

9/17/24

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
HEARTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Community Commons Building (CCB) Room 1406/07
(Gregg Chadwick Community Board Room)
1500 W. Raab Road, Normal, IL
September 17, 2024
6:00 pm Regular Meeting (includes FY2025 Budget Public Hearing)**

MINUTES

Members Present: Janet Hood, Mary Campbell, Josh Crockett, Jeff Flessner, Auston Koch, Tom Whitt

Members Absent: Becky Ropp, Cecelia Long

Others Present: Keith Cornille, Nora Dukowitz, Barb Leathers, Noah Lamb, Scott Bross, Laura Hughs, Sarah Diel-Hunt, Rick Pearce, Amy Pawlik, Steve Fast, Terrance Bond, Janik Mateusz (Pantagraph), Jean-Marie Taylor, Sarah Tipton, Chris Downing, Josh Woods, Jason Nelson, Jill Blair, Jd Davis, members of the public

Trustee and acting Chair Janet Hood called the regular meeting to order at approximately 6:06 pm.

ADOPT THE AGENDA

Trustee Jeff Flessner made a motion to adopt the agenda. Trustee Tom Whitt seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

FY2025 BUDGET HEARING

Trustee Janet Hood opened the public hearing at approximately 6:08 pm. Noah Lamb gave an overview presentation on the FY2025 budget. There were no public comments. Hearing none, Trustee Tom Whitt made a motion to close the public hearing. Trustee Mary Campbell seconded the motion. The public hearing was closed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Keith Cornille thanked everyone who led and attended the tour earlier this evening of the Workforce Development Center (WDC)/Student Center and gave an update on the project. He also thanked everyone who attended recent events such as Heartland Night Out, Breakfast on the Quad, and others.

President Cornille stated that the annual campus security report, the Clery Report, has been prepared by the deadline and will be available to the campus community later this week, well before October 1st as required.

President Cornille stated that the College has not yet heard about the status of the equity tax from the state of Illinois but anticipates hearing something in the next week or so. In which case, the matter is anticipated to come before the Board for potential action in October.

President Cornille reviewed the rest of the meeting's agenda items.

Jill Blair, Director of Grants, provided the FY2024 Grants Report, defining the role of the grants office, giving a summary of the year's activities, and offering a comparison with previous years. Ms. Blair entertained various questions from the Board.

CABINET REPORTS

Jennifer O'Connor gave an update on the HLC accreditation cycle/process. The College is in year five of a ten-year cycle. Last year, the College submitted its assurance argument and now is in the process of submitting a quality improvement project. A proposal for this project will be brought before the Board sometime in the next several months. Fostering student belonging and supporting first-year students are both part of Heartland's focus for the quality improvement project.

Dr. Sarah Diel-Hunt gave a report on undergraduate credit enrollment, Census Day Fall 2024. In brief, the Fall 2024 Census Day numbers reveal a decrease in overall undergraduate headcount (-2.0%) and credit hours (-1.4%) as compared to a year ago.

Within that overall total, the decline for regular undergraduate headcount enrollment (-1.9%) compares to a 3.3% decline in College NOW dual credit headcount. The College NOW program has seen exponential growth over the last 10 years but is now likely stabilizing with this year's decrease resulting from high school staffing declines in qualified instructors and some changes the College made to programs resulting in changes to dual credit course offerings.

In terms of trends, we continue to see growth of our minority student population, with this year's class being again the most diverse in history (36%), with a 14% increase in black student enrollment and a 40% increase in international student enrollment (70 students is our highest number of international students in history).

The College is also seeing growth in other areas of focus in the Strategic Enrollment Management Plan including students 25 years and older (+1%) and a 7% increase in students enrolled in applied/work ready programs. The one area of SEM Plan focus not seeing growth this Fall was recent high school graduates (-4% total; -6% in district).

FINANCIAL REPORT

Trustee Josh Crockett gave the Finance Committee report. He stated that the Finance Committee began with approval of meeting minutes, then proceeded with concurrence of the Consent Agenda. They received updates on the Fiscal Year 2025 final budget, the Fiscal Year 2024 surplus equipment report, the RFP process for legal services, and the capital financing strategy as well as capital projects.

Noah Lamb reported on the progress of the audit; an update is currently anticipated in October to the Board, with a final audit presentation at the November Board meeting.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

ICCTA

Trustee Tom Whitt reported that on September 13 and 14th, he, Trustee Janet Hood, and Trustee Auston Koch attended the ICCTA meetings in Springfield. It was an informative and worthwhile session. The seminar during this session was on presidential/executive searches. There is a BEP Summit on September 27th at Prairie State College. The next ICCTA meetings are November 15-16 in Schaumburg. The ACCT convention is upcoming in mid-October in Seattle WA. Several representatives from the central Illinois region are up for election at the convention.

STUDENT TRUSTEE

Trustee Auston Koch reported that student leaders/groups are having their first meetings of the semester. They are excited about the developments at the WDC/Student Center. Trustee Koch gave an overview of upcoming student and community events. The ribbon cutting for the WDC/Student Center is upcoming on October 3rd. It will be a student-focused event for a student-focused space.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Trustee Janet Hood noted that the calendar of events is available in the Board packet.

BOARD POLICY REVIEW

Trustee Mary Campbell gave an update. There is a statute citation regarding employee furloughs that needs to be updated in the Board Policy (Section 6.14.). That will come back for Board action in a future meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Trustee Tom Whitt and seconded by Trustee Auston Koch to approve the Consent Agenda:

- Approval of Bills: August 2024
- Approval of Minutes
 - Board Workshop and Regular Meetings – August 20, 2024
 - Semi-Annual Closed Session Minutes and Records – January to July 2024
- Travel Expenditures: June and July
- Surplus Equipment/Fixed Assets
- Transfer to Restricted Purposes for:

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- Education Innovations, Facilities Upgrades, and Instructional Equipment
- Capital Improvements and Deferred Maintenance

The motion passed unanimously.

NON-PERSONNEL

Trustee Josh Crockett made a motion to pass the Heartland Community College FY2025 Budget. Trustee Tom Whitt seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Auston Koch made a motion to pass the Approval of Professional Services: College Legal item. Trustee Jeff Flessner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Josh Crockett made a motion to pass the Strategic Plan Facilitation item. Trustee Jeff Flessner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

PERSONNEL


Trustee Auston Koch made a motion to pass the Monthly Personnel Actions item. Trustee Josh Crockett seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Tom Whitt made a motion to pass the Faculty Tenure Recommendation item. Trustee Jeff Flessner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Tom Whitt made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Trustee Josh Crockett. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:38 pm.


Becky Ropp, Chair


Josh Crockett, Secretary