MINUTES OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

**DISTRICT NO. 537**

**RICHLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**April 16, 2024**

# CONVENING OF THE MEETING

Call to Order

The regular meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 16, 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, Vicki Carr, Dale Colee, Ben Andreas, Bishop Wayne Dunning, Marcy Rood, Dan Diskey, and Austin Yutzy

Trustees Absent: None

Also present: Dr. Cris Valdez and other staff members

# MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Regular Meeting on March 19, 2024, had been distributed to the Board prior to this meeting.

Bishop Dunning moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on March 19, 2024. Yutzy 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.

**REPORT OF SELECTION OF STUDENT TRUSTEE**

Dr. Isaac Zuniga made a recommendation to the Board of Trustees to seat Brayden Thomas to fill the 2024-2025 term of office commenting April 16, 2024

**SWEARING IN AND SEATING OF STUDENT TRUSTEE FOR 2024-2025**

Chairwoman Carr administered the Oath of Office to Brayden Thomas, new student member of the Board of Trustees for 2024-2025, and formally seated her as a student trustee.

 **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

##### Personnel Update

**New Employees**

**Name Position Start Date**

Danielle Patricio Dean Liberal Arts 03/04/2024

Sara Kennedy CTE Navigator 03/25/2024

Jalen Wilson Library Technical Assistant 03/25/2024

Ariel Velasco Project Read Plus Literacy Coordinator 03/25/2024

Jane Koenig Project Read Plus Literacy Coordinator 03/25/2024.

Zachary Harper Project Read Plus Literacy Coordinator 03/25/2024.

**Retirements, Resignations, and Terminations**

**Name Position Last Day**

Tammy Meinders FT Housekeeping MCLETC 03/29/2024

# SPECIAL REPORTS

**REPORT OF ICCTA**

Chairwoman Carr reminded Trustees of upcoming ICCTA meetings:

May 1 and 2 – ICCTA Meeting and Lobby Day – Springfield, IL

June 7 and 8 – ICCTA Convention - Lombard, IL

August 9 and 10 – ICCTA Executive Retreat – Decatur, IL

**MONITORING REPORT**

Nicole DelMastro Jeffery presented the Monitoring Report – DEIBA

**HLC UPDATE**

Dr. Isaac Zuniga gave a preliminary update on the HLC visit.

**FACULTY REPORT**

Laurie Hughes presented on ChatGPT.

**REPORT OF STUDENT TRUSTEE**

Student Trustee Brayden Thomas presented the Student Leadership Council Report.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**REVISION OF BOARD POLICY 1.27 – THIRD READING AND ADOPTION**

A recommendation was made to the Board of Trustees to adopt revisions to Policy 1.27 – Strategic Plan, as presented.

**Colee moved to adopt revisions to Policy 1.27 – Strategic Plan, as presented. Andreas seconded. Roll call vote being all ayes, Chairwoman Carr declared the motion carried.**

**APPROVAL FOR PURCHASE OF JOHN DEERE GATOR**

A recommendation was made to the Board of Trustees that would authorize the Administration to purchase a John Deere 835 Gator for the contract price of $40,485.410 from Deere & Company through Sloan Implement of Shelbyville, IL, as presented.

**Colee moved to approve the purchase a John Deere 835 Gator for the contract price of $40,485.410 from Deere & Company through Sloan Implement of Shelbyville, IL, as presented. Diskey seconded. Roll call vote being all ayes, Chairwoman Carr declared the motion carried.**

**PURCHASE OF UTILITY TRANSPORT VEHICLE FOR CULINARY ARTS AND FOOD SERVICE**

A recommendation was made to the Board of Trustees to approve the purchase of a John Deere Gator from Sloan Implement of Shelbyville, IL, for an amount of $28,040.17, as presented.

**Andreas moved to approve the purchase of a John Deere Gator from Sloan Implement of Shelbyville, IL, for an amount of $28,040.17, as presented. Bishop Dunning seconded. Roll call vote being all ayes, Chairwoman Carr declared the motion carried.**

**PURCHASE OF SEMI-TRAILERS FOR CDL PROGRAM**

A recommendation was made to the Board of Trustees to approve the purchase of two semi-trailers as described from Arrow Trailer & Equipment Company of Springfield, IL, for the amount of $52,500.00.

Bishop Dunning moved to approve the purchase of two semi-trailers as described from Arrow Trailer & Equipment Company of Springfield, IL, for an amount of $52,500.00. Rood seconded. Roll call vote being all ayes, Chairwoman Carr declared the motion carried.

PURCHASE OF LAPTOP COMPUTERS FOR ENRICH PROGRAM STUDENTS

A recommendation was made to the Board of Trustees to approve the purchase of 170 laptop computers from Paragon Micro of Chicago, IL, for an amount of $93,607.10, as presented.

Andreas moved to approve the purchase of 170 laptop computers from Paragon Micro of Chicago, IL, for an amount of $93,607.10, as presented. Diskey seconded. Roll call vote being all ayes, Chairwoman Carr declared the motion carried.

**REAFFIRMATION OF PARTICIPATION IN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT OFFICE MATERIALS TRANSFER PROGRAM**

The Board of Trustees was asked to reaffirm participation in the law enforcement support office materials transfer program, as presented.

**Rood moved to reaffirm participation in the law enforcement support office materials transfer program, as presented. Andreas seconded. Roll call vote being all ayes, Chairwoman Carr declared the motion carried.**

FINANCIAL REPORT

BILLS AND TRAVEL EXPENDITURES PAYABLE

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

A list of bills paid in the amount of $1,726,135.47 for March 2024 was distributed to the Board prior to the meeting.

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

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

* President Valdez reported to the Board of Trustees and congratulated Dr. Isaac Zuniga on his acceptance to the Aspen Rising President’s Fellowship.
* President Valdez gave an update on the Recompete Grant Application Process. When complete, this would allow the College to receive up to $90 million and train up to 1900 students and place them in jobs in Macon County. We should have the final work in the next few months.

ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

* Tom Ritter asked for some clarification on the article posted by the ICCTA. The article can be viewed at <https://www.wglt.org/local-news/2024-03-27/dual-credit-amendment-shelved-amid-sharp-opposition-spearheaded-by-heartland-faculty-unions>

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Andreas moved to enter into closed session for the purpose of discussing individual.**

**employment, 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 n Section 2 (c) (5); for discussion of pending or probable**

**litigation, as specified in Section 2 (c) (16) of the open Meeting Act. Bishop Dunning seconded. Voice vote being all ayes, Chairwoman Carr declared the motion carried.**

Meeting convened into closed session at 7:26 p.m.

Meeting reconvened into open session at 8:18 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Rood moved and Bishop Dunning seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

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Benjamin Andreas, Secretary