HEARTLAND
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MINUTES OF THE Business Meeting - Jun 16 2026
OF THE HEARTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

HEARTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE
1500 W. RAAB ROAD, NORMAL, IL
Community Commons Building - CCB 1406/07
Tuesday, June 16, 2026

6:00 PM

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

Members Absent: None

Others: Keith Cornille, Nora Dukowitz, Sarah Diel-Hunt, Terrance Bond, Chris Downing, Jennifer O'Connor, Sarah Hall, Kelly Pyle, Laura Hughs, Steve Fast, Jason Nelson, Josh Woods, Scott Bross, Mateusz Janik (Pantagraph), Liz Harms, Amy Pawlik, and others

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**

   Chair Becky Ropp called the meeting to order at approximately 6:03 pm.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America**

3. **Adopt Agenda**

   To adopt the agenda as presented

   Moved by: Thomas Whitt; seconded by: Angell Howard

   Aye: Summer Barone, Laurie Bergner, Mary Campbell, Josh Crockett, Janet Hood, Angell Howard, Becky Ropp, and Thomas Whitt

   Carried 8-0

4. **Public Comment**

   There was no public comment.

5. **President's Report**

   President Keith Cornille thanked Dr. Sarah Diel-Hunt and Dr. Terrance Bond for presenting on the draft Academic Plan at the preceding Board Workshop and Dr. Chris Downing for giving an update on the Regional Centers. He thanked those that attended the Elevate Heartland event last week, and those that helped with its planning and execution. He acknowledged Legat Architects, who recently won an award for the design of the Agriculture Complex. He reported that at the recent ICCTA Awards Gala, Sonja Workman won the statewide award for Adjunct Faculty Member, Mia Lescano received the Ghandi King Award, and Nora Dukowitz was awarded the Professional Board Staff Member honor.

Next week the College will be hosting guests from John A. Logan College (JALC) as part of an exchange program for both JALC and Heartland to learn best practices from each other and grow and nurture professional connections. Heartland will also be sending guests to John A. Logan. The pilot program will be assessed afterwards for possible wider rollout to other colleges.

President Cornille gave an overview of the evening's agenda items.

5.1 McLean County Veterans Commission Donation

President Cornille acknowledged the McLean County Veterans Commission, represented by Art Rodriguez, for a recent $10,000 donation to Heartland's veterans center.

5.2 Recognition of Gift - Heartland Bank and Trust Company (Oral)

President Cornille introduced Dr. Chris Downing to acknowledge a donation from Heartland Bank and Trust Company for a lounge area in the Student Center.

5.3 Project Labor Agreement

President Cornille gave an overview of the purpose of a Project Labor Agreement and informed the Board that one would be coming before them for consideration.

5.4 Cabinet Reports (Oral)

Dr. Diel Hunt also welcomed a new faculty member, Sarah Hall.

Dr. Chris Downing reported on last week's golf outing in Pontiac, which was a success. He also reported that fall enrollments in Lincoln and Pontiac are currently trending up.

Dr. Cornille reported that the College's student golf team is doing well.

Dr. Sarah Diel Hunt gave a report on the current status of summer enrollment, which is positive. The College continues to see strong enrollment, level in headcount and up in credit hours (2.1%) from last year at this time. She reported on some of the trends the College was seeing this summer. She also gave a very preliminary report on fall enrollment. Right now, the College is running about level for headcount for fall this year over last year and up about 2.1% in credit hours, mimicking summer.

6. Financial Report

6.1 Finance Committee (Oral)

Trustee Janet Hood gave a report from the Finance Committee. The Committee discussed the tentative budget and other items on the Board's agenda for consideration and endorsed their approval.

6.2 Property and Casualty Insurance Annual Renewal Rate FY27

Noah Lamb presented on the College's property and casualty insurance annual renewal. This is a rate renewal, not a renewal of the provider, which will remain the same as the previous year (Van Gundy). Representatives from Van Gundy presented briefly on their firm. Mr. Lamb explained the reason for the 19% (or approximately $100,000) increase, which is largely due to an increase in property values and the acquisition by the College of the Miracle League field and portion of the Constitution Trail. Wind/hail coverage is also impacting costs.

