

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
HEARTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Community Commons Building, Room 1406/07

1500 W. Raab Road, Normal, IL

June 20, 2023

6:00pm

Members Present: Becky Ropp, Janet Hood, Tom Whitt, Josh Crockett, Andria Merkle, Jeff Flessner, Mary Campbell, Cecelia Long

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Keith Cornille, Sarah Diel-Hunt, Kelli Hill, Letisha Trepac, Steve Fast, Jen O'Connor, Amy Pawlik, Josh Woods, Scott Bross, Terrance Bond, Barb Leathers, Justin Knorr, Jean-Marie Taylor, Ashli Andi, Ryan Edel, Rose Carina, Chris Razo, Daniel Mosele, Other members of the public

Chair Becky Ropp called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm. The roll call was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Trustee Cecelia Long was absent for roll call but joined shortly thereafter.

ADOPT AGENDA

Trustee Tom Whitt motioned to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by Trustee Janet Hood. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ryan Edel spoke on behalf of HAFA, thanking staff for a productive and congenial collective bargaining process and urging the Board to approve the agreement.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Keith Cornille reported on the awards won recently by students, including the baseball national championship and Phi Theta Kappa awards. He thanked those that attended the Elevate Heartland event.

He reported on the Ag Complex and talked about the recent walkthrough of the construction. It is anticipated to be open in January. He also talked about the Advanced Manufacturing and EVES building. The project is about 60-70% complete and should also be completed in January.

Cornille gave an overview of the meeting agenda.

He then asked Dr. Sarah Diel-Hunt to introduce the Heartland baseball team members present. Dr. Diel-Hunt noted that not only was the team a national champion, they also have the highest GPA in their history. A short video of the national championship play was shown. The coach of

the baseball team, Chris Razo, spoke briefly about the championship, as did one of the players, Daniel Mosele, thanking everyone for their support.

Rose Carina and Andria Merkle of Phi Theta Kappa talked about their recent awards and plans for the future.

CABINET REPORTS

Ms. Kelli Hill talked about the Kids at Heartland program, which has about 1,000 young people participating in it. Popular classes include art programs, computer classes, and cooking classes.

Dr. Diel-Hunt spoke about summer enrollment. Census numbers for summer were recently received and show numbers are slightly down in both credit hours and enrollment. Trends in the economy, perception of college, and other factors are impacting enrollment, both at Heartland and generally across the nation. However, minority student enrollment at Heartland is up and numbers currently show that over 25 enrollment will be higher in the fall than it was last year.

During Cabinet reports, President Cornille noted that Mary and Hank Campbell were nominated for the McLean County History Museum's History Makers award.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Trustee Hood reported the Finance Committee reviewed the tentative budget for FY24. The tentative budget is balanced, and staff believes it will remain balanced through setting the final budget in September. This may require adjustments based on undiscovered needs and fall enrollment.

Also, this month wrapped up the final stage of the College's most recent capital bond issuance with bonds closing on June 7th. The Board had developed a financial strategy to guide the College through funding capital projects identified in the Facilities Master Plan. The latest bond issuance was the final stage of the original financial plan. Beginning in August, the Committee will review information presented by staff in consultation with the College's financial advisor to begin mapping out a future financial strategy. This will help inform staff and the Board of next steps for the College with regard to future capital planning.

Tentative Budget FY24 Presentation

Ms. Letisha Trepac introduced Mr. Justin Knorr to go over the tentative budget. The budget process started in January. The budget is balanced. Revenue sources are less certain at this time. Expense requests for FY24 were reasonable. Mr. Knorr reviewed some key factors and assumptions for revenue and expense consideration. He talked about the College's fund balance; the College is in a good position. The final budget will come to the Board for approval in September.

RAMP Documents

This is HCC's annual request for state funding for capital projects. HCC has two projects that it is applying for, Sciences Labs and CTE. This is for 2025 funding.

GASB Statements

In 2021 HCC received a clean opinion in the audit process. However, one suggestion at the time was that HCC develop a process to address GASB, which is currently underway.

