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**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
HEARTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
Community Commons Building, Room 1406/07  
1500 W. Raab Road, Normal, Illinois  
November 21, 2023  
6:00pm**

**MINUTES**

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

Members Absent: Jeff Flessner

Others Present: Keith Cornille, Janik Mateusz (Pantagraph), Steve Fast, Jen O'Connor, Sam Overton, Barb Leathers, Jean-Marie Taylor, Rick Pearce, Sarah Diel-Hunt, Josh Woods, Jason Nelson, Sarah Tipton, Amy Pawlik, Terrance Bond, Nora Dukowitz, Scott Bross, Kelli Hill, Jean-Marie Taylor, Others

Chair Becky Ropp called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

**ADOPT THE AGENDA**

Trustee Janet Hood made a motion to adopt the agenda for the meeting, which was seconded by Trustee Cecelia Long. This motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Keith Cornille opened by thanking everyone that was able to attend and participate in the Board's preceding dinner and workshop with student government, and applauded Heartland's students for their involvement and leadership. He also thanked those that attended the recent Celebration of Excellence and the Foundation for arranging the event. He thanked those that brought items to be donated to Heartland's student food pantry. He also gave compliments to Heartland's athletics teams.

President Cornille indicated that Heartland will be hosting a group from the McLean County Board tomorrow morning for a tour of the Agricultural Complex and that the County has invited Heartland to present at its upcoming December 14<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

President Cornille said that the IBHE recently released the equity plan framework and guidance. On or

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before May 1<sup>st</sup>, Heartland is required to submit an equity plan to the ICCB.

President Cornille reviewed the agenda for the evening. He made special note of the naming of Community Commons Building Room 1406/07 and the contributions to the College by the late Gregg Chadwick, who served on the Board of Trustees for 18 years, 11 of those as Chair.

Mr. Andy Litwiller and Mr. Dominick Demonica (of Demonica Kemper Architects or DKA) gave an overview presentation of the current status of various projects in the Facilities Master Plan, including the Agricultural Complex, Health Sciences, Career and Technical Education, and Enrollment/Student Services/Student Life/Food Service projects. Questions and discussion with the Board ensued. Litwiller expressed his appreciation for the support of the College during this period of change and growth.

President Cornille gave an overview of the proposed language change to the Board Policy as it pertains to the Paid Leave for All Workers Act and the requirements that go into effect January 1, 2024. Heartland is already largely in compliance with the would-be requirements and will adjust for any employees not already covered. This was the first reading for this change in language to the Board Policy. Next month, there will be a second reading and the change in language to the Board Policy will be on the agenda as an action item.

## **CABINET REPORTS**

Dr. Rick Pearce reported that the Challenger Learning Center received honors from CLC National for most students flown.

Dr. Sarah Diel-Hunt reported that it was another incredible season for Heartland Athletics. All fall sports have wrapped their seasons. Both Cross County teams placed second in the nation. Women's soccer had a great season but did not qualify for the national tournament. Men's soccer went to nationals and won 4-3 in double overtime during a game but ultimately did not win the tournament. Volleyball went to nationals and played well but did not win. Everyone is looking forward to spring sports.

Dr. Diel-Hunt said two new study abroad programs have been approved, one to Ghana and one to Toronto.

Also, Community College Daily recently noted the relationship between Heartland and Illinois State University for the institutions' transfer program and its successful efforts to remove barriers and ease transition between the two institutions.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Trustee Janet Hood summarized today's Finance Committee meeting. At the meeting, the FY23 audit and the tax levy, among other topics, were discussed. R&R Employee Benefits Consultants presented via Zoom on healthcare cost projections, existing services, enrollments, and employee education at the Finance Committee meeting.

Following Trustee Hood's report, Wipfli, the College's auditors, presented to the entire Board on the FY23 audit. The presenter reviewed the five parts of the report and what they contained. The auditors issued a clean report with no findings. The presentation included a summary of financial information and credit hours.

After the auditors' presentation, Mr. Sam Overton presented on the tax levy resolution. He explained what a tax levy is and how it works and information specific to Heartland and its tax levy history. The public hearing for the tax levy will be immediately prior to the December Board meeting.

## **TRUSTEE REPORTS**

### ICCTA

Trustee Tom Whitt reported on the recent ICCTA meeting in Schaumburg. The discussions there focused on AI and DEI issues. Every College is trying to get its arms around AI. There was also a seminar on Enterprise Resource Planning software. ICCTA hosted Governor Pritzker at its luncheon. February 4-7 is the National Legislative Summit in Washington, D.C. ICCTA and ICCCP have come up with a new logo and branding, "For Every Student For Every Community."

### STUDENT TRUSTEE

Trustee Andria Merkle thanked the Board for attending the preceding dinner and workshop with student leadership. She reviewed SGA's goals for the year. November student meetings will spotlight various campus organizations. SGA is planning a spring involvement fair, similar to the one that happens each fall. Trustee Merkle outlined upcoming student events.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Trustee Whitt and seconded by Trustee Merkle to approve the Consent Agenda which consisted of the following items:

- Approval of Bills
- Meeting Minutes: Board Workshop and Regular Meetings on October 17, 2023
- Travel Expenditures
- Accept Filing – FY23 Annual Consolidated Financial Audit Report

The motion passed unanimously.

## **NON-PERSONNEL**

Trustee Hood motioned to approve the estimated 2023 tax levy resolution as presented. Trustee Cecelia Long seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Long motioned to approve the naming of spaces for Community Commons Building Room

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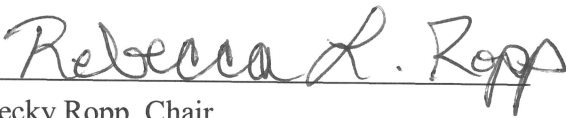
1406/07 to become the Gregg Chadwick Community Board Room as presented. Trustee Hood seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **PERSONNEL**

Trustee Merkle motioned to pass the personnel report and Trustee Whitt seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Merkle made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Mary Campbell. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:38 pm.

  
Becky Ropp, Chair

  
Josh Crockett, Secretary