6.3 Tentative Budget FY27

Noah Lamb presented on the tentative FY27 budget, which is currently being presented as a deficit budget. He explained the budget and planning timeline, the operating fund, fund balance projections, and next steps. It is the intention of staff to bring forth a balanced budget for the Board's consideration in September.

6.4 Audit Timeline FY26

Noah Lamb presented the timeline for the FY26 audit.

7. Trustee Reports

7.1 ICCTA - Annual Convention Recap (Oral)

Trustee Janet Hood presented a brief overview of the ICCTA Annual Convention, which was held in early June in Lombard. As stated in the President's report, Heartland had three statewide award winners who received honors at the Gala. Next year, the Convention will be held in Normal. The next ICCTA meeting will be in September in Springfield.

7.2 **Student Trustee**

Student Trustee Summer Barone discussed her experience at the ICCTA Convention, forming new connections with other students trustees from across the state. Student activities are quieter in the summer than the rest of the year, but Student Engagement and others are busy preparing for the fall. Some student groups continue to meet over the summer. There are no major student concerns to bring forward at this time.

7.3 **Calendar of Events**

7.4 Board Retreat - July 21 at 6 pm (Oral)

Chair Becky Ropp mentioned the upcoming Board Retreat which will be held on July 21, beginning at 6 pm. The agenda is being established now. The Board will receive a few documents shortly in order to prepare for the Retreat and the associated self-assessment.

8. Consent Agenda Action Items

Consent Action

Moved by: Thomas Whitt; seconded by: Josh Crockett

Aye: Summer Barone, Laurie Bergner, Mary Campbell, Josh Crockett, Janet Hood, Angell Howard, Becky Ropp, and Thomas Whitt

Carried 8-0

8.1 **Bills**

8.2 **Minutes** : Board Workshop and Business Meetings - May 19, 2026

Board Workshop - May 19 2026 - Minutes - Public.docx

Business Meeting - May 19 2026 - Minutes - Public.docx

8.3 **Travel Expenditures**

8.4 Prevailing Wage FY27

8.5 Budget Transfer Resolutions FY26

8.6 Naming Agreement - Heartland Bank and Trust Company

8.7 Property and Casualty Insurance Annual Renewal Rate FY27

9. Consent Agenda Action Items

9.1 Bills

9.2 Minutes : Board Workshop and Business Meetings - May 19, 2026

Board Workshop - May 19 2026 - Minutes - Public.docx

Business Meeting - May 19 2026 - Minutes - Public.docx

9.3 Travel Expenditures

9.4 Prevailing Wage FY27

9.5 Budget Transfer Resolutions FY26

9.6 Naming Agreement - Heartland Bank and Trust Company

9.7 Property and Casualty Insurance Annual Renewal Rate FY27

10. Non-Personnel Action Items

10.1 Approval of Tentative FY27 Budget

To approve the recommendation as presented in Board Agenda Item 9.1.
Moved by: Janet Hood; seconded by: Angell Howard
Aye: Summer Barone, Laurie Bergner, Mary Campbell, Josh Crockett, Janet Hood, Angell Howard, Becky Ropp, and Thomas Whitt

Carried 8-0

10.2 Second Reading - Project Labor Agreement

To approve the recommendation as presented in Board Agenda Item 9.2.
Moved by: Laurie Bergner; seconded by: Josh Crockett
Aye: Summer Barone, Laurie Bergner, Mary Campbell, Josh Crockett, Janet Hood, Angell Howard, Becky Ropp, and Thomas Whitt

Carried 8-0

10.3 Approval of Campus Drainage and Lighting Improvements Bids

To accept the recommendation as presented in Board Agenda Item 9.3.
Moved by: Angell Howard; seconded by: Mary Campbell

Aye: Summer Barone, Laurie Bergner, Mary Campbell, Josh Crockett, Janet Hood, Angell Howard, Becky Ropp, and Thomas Whitt

Carried 8-0

10.4 Approval of Building Envelope Maintenance Bids

To accept the recommendation as presented in Board Agenda Item 9.4.

Moved by: Angell Howard; seconded by: Janet Hood

Aye: Summer Barone, Laurie Bergner, Mary Campbell, Josh Crockett, Janet Hood, Angell Howard, Becky Ropp, and Thomas Whitt

Carried 8-0

10.5 Approval of Prairie Maintenance Bids

To accept the recommendation as presented in Board Agenda Item 9.5.

