MINUTES OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

**DISTRICT NO. 537**

**RICHLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**September 17, 2024**

# CONVENING OF THE MEETING

Call to Order

The regular meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. Tuesday, September 17, 2024, in the Board Room of Richland Community College by Chairwoman Carr. Chairwoman Carr also recited the College Vision, Mission, and Core Values.

## Roll Call

Trustees Present: Tom Ritter, Dan Diskey, Dale Colee, Ben Andreas, Bishop Wayne Dunning, Vicki Carr, Marcy Rood and Brayden Thomas

Trustees Absent: None

Also present: Dr. Cris Valdez and other staff members

# MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Regular Meeting on August 20, 2024, had been distributed to the Board prior to this meeting.

Bishop Dunning moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on August 20, 2024. Thomas seconded. Voice vote being all ayes, Chairwoman Carr declared the motion carried.

# APPEARANCE OF CITIZENS AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Dr. Valdez and the Board of Trustees welcomed Valerie Wells of the Herald and Review, and Susie Conaway, Student Success

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Andreas moved to enter into closed session for the purpose of discussing individual employments, as specified in Section 2 (c) (1); for the purpose of discussing collective negation matters, as specified in Section 2 (c) (2); for discussion of purchase or lease of real property, as specified in Section 2 (c) (5); for discussion of pending or probable litigation, as specified in Section 2 (c) (11); and for self-evaluation as specified in Section 2 (c) (16) of the Open Meetings Act. Ritter seconded. Voice vote being all ayes, Chairwoman Carr declared the motion carried.**

Meeting convened into closed session at 5:34 p.m.

Meeting reconvened into open session at 6:43 p.m.

**WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

##### Personnel Update

**New Employees**

**Name Position Start Date**

Jill Branyan Accountant 08/12/2024

Dr. Santia Fitzpatrick-Butler ADN Associate Professor 08/12/2024

Sean Dial Welding Instructor 08/12/2024

William (Bill) Gubbins Engineering Instructor 08/12/2024

Jami Windhorn-Obermeyer Nurse Assistant Instructor/Program Coordinator 08/12/2024

Dr. James (Jim) Jones Business Faculty 08/12/2024

Dr. Melissa Scircle Psychology Faculty 08/12/2024

Derek Clem ART Faculty 08/12/2024

Hunter Tuinstra Temp Full-time English Faculty 0812/2024 Cody Morrell Temp Full-time Sociology Faculty 08/12/2024

Kirsten Maschmann Administrative Assistant Nursing Education 08/26/2024

**Changes**

**Name Position Start Date**

Antonio Valdez Solutions Specialist to CEJA Student Coordinator 08/26/2024

**Retirements, Resignations, and Terminations**

**Name Position Last Day**

Corrie Cool Housekeeping MCLETC 08/02/2024

Kathy White Skills Trade Specialist 08/02/2024

Adam Lovell Grant Coordinator 08/08/2024

# SPECIAL REPORTS

**REPORT OF ICCTA**

Chairwoman Carr and Bishop Dunning gave highlights of the last ICCTA meeting held in Springfield.

Advocacy

* Discussed revised language and formatting for ICCTA’s 2025 legislative agenda, which will be adopted at the November 16 board meeting in Schaumburg.
* Learned that ICCTA’s Community College Baccalaureate initiative is expanding its student interest survey to more colleges.
* Asked trustees to speak with their legislators in support of renewed state funding for the Pipeline for the Advancement of the Healthcare Workforce (PATH) Program.
* Heard that ICCTA and the Illinois Council of Community College Presidents will host a Business Enterprise Program summit on September 27 at Prairie State College to share best practices.
* Received updates on the Presidents Council, the Illinois Community College Board, the Illinois Community College Marketing Collaborative, and the Association of Community College Trustees

Member Engagement

* Reviewed the first draft of ICCTA’s proposed 2025-2027 Strategic Plan.
* Learned that the Diversity Committee will seek trustee input on revising ICCTA’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion statement.
* Heard that the Awards Committee adopted nomination deadlines for 2025.
* Received the association’s Fiscal Year 2024 audit.

Trustee Education

* Heard presentations on BEP, artificial intelligence, and presidential searches.
* Welcomed remarks from Moraine Valley Community College trustee Tiffany Robinson on how wraparound services helped her as a returning adult student.
* Were informed that Trustee Roundtable participants discussed board development and board chair responsibilities.
* Promoted ACCT’s October 23-26 Leadership Congress in Seattle. In addition to several Illinois-focused sessions, ICCTA will host a reception on October 23, and four Illinois colleges will be honored with ACCT Central Region awards.

**FACULTY REPORT**

Dr. Chris Merli was not in attendance to present the Faculty Report.

**MONITORING REPORT**

Julie Melton presented the Monitoring Report – Institutional Advancement

**REPORT OF STUDENT TRUSTEE**

Student Trustee Brayden Thomas presented the Student Leadership Council Report.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**PRESIDENTIAL EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT RESTATED**

A recommendation was made to the Board of Trustees to approve the contract for Dr. Cristobal Valdez, as presented.

**Bishop Dunning moved to approve the contract for Dr. Cristobal Valdez, as presented. Andreas seconded. Roll call vote being all ayes, Chairwoman Carr declared the motion carried.**

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT FOR RICHLAND FEDERATION OF TEACHERS LOCAL 4262 FOR 2024-2027**

A recommendation was made to the Board of Trustees to approve the 2024-2027 RFT contract, as presented.

**Diskey moved to approve the 2024-2027 RFT contract, as presented. Bishop Dunning Seconded. Roll call vote being all ayes, Chairwoman Carr declared the motion carried.**

**BOARD POLICY 4.5 AND 4.9.4 – THIRD READING AND ADOPTION**

Updates were made to the Board Policy 4.5 and 4.9.4 to maintain compliance with Illinois Public Act 103-0054 (The Student Debt Assistance Act), as presented.

**Bishop Dunning moved to adopt changes to Board Policy 4.5 and 4.9.4 to maintain compliance with Illinois Public Act 103-0054 (The Student Debt Assistance Act), as presented. Thomas seconded. Roll call vote being all ayes, Chairwoman Carr declared the motion carried.**

**CLOVER LEARNING STUDENT PLAN**

A recommendation was made to the Board of Trustees to approve the radiography program faculty’s request to purchase the 24-month Clover Learning student plan of Louisville, KY, in the amount of $17,640.00, as presented.

**Bishop Dunning moved to approve the radiography program faculty’s request to purchase the 24-month Clover Learning student plan of Louisville, KY, in the amount of $17,640.00, as presented. Diskey seconded. Roll call vote being all ayes, Chairwoman Carr declared the motion carried.**

FINANCIAL REPORT

BILLS AND TRAVEL EXPENDITURES PAYABLE

The August 2024 Treasurer’s Report and Financial Statement were presented to and discussed with the Board.

A list of bills paid in the amount of $1,790,946.56 for August 2024 was distributed to the Board prior to the meeting.

Ritter moved to ratify the August bills and travel expenditures paid and approve the Financial Statement subject to audit. Rood seconded. Roll call vote being all ayes, Chairwoman Carr declared the motion carried.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

* President Valdez reminded the Trustees that the IMA Makers on the Move will be on campus Friday October 4 at 10:30 a.m. in the Shilling parking lot. Please feel free to stop by.
* The October Board meeting will be held at MCLETC.

ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

* Marcy Rood invited everyone to attend the EV Ride and Drive event that will be held in Progress City on Saturday September 21, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Colee moved and Bishop Dunning seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

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Benjamin Andreas, Secretary