

**HEARTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
1500 W. RAAB ROAD, NORMAL, IL  
COMMUNITY COMMONS BUILDING (CCB) 1406/07  
DECEMBER 17, 2024  
6:00PM – REGULAR MEETING**

Members Present: Becky Ropp, Janet Hood, Jon Kilgore, Josh Crockett, Auston Koch

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

Members Absent: Cecelia Long, Tom Whitt, Mary Campbell

Chair Becky Ropp called the meeting to order at approximately 6:06 pm.

**ADOPT THE AGENDA**

Trustee Janet Hood made a motion to adopt the agenda. Trustee Auston Koch seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were three public comments: Doug Reiners, Doug Baker, and Jim Bertolet. All spoke with concern regarding the tax levy. Jim Bertolet also inquired about the bonds for the Cornbelters stadium and would like to know the plan for the future.

**PUBLIC HEARING – TAX LEVY**

A public hearing regarding the tax levy was held, commencing at approximately 6:14 pm. Mr. Noah Lamb made a brief presentation with the high points regarding the levy, summarizing items that were discussed during the previous two Board meetings. There were no public comments made during or submitted for the hearing. Trustee Janet Hood made a motion to adjourn the public hearing, which was seconded by Trustee Josh Crockett and passed unanimously. The hearing adjourned at approximately 6:21 pm.

**PUBLIC HEARING – BONDS**

A public hearing regarding College bonds was held, commencing at approximately 6:22 pm. Mr. Noah Lamb made a brief presentation. There were no public comments made during or submitted for the hearing. Trustee Janet Hood made a motion to adjourn the public hearing, which was seconded by Trustee Auston Koch and passed unanimously. The hearing adjourned at approximately 6:27 pm.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Keith Cornille reported that the College is wrapping up the fall term. He welcomed Trustee Jon Kilgore to the Board. Trustee Kilgore will be filling the seat vacated by Jeff Flessner

on December 1, serving until the April 2025 election. On January 3, the College will be hosting a candidate orientation for anyone running for the April 2025 election.

President Cornille noted that policies are reviewed by trustees regularly. Section 8, Campus & Community, was recently reviewed and one correction was identified. President Cornille gave the first reading of this correction and explained it was a change in title of the officer responsible.

President Cornille mentioned that a postcard for the College's Community Update (Annual Report) was sent out recently. It used to be a print piece but it has been transitioned to an electronic format. He mentioned that an employee count sheet was placed at Trustees' seats as an informational item. A list of budget themes/priorities was also at Trustees' seats. President Cornille went over the rest of the agenda for the evening's meeting and then introduced Jen O'Connor for her Higher Learning Commission (HLC) presentation.

Jen O'Connor gave a presentation which updated the Board on the HLC Open Pathway timeline and the Quality Initiative.

## **CABINET REPORTS**

Dr. Sarah Diel-Hunt gave an enrollment update. The College is currently running flat in head count and slightly up in credit hours for the spring term. She will provide a full report at the January meeting once numbers are available. Early indicators are showing increases at Lincoln and Pontiac. Dr. Diel-Hunt reported on the success of Heartland's e-sports, which had a very successful fall season:

Top 4 nationals results in Tier 1 competition:

- 2nd place finish for Chris Novy in Hearthstone
- 3rd place finish for Caleb Spicer in Street Fighter 6
- 3rd place finish for Caleb Spicer in Tekken
- 3rd place finish for Dalan Bausley in Madden
- 4th place finish for Ian McNally in Super Smash Bros Ultimate
- 4th place finish for our Rocket League Team (Adam Bennis, Nathan Conrad and Kevin Gonzalez)

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

### Finance Committee Report

Trustee Janet Hood reported on behalf of the Finance Committee. She reported that the Committee received brief updates on the 2024 tax levy resolution and the Protection, Health, and Safety (PHS) projects that will be part of this year's levy. They also discussed employee insurance and planning for future years.

It is the Finance Committee's recommendation that the Board approve the tax levy and associated PHS projects.

### Finance and Administration

Mr. Noah Lamb gave a brief overview of the status of previously approved Protection, Health, and Safety (PHS) projects and the projects that are currently proposed on tonight's agenda. Proposed projects would not start until May of 2025 or beyond and would have a three-year completion window.

Mr. Lamb briefly discussed the FY2026 budget themes, which include instructional innovation, employee support, implementation of the Strategic Enrollment Management (SEM) plan and completion strategies, and maintenance of efforts.

## **TRUSTEE REPORTS**

### ICCTA

Chair Becky Ropp mentioned the ACCT National Legislative Summit (NLS) is approaching on February 9-12. Trustee Janet Hood reported that the next ICCTA meeting is March 13-15 in Lisle. The ICCTA Annual Meeting is in Normal in early June.

### Student Trustee

Trustee Auston Koch provided an overview of recent student activities. The Week of Welcome is coming up in January. The Game Room in the WDC/Student Center will officially open that week. January 24 is Heartland Night at the Bloomington Bison game.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Trustee Josh Crockett moved to approve the Consent Agenda.

- Approval of Bills
- Minutes: November 19, 2024 Board Workshop and Regular Meeting
- Travel Expenditures
- Board Meeting Calendar CY 2025
- Second Reading – Board Policy: Non-Credit Tuition
- Second Reading – Board Policy: Reservists Called into Active Military Duty

Trustee Jon Kilgore seconded. The motion passed unanimously

## **NON-PERSONNEL ACTION ITEMS**

### 2024 Tax Levy Resolution

Trustee Janet Hood moved to approve the Tax Levy Resolution. Trustee Auston Koch seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### Protection, Health & Safety Projects Approval

Trustee Josh Crockett moved to approve the Protection, Health, and Safety Projects. Trustee Janet Hood seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## **PERSONNEL ACTION ITEMS**

### Monthly Personnel Actions

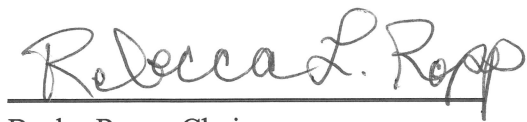
Trustee Janet Hood moved to approve the Monthly Personnel Actions. Trustee Josh Crockett seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Emeritus Designations

Trustee Janet Hood moved to approve the Emeritus Designations. Trustee Auston Koch seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Auston Koch moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Jon Kilgore seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:10 pm.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Rebecca L. Ropp", written over a horizontal line.

Becky Ropp, Chair

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Josh Crockett", written over a horizontal line.

Josh Crockett, Secretary