



HEARTLAND
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**MINUTES OF THE BUDGET HEARING OF THE
HEARTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
September 20, 2022**

Members present: Mary Campbell, Joshua Crockett, Jeff Flessner, Janet Hood, Cecelia Long, Becky Ropp, Tom Whitt, Rodney Billerbeck

Members absent: none

Others present: Keith Cornille, Sarah Diel-Hunt, Kelli, Hill, Letisha Trepac, Terrance Bond, Jen O'Connor, Steve Fast, Barb Leathers, Jason Nelson, Amy Pawlik, Josh Woods, Ryan Knox, Jarrod Rackauskas, Jono Edmondson, Luke Sherman, Jack Hooker, Sarah Tipton, Dana Tuttle, Scott Bross, Connor Wood-Pantagraph

Chair Jeff Flessner called the Budget Hearing Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Heartland Community College to order at 6:00pm at Heartland Community College in Normal. The roll call was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPT AGENDA

Ms. Janet Hood moved to adopt the agenda. Ms. Becky Ropp seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion approved.

PUBLIC HEARING

Chair Flessner opened the public hearing on the FY2023 Budget. He asked for any public comments to be heard or written comments to be read into the minutes and noted there were no comments. **Ms. Becky Ropp moved to close the public hearing on the FY 2023 Budget. Mr. Josh Crockett seconded. The voice vote carried, motion approved.**

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Tom Whitt moved to adjourn. Ms. Janet Hood seconded. The voice vote carried, motion approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05pm.



Jeff Flessner, Chair



Rebecca L. Ropp, Secretary



HEARTLAND
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
HEARTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
September 20, 2022**

Members present: Mary Campbell, Joshua Crockett, Jeff Flessner, Janet Hood, Cecelia Long, Becky Ropp, Tom Whitt, Rodney Billerbeck

Members absent:

Others present: Keith Cornille, Sarah Diel-Hunt, Kelli, Hill, Rick Pearce, Letisha Trepac, Terrance Bond, Jen O'Connor, Steve Fast, Barb Leathers, Jason Nelson, Amy Pawlik, Josh Woods, Ryan Knox, Jarrod Rackauskas, Jono Edmondson, Luke Sherman, Jack Hooker, Sarah Tipton, Dana Tuttle, Scott Bross, Connor Wood-Pantagraph

Chair Jeff Flessner called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Heartland Community College to order at 6:05pm at Heartland Community College in Normal. The roll call was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

ADOPT AGENDA

Ms. Janet Hood moved to adopt the agenda. Ms. Becky Ropp seconded. A voice vote was taken. Motion approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Keith Cornille shared that things continue to proceed well with the construction projects. Ag remains on target with a couple of significant gifts just received placing the total dollars to more than \$6 million, Parking Lot A construction has begun, and the Widmer Family Plaza is targeted to be completed in the coming weeks with a Ribbon cutting planned for October 19. On September 29, Heartland will hold the groundbreaking for the Advanced Manufacturing and Technology Center.

Dr. Cornille thanked those who joined in the Fall Kick-Off. The kick-off is the one time a year that all staff is together in person to have them reconnect and reengage. During the session staff shared and celebrated a few successes at the college, staff was reminded of our priorities, and where we need to improve.

College Spotlight: Esports

Dr. Cornille gave recognition to Ryan Knox who earlier this summer was named the National Athletic Director of the year. Mr. Knox gave background information on Heartland Esports and introduced Mr. Jarrod Rackauskas, Head Coach of Esports at Heartland Community College. Mr. Rackauskas introduced two students currently in the Esports program, Jono Edmondson and Luke Sherman. Mr. Edmondson and Mr. Sherman shared why they chose Heartland and the Esports program.

Mr. Rackauskas explained what Esports is, what Esports is at Heartland, and the future of Esports. In Spring 2021, Heartland launched its varsity Esports program and began competing nationally. The program has expanded in players as well as in games played. The program currently has a roster of 22 varsity athletes who compete in 6 different games. The program is supported with 3 full tuition waivers to attract top recruits and provide financial support to the student-athletes.

Heartland is a member of the National Junior College Athletic Association Esports (NJCAA). The Hawks Esports Team competes against schools in the NJCAA as well as across the nation in an arena located on campus in the Workforce Development Center. Last year's team played six different games and competed in 131 matches against teams.

