

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Community Commons Building (CCB) Room 1406/07
(Gregg Chadwick Community Board Room)
1500 W. Raab Road, Normal, IL
September 16, 2025
6:00pm

Members Present: Becky Ropp, Angell Howard, Josh Crockett, Janet Hood, Aemun Lopeyok, Tom Whitt, Laurie Bergner, Mary Campbell

Members Absent: None

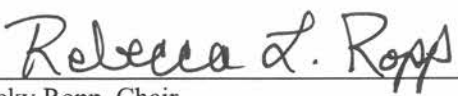
Others Present: Jean-Marie Taylor, Keith Cornille, Nora Dukowitz, Noah Lamb, Sarah Diel-Hunt, Chris Downing, Steve Fast, Angie Coughlin, Laurie Mueller, Scott Bolbock, Todd Lowery, Laura Hughs, Jen O'Connor, Mateusz Janik (Pantagraph), Scott Bross, Trevor Hoberty, Terrance Bond, Sarah Tipton, Jason Nelson, Josh Woods, others

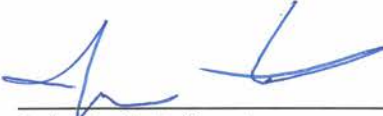
Minutes

Chair Becky Ropp called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and opened the hearing. She introduced Vice President Noah Lamb to give a presentation on the Fiscal Year 2026 final budget. The tentative budget was approved by the Board in June. Questions and discussion ensued. The FY2026 Budget will be considered by the Board for approval during tonight's regular Board meeting.

There were no comments from the public.

Trustee Tom Whitt made a motion to adjourn the public hearing, which was seconded by Mary Campbell and passed unanimously. The public hearing adjourned at approximately 6:18 pm.


Becky Ropp, Chair


Josh Crockett, Secretary

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 16, 2025
6:15pm**

Members Present: Becky Ropp, Angell Howard, Josh Crockett, Janet Hood, Aemun Lopeyok, Tom Whitt, Laurie Bergner, Mary Campbell

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Jean-Marie Taylor, Keith Cornille, Nora Dukowitz, Noah Lamb, Sarah Diel-Hunt, Chris Downing, Steve Fast, Angie Coughlin, Laurie Mueller, Scott Bolbock, Todd Lowery, Laura Hughs, Jen O'Connor, Mateusz Janik (Pantagraph), Scott Bross, Trevor Hoberty, Terrance Bond, Sarah Tipton, Jason Nelson, Josh Woods, others

Minutes

Chair Becky Ropp called the meeting to order at approximately 6:18 pm.

Adopt Agenda

Trustee Janet Hood made a motion to adopt the agenda, which was seconded by Trustee Laurie Bergner and passed unanimously.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

President's Report

President Keith Cornille thanked the presenters from the preceding Board Workshop/Dinner. He then gave an overview of the evening's agenda. He mentioned a few recently passed and upcoming events, including Heartland Night Out in early September and Breakfast at Heartland this Friday.

President Cornille shared with the Board that the Clery Report was filed by the October 1st deadline. An email will be sent shortly to campus that it is available, and the document will be posted on the website.

President Cornille completed a first reading of a change to the Board Policy which would add a financial report to the Board's standard order of business at each regular meeting.

Laurie Mueller gave a presentation regarding the Kids@Heartland program, giving details from the 2025 summer season and how it compared to the previous year. She introduced Sydney Clem, a 7th grader who participated over the summer, for comments about her experience. Ms.

Mueller introduced the other Continuing Education staff present. Questions and discussion ensued.

Jennifer O'Connor gave a brief presentation on the progress of the Higher Learning Commission accreditation cycle and Quality Initiative. Heartland is focusing on "belonging" for the Quality Initiative. She noted certain student success metrics and their progress over the years. Ms. O'Connor gives periodic updates on Heartland's Quality Initiative and anticipates providing additional information in the next few months.

Cabinet Reports

Vice President and Interim Provost Dr. Sarah Diel-Hunt gave a report on Census Day. The largest gains for this fall have been in Adult Education. That area was up over 10%. Undergraduate enrollment was also up over 1% in headcount. Dr. Diel-Hunt shared other statistics. She also shared that the College has recently kicked off its Academic Strategic Plan process.

Dr. Diel-Hunt recognized Stephanie Kratz for earning QM certification. She gave congrats to the Challenger Learning Center for receiving the Arthur C. Clark national award, which was won for the KidWind program.

Financial Report

Trustee Janet Hood gave a report on the activities of the Finance Committee. Vice President Noah Lamb reported that the College has not heard an update on whether or not the College will receive the Equity Tax, but anticipates news will come soon. Mr. Lamb reported that the Board will receive an audit report later this calendar year.

Trustee Reports

Trustee Tom Whitt gave the ICCTA report and recapped the recent meetings that occurred the previous weekend in Springfield. Trustee Whitt will be attending the ACCT conference in October in New Orleans. He mentioned that the next ICCTA meetings, accompanied by a Governance Training Institute, are in November in Naperville. Next year, the ACCT Congress will be held in Chicago and is looking for presentation submission.

Trustee Aemun Lopeyok gave the Student Trustee report, detailing past and upcoming student events. Several student organizations have had open houses already and a few have them upcoming. These open houses are great way for participants to introduce themselves and for potential participants to learn more. The Student Senate has started meeting for the year. This Friday Aemun will attend the Student Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting at Lakeland College.

Chair Becky Ropp mentioned the Calendar of Events in the Board meeting packet and encouraged the Board to review it and attend campus events when possible.

Consent Agenda Action Items

Trustee Tom Whitt made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented:

- Approval of Bills
- Board Meeting Minutes:
 - Amendment to the Special Session on July 21, 2025
 - Board Workshop and Regular Meetings on August 19, 2025
 - Semi-Annual Closed Session Minutes and Recordings February-July 2025
- Travel Expenditures
- Surplus Equipment/Fixed Assets
- Naming – Dolores Hellweg- Dennis Hellweg HALO Classroom
- Naming – Bill and Suzann Erlenbush Outdoor Classroom

Trustee Laurie Bergner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Non-Personnel Action Items

Trustee Janet Hood made a motion to approve the Heartland Community College FY2026 Budget. Trustee Josh Crockett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Personnel Action Items

Trustee Josh Crockett made a motion to approve the Monthly Personnel Actions. Trustee Tom Whitt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Janet Hood made a motion to approve the Faculty Tenure Recommendation. Trustee Laurie Bergner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Having no further business, Trustee Tom Whitt made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Josh Crockett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:29 pm.


Becky Ropp, Chair


Josh Crockett, Secretary