Moved by: Laurie Bergner; seconded by: Angell Howard

Aye: Summer Barone, Laurie Bergner, Mary Campbell, Josh Crockett, Janet Hood, Angell Howard, Becky Ropp, and Thomas Whitt

Carried 8-0

11. Closed Session: Negotiations – Section 2(c)(2) of 5 ILCS 120 and Personnel - Section 2(c)(1) of 5 ILCS 120

To enter into closed session to consider collective negotiating matters, citing Section 2(c)(2) of 5 ILCS 120, and personnel, citing Section 2(c)(1) of 5 ILCS 120

Moved by: Josh Crockett; seconded by: Janet Hood

Aye: Summer Barone, Laurie Bergner, Mary Campbell, Josh Crockett, Janet Hood, Angell Howard, Becky Ropp, and Thomas Whitt

Carried 8-0

12. Personnel Action Items

12.1 Monthly Personnel Actions

Monthly Personnel Actions

To approve the recommendation as presented in Board Agenda Item 11.1.

Moved by: Thomas Whitt; seconded by: Mary Campbell

Aye: Summer Barone, Laurie Bergner, Mary Campbell, Josh Crockett, Janet Hood, Angell Howard, Becky Ropp, and Thomas Whitt

Carried 8-0

12.2 Adjunct Faculty Promotions

To approve the recommendation as presented in Board Agenda Item 11.2.

Moved by: Angell Howard; seconded by: Laurie Bergner

Aye: Summer Barone, Laurie Bergner, Mary Campbell, Josh Crockett, Janet Hood, Angell Howard, Becky Ropp, and Thomas Whitt

Carried 8-0

12.3 Employment Contracts Effective July 1, 2026, Continuing Through the First to Occur of Separation of Service of June 30, 2027

11.3.1. Sarah Diel-Hunt, Provost/Vice President, Academic Affairs, Annual Base Salary $190,348

11.3.2. Noah Lamb, Vice President, Finance and Administration/Chief Financial Officer, Annual Base Salary $181,597

11.3.3. Amy Pawlik, Vice President, Student Services, Annual Base Salary $147,356

11.3.4. Chris Downing, Vice President, Development and Community Engagement, Annual Base Salary $145,912

To approve the contract for Sarah Diel-Hunt, Provost/Vice President, Academic Affairs, as presented in Board Agenda Item 11.3.1.

Moved by: Josh Crockett; seconded by: Thomas Whitt

Aye: Summer Barone, Laurie Bergner, Mary Campbell, Josh Crockett, Janet Hood, Angell Howard, Becky Ropp, and Thomas Whitt

Carried 8-0

To approve the contract for Noah Lamb, Vice President, Finance and Administration / Chief Financial Officer, as presented in Board Agenda Item 11.3.2

Moved by: Thomas Whitt; seconded by: Janet Hood

Aye: Summer Barone, Laurie Bergner, Mary Campbell, Josh Crockett, Janet Hood, Angell Howard, Becky Ropp, and Thomas Whitt

Carried 8-0

To approve the contract for Amy Pawlik, Vice President, Student Services, as presented in Board Agenda Item 11.3.3

Moved by: Angell Howard; seconded by: Mary Campbell

Aye: Summer Barone, Laurie Bergner, Mary Campbell, Josh Crockett, Janet Hood, Angell Howard, Becky Ropp, and Thomas Whitt

Carried 8-0

To approve the contract for Chris Downing, Vice President, Development and Community Engagement, as presented in Board Agenda Item 11.3.4.

Moved by: Laurie Bergner; seconded by: Janet Hood

Aye: Summer Barone, Laurie Bergner, Mary Campbell, Josh Crockett, Janet Hood, Angell Howard, Becky Ropp, and Thomas Whitt

Carried 8-0

13. Adjournment

To adjourn

Moved by: Thomas Whitt; seconded by: Angell Howard

Aye: Summer Barone, Laurie Bergner, Mary Campbell, Josh Crockett, Janet Hood, Angell Howard, Becky Ropp, and Thomas Whitt

Carried 8-0

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:25 pm.

Rebecca L. Ropp
Becky Ropp, Board Chair

Josh Crockett
Josh Crockett (Aug 23, 2026 22:32:55 CDT)
Josh Crockett, Board Secretary

June 2026 Board Meeting Minutes

Final Audit Report 2026-08-24

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