Heartland's Esports varsity program operates on the same principles established for its other highly successful athletic programs: heavy in-District recruitment coupled with out-of-District recruitment; high academic expectations and support (including academic and physical/mental health supports); community service expectations; academic success, degree completion and transfer assistance.

Undergraduate Credit Enrollment Fall 2022 Census Day

Sarah Diel-Hunt, VP, Enrollment and Student Services reported that the Fall 2022 official Census Day numbers reveal an increase in overall undergraduate headcount (+2.1%) as well as an increase in credit hours (+1.4%) as compared to a year ago. This Fall's class is the most diverse in Heartland history, with minority enrollment up 13.4%, now accounting for 30% of College enrollment. International student enrollment hit a 5-year high, an increase of 20% over last year and 31% over Fall 2019. Enrollment in applied, work ready programs hit a high of 1,012 students, an increase of 11.8%. The College also continues to see increases in new student enrollment (+5.6%) and increases in students in its College NOW dual credit program, which enrolled a high-water mark of 1,133 students this Fall.

The College's overall headcount continues to be affected by the loss of students that occurred during the pandemic. In Fall 2019, the College enrolled 4,716 undergraduate students (3,922 excluding College NOW dual credit students). By comparison, this Fall, the College enrolled 4,530 undergraduate students (3,371 excluding College NOW dual credit students). That's a loss of 186 Fall students (551 excluding College NOW). Further, in Fall 2019, 38% of students enrolled full-time; that percentage has declined to 35% with students enrolling in fewer credit hours.

Dr. Diel-Hunt reported that the staff has adjusted well to the changing landscape of the students.

Cabinet Reports

Rick Pearce, Provost and VP, Academic Affairs, reported that this week is Adult Education and Family Literacy week. Today was the inaugural Heartland Hall of Fame event. Dr. Pearce acknowledged that the Association for Educational Communication and Technology published an article co-authored by Dr. Anna Catterson on Service-learning through Directed Field Experiences. Dr. Pearce also reported on the Recovery Support Specialist Learning Lab recent partnership with McLean County Center for Human Services. The Center is helping to provide learning lab space and we are

Kelli Hill, VP, External Relations, reported on fundraising efforts. Heartland continues to receive support for the Ag project with recent donations from Deanna Frautschi and Alan Bedell whose gift will support the student study area and the gift from the Bank of Pontiac to support the greenhouse. Heartland received the first major gift for Advanced Manufacturing and we continue to get equipment donations.

Ms. Hill noted that the Marketing team will attend a National Council of Marketing and Public Relations district conference and have two pending awards which are for the Challenger Learning Center and Discover Heartland. In addition, the Challenger Learning Center virtual missions are booked for the fall semester with only one opening in the schedule.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Committee

Committee Chair Janet Hood reported that the Committee has reviewed changes made to the budget since the Board passed its tentative form and there are no substantial changes. Ms. Trepac will be presenting the highlights and the Finance Committee is supportive of adopting the present budget that is balanced and of the transfer resolutions found in the consent agenda to set aside fiscal year surplus operations funds for specific future needs. The first step in our latest biennial financing process wrapped up, and approximately \$12 million in debt certificates were sold. The Board should expect to see a resolution for the second phase which is the issuance of the funding bonds to pay off the debt certificates near the end of January at our next month's meeting. As stated in the Board policy, the College will strive to maintain the existing tax rate again this year. The Board can expect a presented Tax Levy Resolution in November.

Ms. Trepac provided additional information on the transfer resolutions to set aside fiscal year surplus. The surplus at the end of FY22 was due to receiving nonrecurring revenue during that period.

Finance and Administration

FY22 Budget Year End Update

Letisha Trepac, VP, Finance and Administration, presented the FY23 HCC Budget. Ms. Trepac explained Heartland has had good fiscal management which has kept the revenue above the

expenses. There were no substantive changes from the tentative budget to the final budget being presented. Ms. Trepac stated, as a reminder, that annual credit hours generated were affected by COVID in FY20, FY21, and FY22. The tax rate remains steady while the assessed value, due to the healthy local economy, has increased. Projected changes in tuition and fee revenue stem from the change in rate only as assumptions used hold credit hours level. Ms. Trepac reiterated that one-time COVID relief dollars are not factored into the FY23 budget as there is no additional expected support beyond FY22. She also noted that the revenue received from the corporate property replacement tax has been higher than expected for the last couple of years and the College does not know expectations for this revenue beyond FY23. On the expenditure side, salaries and benefits account for the largest portion of the expense budget. Budgeted expense for utilities was increased since setting the tentative budget given the uptick in utility expense the College has seen recently. The presented final budget is balanced with projected revenues slightly exceeding projected expense.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

ICCTA

Mr. Tom Whitt reported that ICCTA had a great meeting in Springfield last week with the Future of Work as the topic. A discussion was held about Trustee goals, MAP grants, and support of HB5424 which would allocate \$19 million dollars to fully fund the mental health early action on campus act. The next meeting is November 11 and 12, Downers Grove.

