitment Communications
 Penny Hunt, Foundation Office Assistant

President Oldfield said one Retreat agenda item was there wasn't time to review was succession planning. Certainly that is very important, and we will follow up with the Board regarding those plans not only for the Board and the Foundation but also succession planning with the College as well. We will revisit that at a later date.

President Oldfield has been selected by ICCB to be one of the representatives of Presidents to study equity funding for Illinois community colleges. The entire funding structure will be examined, and there will be four meetings between now and January. The first meeting is August 8 followed by September, November and then January.

2.2 Business and Finance Report

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

Payroll	\$586,594.06
Accounts Payable (excluding travel)	487,753.94
Accounts Payable Travel Expenses	14,744.85
Accounts Payable BOT Travel Expenses	204.06
Electronic Payments (Health/Life Insurance)	198,476.39
Student Refunds – Accounts Payable	-0-
Student Refunds – Nelnet (electronic)	94,247.27
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TOTAL:	\$1,382,020.57

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

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

Payroll	\$586,594.06
Accounts Payable (excluding travel)	487,753.94
Accounts Payable Travel Expenses	14,744.85
Accounts Payable BOT Travel Expenses	204.06
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TOTAL:	\$1,382,020.57

2.2.2 OPENING OF THE 2024-2025 BUDGET HEARING

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 opened the 2024-2025 Budget Hearing.

President Oldfield reported that the budget has been on display since the beginning of June which meets the minimum 30 day posting requirement, and we met today and Sarah Gray provided a very thorough presentation on the proposed balanced budget.

Jerry Cremer asked for additional comments. There were no additional comments.

2.2.3 CLOSING OF THE 2024-2025 BUDGET HEARING

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 closed the 2024-2025 Budget Hearing.

2.2.4 Approve the Resolution for the Approval of the 2024-2025 Budget

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

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approved the Resolution for the Approval of the 2024-2025 Budget

2.2.5 Appointment of Employment Law Consultant: engage the firm of Robbins Schwartz, Chicago, Illinois, through June 30, 2025 to provide services and advice concerning matters pertaining to employment law.

President Oldfield presented this item and explained that because of the upcoming retirement of our legal counsel, we are recommending the appointment of Robbins Schwartz to handle those matters.

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 the appointment of Employment Law Consultant: engage the firm of Robbins Schwartz, Chicago, Illinois, through June 30, 2025 to provide services and advice concerning matters pertaining to employment law.

2.3 Institutional Planning

President Oldfield reported that there weren't any reporting items for Institutional Planning.

3.0 ADDITIONAL ITEMS

President Oldfield reminded the Trustees that signatures will be needed today for the budget. John Biernbaum thanked Andrea for the gift bags.

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; 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.

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

5.0 ADJOURNMENT

Following a motion by Dave Maguire, seconded by Kevin Meade, and unanimous approval, the Regular Meeting of the Spoon River College Board of Trustees, July 24, 2024, adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

Jerry Cremer, Chair

Date

Linda Butler, Secretary