



HEARTLAND
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
HEARTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
February 21, 2023**

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

Members present via Zoom: Jeff Flessner

Members absent: none

Others present: Keith Cornille, Rick Pearce, Sarah Diel-Hunt, Kelli Hill, Letisha Trepac, Terrance Bond, Scott Bross (via Zoom), Graham Baner- (SGA President), Chris Downing, Steve Fast, Justin Knorr, Barb Leathers, Jeremy McClure, Jason Nelson, Jennifer O'Connor, Amy Pawlik, Tammi Beckwith Schallmo with PMA (via Zoom), Jean-Marie Taylor, Sarah Tipton, Josh Woods, Connor Wood-The Pantagraph, Wendy West

Vice Chair Janet Hood called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 6:08 pm. Chair Jeff Flessner joined via zoom at 6:15 pm. Roll call was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPT AGENDA

Mr. Joshua Crockett moved to and adopt the agenda as amended. Mr. Thomas Whitt seconded. A voice vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Keith Cornille stated that earlier this month, Trustees Ropp, Whitt, Billerbeck, and he attended the ACCT National Legislative Summit in Washington D.C. and that they would be providing a summary report during the Trustee reports later in the meeting.

This July the college is required to provide to the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) our Accreditation Assurance Argument Report, as part of accreditation process. The Assurance Argument is "a narrative in which the institution explains how it meets HLC's Criteria for Accreditation and serves as a check-in." Jen O'Connor, Associate Vice President, Academic Affairs who is leading the college through the process will provide the Board with an update of where we are at in the process. Currently, our accreditation with the HLC runs through 2028.

HLC Accreditation:

Jen O'Connor referred to the timeline that was given to the Board by paper. We are in year four of the ten-year cycle of our accreditation. In year four, we are required to submit an assurance argument which is our demonstration in a narrative example format, that presents evidence showing how we are meeting the criteria for our accreditation that HLC set out for Heartland. The Board will be given the draft copy of the assurance argument on April 30, 2023 for feedback that will need to be submitted back to Jen O'Connor by May 19, 2023.

Cabinet Reports

Rick Pearce, Provost and VP, Academic Affairs, shared that we had an unexpected visit from the State regarding the CNA program. The State had stated that they have never even on announced scheduled visits seen a program that well organized and the visit resulted in no findings.

Sarah Diehl Hunt, VP, Enrollment and Student Services turned over to Amy Pawlik to discuss the mental health for early on campus legislation that was passed however, it was unfunded in 2019. In January 2023, the State provided was funding to institutions of higher education. The State will issue criteria that Heartland will need to follow. We currently have built our mental health procedures to encompass a lot of the same criteria required for the funding. This funding will allow Heartland to hire two additional licensed counselors and one full time coordinator. We will be building out our peer counseling and programming and events that will bring us into full compliance.

Kelli Hill, VP, External Relations, congratulated Megan Rolfs, Executive Director for Marketing on being a nominee for Outstanding Woman in Communication. The Association for Women In Communications 2023 Crystal Awards which honored the work of McLean County women whose professional and personal efforts embody the ideal of communication.

The FunnyRaiser was a sold out even this year which to date was the largest crowd that raised \$35,000. The Continuing Education Personal enrichment is up by 44% from mid-February of last year. The Challenger Learning Center this year has served 37 different schools in person and 6 virtual. The percentage of schools that benefitted from some level of general scholarship support is at 54%. Several examples from a CE accessibility assessment were highlighted, including financial accessibility through lower price point courses and supports for students with various disabilities.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Committee

Ms. Janet Hood, Finance Committee Chair, reported the Finance Committee reviewed information on the tuition and fees and found an increase is necessary, and the proposed rate increase is reasonable based on the rising costs associated with providing instruction and service at the college. She encouraged the Board to approve the upcoming tuition and fees recommendation. Ms. Hood requested the approval of costs associated with the constructing space in West Bloomington to house the College's Building Maintenance Skills and Construction Skills certificate programs. The committee agrees that this project presents the opportunity to promote accessibility to an underserved segment of our community and aligns with the College's strategic plan.

Finance and Administration:

General Obligation Bond Presentation:

Ms. Trepac introduced Tammie Beckwith Schallmo, Senior Vice President and Managing Director for PMA Securities, LLC and explained that the College retains PMA for financial advisement. Ms. Schallmo presented the College's updated financing plan and provided information on current debt capacity, existing principal (including the most recent issue of the 2023A bond sale), existing and projected debt service, current market conditions, trends in tax exempt interest rates, and the next planned funding bond issuance intended to fund capital projects identified in the Facilities Master Plan. Ms. Schallmo discussed the projected implications of the proposed debt issuance and illustrated how it fits into the financial strategy developed by the Finance Committee in Fall 2020.

Audit Findings FY2022:

Ms. Trepac shared that the FY2022 audit has been officially completed and posted to the College's website. She indicated there were no changes since the time the audit findings were presented to the Board earlier this fall.

Tuition and Fees:

Ms. Trepac reported on the tuition and fee recommendation for AY23-24. To include student participation in the process, a similar presentation was made to the Student Government Association. The college's historical tuition and fees trend shows a modest increase over time with no large spikes. The college is above average in cost because it is above average in service.

Tuition supports the core operations and is one of the primary revenue sources; the student life fee supports student activities, the athletic teams, and bus transportation; the program development and facility enhancement fee primarily supports the development and maintenance of academic programs but can also be used to enhance facilities.

