

**WORKSHOP OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
HEARTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE
211 E. Madison, Pontiac, IL – Room 214
March 18, 2025
5:00 pm**

Members Present: Mary Campbell, Josh Crockett, Janet Hood, Jon Kilgore, Auston Koch, Cecelia Long, Becky Ropp, Tom Whitt

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Keith Cornille, Chris Downing, Nora Dukowitz


Chair Becky Ropp called the meeting to order at approximately 5:00 pm. There was no public comment.

Chair Ropp introduced Chris Downing to present “Refining Regional Centers.” Dr. Downing gave an overview of the outreach process/listening tour that is currently happening to inform planning for the regional centers. He explained population and employment trends in the Lincoln and Pontiac areas. He also talked about the questions that are being asked of stakeholders in the district to find gaps in the environmental scan study data. Key points which were discovered so far during stakeholder meetings include the fact that jobs in health care are underreported, there is a large need for GED and ESL programs, and a childcare desert exists in the district. These conversations with community partners are not only a good opportunity to hear feedback but also an opportunity to share Heartland’s mission and dispel misperceptions, such as the cost of higher education. Questions and discussion ensued.

After the listening tour is complete, Heartland will use this data to build/adjust its programming and complete a “Regional Campus Plan” that will be presented to the Board in October 2025.

With no further items to discuss, Tom Whitt made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jon Kilgore seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:57 pm.


Becky Ropp, Chair


Joshua Crockett (May 5, 2025 16:29 CDT)
Joshua Crockett, Secretary