

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING  
DISTRICT NO. 537  
RICHLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
ONE COLLEGE PARK – DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62521**

**February 17, 2015**

**CONVENING OF THE MEETING**

Call to Order The regular meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. Tuesday, February 17, 2015, in Conference Room E181 of the College by Chairman Campbell. Chairman Campbell also recited the College Vision, Mission, and Core Values.

Roll Call

Trustees Present: Bruce Campbell, Tom Ritter, Dale Colee, Dr. David Coopridier, Wayne Dunning, Dr. Larry Osborne, Randy Prince, Paris Woods

Trustees Absent: None

Also present: Dr. Gayle Saunders and other staff members

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the regular meeting of January 20, 2015, had been distributed to the Board prior to this meeting.

**Dr. Osborne moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 20, 2015. Prince seconded. Voice vote being all ayes, Chairman Campbell declared the motion carried.**

**APPEARANCE OF CITIZENS AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Dr. Saunders introduced Dennis Shull, Construction Occupations Instructor, Lincoln Correctional Center, David Altig, Construction Occupations Instructor, Logan Correctional Center and Rachel Rodgers with the Herald and Review.

**WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

1. College Activities Report

- Professional Development Day will be held on February 24, 2015 to provide training and development opportunities to faculty and staff. The College will be closed.

- The Annual Articulation Breakfast will be held on February 26, 2015. This annual event gives Superintendents, Principals and Guidance Counselors updates on the latest programs and happening at Richland Community College.
- The Office of Student Engagement is hosting Michelle Duster, an author, speaker, and personal historian as part of Black Student History Month on February 26 in the Shilling Auditorium.
- Partners in Education will host a luncheon on March 2 in the Shilling Salons to recognize and celebrate alliances between the business and education communities. Honorees include a dedicated community member (s), an outstanding business, and outstanding educator and area high school valedictorians.
- The Annual Pancake and Sausage Day breakfast will be held on March 3 from 7:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. in the Food Service Area.
- The next Board of Trustees meeting will be held on March 17, 201 at 5:30 p.m.

## 2. Personnel Report

### Retirements, Resignations, and Terminations

- Laura Mondt, Instructional Services Coordinator, Learning Resource Center, effective January 23, 2015

## 3. Construction Report

Dr. Saunders highlighted the written report of the construction progress of the Student Success Center, the completion of the Welding classroom renovation, Extension of the Fire and Security System to Macon County Soil and Water Conservation District, and Lock Replacement project.

## 4. Foundation Report

Richard McGowan provided an up-to-date report on the Foundation's activities including the Foundations contributions to the Student Success Center, an update on the Capital Campaign for the Business Education Center, scholarship support, the upcoming Golf Outing and connections with the Richland Community College Alumni.

## **SPECIAL REPORTS**

### **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

1. Dr. Saunders thanked the Board of Trustees for attending a good winter planning retreat last month.
2. A press conference was held on February 5, 2015 in the Schilling Center to announce the public phase of the Business Education Center Capital Campaign. Thanks to Bruce Campbell for speaking on behalf of the Board of Trustees and for the presence of those Trustees that were in attendance.
3. Dr. Saunders with Superintendent Lisa Taylor and Scott Frederickson from ADM to discuss the idea of how to design a model for business and industry internships using ADM as the business partner. Many meetings have been scheduled to work on the seamless education model for career and technical education that will begin in the middle schools, followed by freshman/sophomore preparation, then followed by Tech Academy/community college degree or certification. We anticipate the opportunity to develop a return on investment strategy that would make it important for companies to invest in the future of their workforce.
4. A meeting took place with Mike Carrigan, President AFL-CIO, Shad Etchason, IBEW, and Carl Draper, Decatur Trades & Labor Assembly in response to Governor Rauner's presentation at Richland Community College. It was a good meeting and they left understanding that Richland Community College serves as a neutral ground for any politician that might ask to use our facility and that 1<sup>st</sup> amendments rights are adhered to.
5. Dr. Saunders and Lisa Gregory attended Governor Rauner's presentation at the Decatur Club and afterwards had a few minutes to converse with him where he spoke with the President about his strong support for the work of community colleges in educating and training the workforce needed to turn Illinois around. She told him that Richland Community College and the Illinois community college system looked forward to working with him on a variety of projects over the next several years.
6. Lisa and Dr. Saunders traveled to Washington, D.C. last week, along with Bruce Campbell, Tom Ritter and Dale Colee for the annual ACCT National Legislative Symposium. Dr. Saunders and Lisa participated in a higher education and policy summit. It was very interesting and the conversations were directly supportive of the free tuition college idea introduced by President Obama and a college rating framework that is being designed. There was also a lively discussion on community college extensions for awarding baccalaureate degrees.