Tuition is currently \$161 per credit hour and the proposal recommends a \$5 increase. The program development and facility enhancement fee are currently \$2 per credit hour and the proposal recommends no change to this fee. The student life fee is currently \$11 per credit hour and the proposal recommends a \$3 increase. Ms. Trepac explained that the anticipated deficit will not be made up just through the suggested tuition increase and there is work to be done on the college side while keeping up with the rising costs of instruction. The recommended 4.6% increase is an additional \$84 per semester for a student enrolled in 12 credit hours per semester.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

ICCTA

Mr. Tom Whitt reported he, Dr. Cornille, Ms. Rebecca Ropp, and Mr. Billerbeck attended the National Legislative Summit in Washington D.C. earlier this month.

Mr. Tom Whitt reported he attended an ICCTA meeting in Washington D.C. where they went over their legislative goals and advocate for more State funding. The Pritzler administration has proposed a 7% increase for community colleges in the upcoming year with additional \$18 million for workforce development. There would be a \$100 million dollar increase in MAP grants.

Student Trustee

Mr. Billerbeck stated that on February 5th-8th, Student Trustee Rodney Billerbeck attended the Association of Community College Trustees, Community College National Legislative Summit at the Marriott Marquis hotel in Washington, DC, along with President Cornille, Trustee Ropp, and Trustee Whitt. We heard from a variety of different speakers including, U.S. Secretary of Transportation, Pete Buttigieg, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Thomas Vilsack, and various other House Representatives and Senators from across the country. We spent time discussing issues with the Congressional Leaders whom represent Heartland Community College in their respective district.

On Friday, February 10th, Heartland Community College hosted the Illinois Community College Student Activities Association Leadership Conference. Student leaders from Carl Sandburg College, Lincoln Land Community College, and Heartland Community College were in attendance. Throughout this professional development event, student leaders discussed relevant issues on campus and then discussed solutions for the issues moving forward; issues such as mental health resources, and a lack of student involvement.

The Student Government Association and Political Science Club have partnered together in coordinating Voter Registration Tables and Bagels and Ballots (Consolidated Election Edition). Voter Registration Tables can be found in ICB and SCB Lobbies on Tuesday, February 22nd 10am-2pm. The SGA and POS plan to host League of Women Voters in CCB 2012 on Thursday, February 23rd at 4pm to provide students information on the upcoming consolidated election in April.

Student Engagement is excited to bring back Boxes and Walls, a guided tour through interactive experiences on February 21st and 22nd in the ACEC. This semester's Boxes and Walls will showcase immigration, poverty, veterans, and LGBTQIA+ experiences. Each experience is designed to allow our students to feel what life is like from these various diverse perspectives. The idea of the program is for participants to realize and feel the oppression that many of our students live through on a daily basis.

The Heartland Activities Committee is bringing several major social programming events within the next couple weeks. HAC events include a Valentine's Day Make and Take, Heartland Night at Urban Warfare, and Heartland Night at the Movies where students will be able to watch CREED III for only a small fee.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Vice Chair Ms. Janet Hood noted the Calendar of Upcoming Events is available to the Board.

CONSENT AGENDA ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Thomas Whitt moved to approve:

The ratification of bills paid during January 2023.

The minutes of the regular Board meeting January 17, 2023.

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.

Release the closed session minutes of the Board meetings for August through December 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.

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

NON-PERSONNEL ACTION ITEMS

Tuition and Fees Recommendation FY2024 (AY2023-2024)

Mr. Joshua Crockett moved to establish the Heartland Community College per credit hour tuition and universal fees rate at a total of \$182.00 per credit hour effective with the 2023 summer term, as follows: Tuition \$166, Student Life Fee \$14.00, and Program Development and Facilities Enhancement Fee \$2.00. Ms. Rebecca Ropp seconded. A roll call vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION:

Mr. Thomas Whitt moved to approve the Resolution authorizing and providing for an Installment Purchase Agreement for the purpose of paying the cost of purchasing real or personal property, or both, in and for the District and for the issue of not to exceed \$20,150,000 General Obligation Debt Certificates (Limited Tax), of the District evidencing the rights to payment under said Agreement, providing for the security for and means of payment under said Agreement of said Certificates, and authorizing the sale of said Certificates to the purchaser thereof. Mr. Joshua Crockett seconded. A roll call vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Mid Central Community Action West Bloomington Project Approval:

Mr. Joshua Crockett moved to approve the renovation of the currently leased space of the Mid Central Community Action, Inc (MCCA) building to accommodate the College's Building Maintenance Skills and Construction Skills Certificate Programs at a cost not to exceed \$400,000. Ms. Rebecca Ropp seconded. A roll call vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

CLOSED SESSION

Ms. Cecilia Long moved to enter into closed session at 7:38 pm to consider collective negotiations and personal matters. Mr. Thomas Whitt seconded. A roll call vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Vice Chair Janet Hood reconvened the open session at 8:13 pm

PERSONNEL ACTION ITEMS

Monthly Personnel Actions

Ms. Cecilia Long moved to approve the monthly personnel actions as presented. Mr. Thomas Whitt seconded. A roll call vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Tenure Recommendation:

Mr. Thomas Whitt moved to approve tenure recommendations and Mr. Rodney Billerbeck seconded. A roll call vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

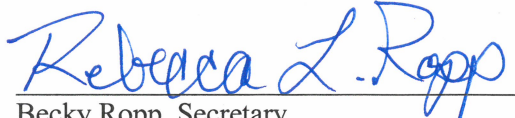
ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Rebecca Ropp moved to adjourn and Mr. Rodney Billerbeck seconded. Motion was approved with a voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.



Janet Hood, Vice Chair



Becky Ropp, Secretary

*Note: The student vote is advisory only