Property and Casualty Insurance Renewal

HCC is seeing higher premiums than last year due to increasing property value. The premium level decreased, though, from what was at one time predicted. Additional items were factored into this year's policy, such as the wind turbine. The increase is less than 5% overall.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

ICCTA

Trustee Tom Whitt reported that the ICCTA convention just passed. Several students and faculty won awards. He also reported on the increased funding and grant opportunities made available by the State.

Student Trustee

Student Engagement is very excited about the fall semester. Clubs are getting ready to promote themselves and attract new members. The game room and student leadership offices are going offline for the fall. Many students and clubs use this space, so relocating them will be challenging. HCC's Pride group went to Chicago Pride over the weekend.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Trustee Ropp noted the calendar of upcoming events was in the packet.

Board Development Retreat

The Board retreat is upcoming on July 18. Trustee Ropp asked if any Board members had topics they wanted to make sure were covered during the retreat. Trustee Ropp is meeting with Jim Reed from the ICCTA soon about the retreat and a self-evaluation for the Board. Trustee Cecelia Long wants to talk about insurance and benefits for part-time employees, outreach to minority students, and WEI program enrollments/graduations. She also wants to talk about the future of education in general. Trustee Andria Merkle wants to talk about an internship program with local companies.

CONSENT AGENDA

Trustee Josh Crockett motioned to approve the consent agenda, which included the following items:

- Approval of Bills
- Minutes: Regular Meeting May 16, 2023
- Travel Expenses
- Property and Casualty Insurance Renewal
- Prevailing Wage
- Transfer Resolutions FY23

Trustee Merkle seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

NON-PERSONNEL ACTION ITEMS

Tentative Budget FY24

Having previously discussed the budget during the meeting, no further discussion took place on this topic. Trustee Merkle moved to approve the tentative budget. Trustee Hood seconded the

motion. The motion passed unanimously.

RAMP Capital Request FY24

Science Labs

Having previously discussed this item during the meeting, no further discussion took place on this topic. Trustee Long moved to approve the RAMP application. Trustee Whitt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Career Technical Educational Building

Having previously discussed this item during the meeting, no further discussion took place on this topic. Trustee Jeff Flessner moved to approve the RAMP application. Trustee Long seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION

At approximately 7:09, Trustee Flessner motioned to go into Closed Session to discuss:

- Personnel – Section 2(c)(1) of 5 ILCS 120
- Collective Negotiations – Section 2(c)(2) of 5 ILCS 120

Trustee Hood seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

At approximately 7:37 pm, Trustee Merkle motioned to return to open session. The motion was seconded by Trustee Whitt. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION

Following the Closed Session, Mary Campbell made the following motion: “Motion to rescind the dismissal motion adopted by the Board of Trustees on April 25, 2023 and reinstate Joan Gramley to Heartland Community College employment effective as of said April 25, 2023.” That motion was seconded by Trustee Whitt. The motion passed unanimously.

PERSONNEL ACTION ITEMS

Monthly Personnel Action Items

President Cornille gave a brief overview. Trustee Long motioned to approve the item. Trustee Flessner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjunct Faculty Promotions

President Cornille gave a brief overview. Trustee Whitt motioned to approve the item. Trustee Long seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Employee Compensation FY24

President Cornille gave a brief overview. Employees are receiving a 3% raise. Trustee Merkle motioned to approve the item. Trustee Crockett seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjunct Faculty Collective Bargaining Agreement

President Cornille gave a brief overview. Trustee Hood motioned to approve the item. Trustee Mary Campbell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Employment Contracts Effective July 1, 2023, Continuing Through the First to Occur of Separation of Service or June 30, 2024


Keith gave a brief overview of each. The VPs are each getting a 3% raise. All contracts were unanimously approved. The maker of the motion and second for each contract are listed below:

- Richard R. Pearce, Provost/VP Academic Affairs: Trustee Whitt, Trustee Crockett
- Sarah Diel-Hunt, VP, Enrollment & Student Services: Trustee Hood, Trustee Crockett
- Kelli Tillery Hill, VP, External Relations: Trustee Crockett, Trustee Campbell
- Letisha Trepac, VP, Finance and Administration: Trustee Whitt, Trustee Hood

ADJOURN

Having no further business, Trustee Merkle made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Campbell seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45 pm.


Rebecca L. Ropp, Chair


Joshua Crockett, Secretary