Student Trustee

Mr. Rodney Billerbeck reported on the Student Government Association (SGA) Textbook Swap wrapped up last month saving students nearly \$4,000 in textbooks. SGA will be working on reimagining how the Textbook Swap can continue to assist students financially with book prices as the need for textbook options changes. The Week of Welcome continues to make a strong connection between HCC students and their involvement on campus with student events including making sugar scrubs; an Involvement Fair with campus clubs, organizations, departments, and community partners; a service event painting at the YWCA; kick-off for Student Senate meetings for Fall 2022; and students going to Iron Coyote challenge park. Student Engagement thanks Heartland's staff, faculty, and administration for making this year's Week of Welcome as successful as it was.

Mr. Billerbeck noted that September will have events for students to participate in including GSU's Global Café; weekly cultural discussions; Black Student Union hosting their first Open House; Public Safety discussing new updates; and a Heartland Night Out Event at the Proving Ground. Heartland celebrates Constitution Week September 19-23 where there will be a variety of events, one of which will be Talking Politics which will take place Wednesday, September 21 and include a panel discussion about the history and interpretations of the United States Constitution. Additionally, there will be Constitutional Discussion Question tables placed in various areas around Heartland.

SGA and other student leaders attended the Town of Normal Meet & Greet where HCC Hawks

connected with Redbirds, Normal's Town Council, and Mayor to promote civic and community engagement.

Board Community Outreach

Mr. Joshua Crockett distributed handouts and reported that the Board has discussed reaching out to the Normal Town Council, McLean County Board, and City Councils in Lincoln and Pontiac to give a brief presentation about who Heartland is and what Heartland offers. Mr. Crockett asked for feedback from the Trustees on what is important to showcase about Heartland. A discussion was held and the Trustees feel that it is important to ask these groups what their needs are, beneficial to visit with local townships and school board members (i.e., superintendents), beneficial to point out the value Heartland brings to the communities, and opportunity to discuss with community leaders' common issues students in the community may have.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Chair Flessner noted the Calendar of Upcoming Events is available to the Board.

CONSENT AGENDA ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Tom Whitt moved to approve:

- The ratification of bills paid during August 2022.
- The minutes of the regular Board meeting August 16, 2022.
- And release the closed session minutes of the Board meetings and retreat in February, May, June, and July 2022; extend non-disclosure of the recordings of the closed session portions of the Board meetings, and authorize and direct the Board Secretary to destroy such recordings after 18 months.
- Travel expenditures by members of the Board of Trustees and travel expenditures that exceed maximum reimbursable rates by Heartland Community College employees submitted since the last meeting of the Board of Trustees.
- The College's action of the disposal of surplus items deemed obsolete, unusable, unnecessary or damaged in the best interest of the College.
- The resolutions authorizing transfer of monies from the Education Fund for capital improvements and deferred maintenance as presented.
- The resolutions authorizing transfer of monies from the Operations and Maintenance Fund for capital project equipment needs and instructional innovation as presented.

Mr. Josh Crockett seconded. A roll call vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

NON-PERSONNEL ACTION ITEMS

Heartland Community College Budget FY2023

Ms. Janet Hood moved to approve the Resolution Adopting the Annual Budget for FY2023.

Mr. Rodney Billerbeck seconded. A roll call vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

CLOSED SESSION

Ms. Becky Ropp moved to enter into closed session at 7:44pm to consider probable or imminent litigation matters. Mr. Tom Whitt seconded. A roll call vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Chair Flessner reconvened the open session at 7:56pm.

PERSONNEL ACTION ITEMS

Monthly Personnel Actions

Ms. Cecelia Long moved to approve the recommendation as presented in Board Agenda Item 10.1. Ms. Becky Ropp seconded. A roll call vote was as unanimous. Motion approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Janet Hood moved to adjourn. Mr. Rodney Billerbeck seconded. The voice vote carried, motion approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.



Jeff Flessner, Chair



Rebecca L. Ropp, Secretary

*Note: The student vote is advisory only