7. The new Alumnus of the Year has been selected. Eric Hector of Mt. Zion and Richland Class of 1989 will serve as Richland's Alumnus of the year for 2015. The College will honor his accomplishments several times over the next several months.
8. The College contract with Securitas Corporation for college security services is due to expire on June 30. A notice seeking a Request for Proposals was sent out and the College is in the process of evaluating the 7 proposals received. In addition to a written proposal, each firm will be interviewed by a staff committee. A recommendation to approve one of the companies will be presented to the Board in March.
9. Ellen Colbeck and Jessica Pickel presented the College Spotlight – Bridge to Health Care via Adult Education.

### **REPORT OF ICCTA**

Mr. Colee reported that the Legislative Summit was held in Washington, D.C. Community Colleges are in the fore front of education right now. There was a lot of conversation about the free tuition that was introduced by President Obama. We were able to meet with Congressman Rodney Davis, Senator Mark Kirk and Senator Dick Durbin and their staff. There was good conversation about Pell Grant and Federal funding for community colleges. The new buzz word is "K-14", not "K-12". Work force development is the driving force and the energy about getting people and communities back to work.

The ICCTA Finance committee met. There was discussion about the Baccalaureate degree programs at community colleges. A bill will be put in front of legislators later this session to be voted on. Mr. Colee asked the Board of Trustees how they felt about the community college proposal toward baccalaureate degrees. Chairman Campbell reiterated that even though the bill could be passed by the General Assembly, it is up to the individual colleges to decide what they want to do. Mr. Ritter stated that there are a lot of uncertainties and until questions are answered, he suggested that we be open minded to the concept.

Mr. Colee stated that he is very proud to be a part of Richland Community College, especially when he interacts with other ICCTA/ACCT college representatives. Richland Community College is very positive in everything that we do and we should all be proud to be a part of something so good!

### **REPORT OF STUDENT TRUSTEE**

Student Trustee Paris Woods reported on the upcoming events at Richland Community College. The activities are listed in the board book.

**AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS AUTHORIZED BY PRESIDENT SAUNDERS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2015**

During the month of January, Dr. Saunders signed the Lab/Clinical Affiliation Agreement between Richland Community College and Manor Court (Liberty Village).

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Tenure Recommendations**

A recommendation to adopt the following resolutions: 14-17: Vicki McMahon, Instructor, Practical Nursing; 14-18: Karen Hartman, Instructor, Nursing; 14-19: Dr. Srin Durairaj, Associate Professor, Biology, was presented to the Board.

**Mr. Prince moved to adopt the following resolutions: 14-17: Vicki McMahon, Instructor, Practical Nursing; 14-18: Karen Hartman, Instructor, Nursing; 14-19: Dr. Srin Durairaj Associate Professor, Biology, as presented. Dr. Osborne seconded. Voice vote being all ayes, Chairman Campbell declared the motion carried.**

**BOARD POLICIES, PROPOSALS, AND CHANGES**

**Board of Trustees – Section 1 – Board Policy 1.12 – Final Reading and adoption of Appearance of Citizens Before the Board**

Section 1 - Board Policy 1.12 is presented for final reading and adoption.

**Dr. Coopridier moved to approve Board of Trustees – Section 1 – Board Policy 1.12 Appearance of Citizens Before the Board as presented. Dr. Osborne seconded. Voice vote being all ayes, Chairman Campbell declared the motion carried.**

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

**Bills Payable**

The January 2015 Treasurer's Report and Financial Statement were presented to and discussed with the Board.

A list of bills paid in the amount of \$484,375.20 for January 2015 was distributed to the Board prior to the meeting.

**Reverend Dunning moved to ratify the December bills paid and approve the Financial Statement subject to audit. Dr. Osborne seconded. Roll call vote being all ayes, Chairman Campbell declared the motion carried.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Reverend Dunning moved and Mr. Prince seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:39 p.m.**

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Dr. David Coopriders, Secretary