MINUTES OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

**DISTRICT NO. 537**

**RICHLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**May 19, 2020**

# CONVENING OF THE MEETING

Call to Order

The regular meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 19, 2020, via Zoom of Richland Community College by Chairman Cooprider. Chairman Cooprider also recited the College Vision, Mission, and Core Values.

## Roll Call

Trustees Present: Tom Ritter, Dr. David Cooprider, Dale Colee, Randy Prince, Bishop Wayne Dunning, Vicki Carr, Bruce Campbell and Virginia Book

Trustees Absent: None

Also present: Dr. Cris Valdez and other staff members

# MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Regular Meeting on April 21, 2020 had been distributed to the Board prior to this meeting.

Campbell moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on April 21, 2020. Bishop Dunning seconded. Voice vote being all ayes, Chairman Cooprider declared the motion carried.

# APPEARANCE OF CITIZENS AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Dr. Valdez and the Board of Trustees welcomed the College community.

**REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND AD HOC APPOINTMENTS**

**Appointment of Board Officers**

**Colee moved and Ritter seconded the following recommendations of officers for 2020-2021**

Dr. David Cooprider – Chairman

Bishop Wayne Dunning – Vice Chairman

Randy Prince – Secretary

Chairman Cooprider appointed the following:

**Liaison to the Richland Community College Foundation Board of Directors**

Randy Prince

**ICCTA Representative**

Bruce Campbell

Bishop Wayne Dunning – Alternate

**Audit Committee**

Bishop Wayne Dunning

Vicki Carr

**Nominating Committee**

Tom Ritter

Dale Colee

**WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

College Activities Report

Tracy Withrow gave an update on the new Richland Website that go live this week and asked for feedback on the virtual Pinning and Commencement Ceremonies that were held last week.

# SPECIAL REPORTS

**COLLEGE SPOTLIGHT**

None

**REPORT OF ICCTA**

Bruce Campbell gave updates from the ICCTA Board meeting held on April 29, 2020.

* Acknowledged April as Community College Month (**#CCMonth**). Several trustees have shared their personal community college stories via ICCTA’s news list and social media;
* Noted that despite the cancellations of ICCTA’s March 13-14 meetings and April 29 Lobby Day due to COVID-19 restrictions, trustees and presidents remain connected through technology;
* Discussed the confusion surrounding the U.S. Department of Education’s [CARES Act guidance](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/caresact.html). The Community College Association Executives will send a letter to all member of Congress that requests three items:
  + Increased institutional flexibility in using emergency funding for essential college services;
  + Student relief funding guidelines that reflect the diversity of student populations (especially low-income, first generation, and DACA students); and
  + A substantial increase in higher education relief funds;
* Learned that U.S. Sen. Richard Durbin will soon release his annual letter to high school principals regarding for-profit colleges. In his letter, Sen. Durbin will recommend that students enroll at community colleges because of their low cost and quality education options;
* Asked ICCTA to seek clarification on CARES Act reporting requirements (**ICCTA Update**: *Association of Community College Trustees and American Association of Community Colleges attorneys have since advised ICCTA that neither students nor institutions need to track how students spend the money. The only requirement for the institution is that it discloses the formula used to determine how those funds are being distributed to students.*)
* Heard an update on Gov. JB Pritzker’s upcoming Executive Order that modifies the state’s stay-at-home restrictions, which will be issued May 1 and extend through May 30;
* Learned that the Illinois Community College Board has created a short-term Transition Back to Campus Committee to develop a statewide, consistent response to issues such as on-campus operations, classroom instruction, enrollment trends, student support, and health and safety;
* Heard that ICCB is seeking $18-20 million for the Illinois community college system from CARES Act discretionary emergency relief funds;
* Were informed that ICCB will extend all FY 2020 state grants until June 30, 2021, allowing programs additional time to spend those funds;
* Received an update on the Illinois General Assembly, which has not yet set a date to reconvene for its spring 2020 session. ICCTA, ICCB, and the Illinois Council of Community College Presidents continue to advocate for a $15 million Monetary Award Program set-aside for community college students and for state funding for the Illinois community college system at FY20 levels;
* Learned that the COVID-19 pandemic has greatly reduced the state’s gas tax and video gaming revenues, which is impacting community college capital funding. Colleges should be in contact with ICCB and their local legislators regarding the status of their construction projects;
* Heard a report that the Illinois Workers Compensation Commission has withdrawn its [emergency rule](https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/iwcc/news/Documents/13APR20-Emergency_Amendment_Only-50IAC9030_70.pdf) that would have allowed essential workers who become ill from COVID-19 to claim benefits, even if they could not prove they caught the virus while on the job;
* Were informed of the Presidents Council’s meeting with four-year universities regarding admission and transfer issues;
* Notified trustees that ICCTA’s June 5-6 50th anniversary convention has been cancelled. The Association is exploring options for rescheduling the annual awards banquet in September; and
* Were informed that the ICCTA Nominating Committee is recommending the following candidates for 2020-2021 ICCTA office:
  + **Jon Looney** (Black Hawk) – vice president
  + **Mandy Little** (Logan) – treasurer

               In addition, the nomination period for the position of 2020-2021 ICCTA secretary has been reopened until May 6. Interested trustees should submit [an application and a letter of support from their board of trustees](http://www.communitycolleges.org/nominatingltrsecretary2020.pdf); candidates will be interviewed on May 7 via Zoom.

**FACULTY REPORT**

None

**MONITORING REPORT**

Greg Florian presented the Monitoring Report on the Budget.

**MCLETC REPORT**

Commander Tad Williams reported: The MCLETC has continued to bring on-line courses and live scenario training to our Recruits via an internet platform.  After completing lengthy proposals, we have been able to bring Recruits back on campus, in smaller groups, to complete some of their training (based on guidelines by the ILETSB and the Governor’s Office).  During the week of April 20, we completed the 40 hour mandatory firearms training (MFT) for the 69 Recruits in RC20-07.  Over the past two weeks, ending Friday, 05/08/20, we completed the MFT for the 31 Recruits in RC20-08 (including overnight in the residential hall).

Beginning Monday, 05/18/20, we plan to bring the RC20-07 Recruits back to complete their Academy training.  This will be accomplished in three separate weeks (one group per week).  If successful, all RC20-07 Recruits will have completed the academy on Friday, June 5, 2020.  This is all contingent upon our latest proposal being approved by the ILETSB, ISP Medical Director, IDPH, and the Lt. Governor’s Office.

**REPORT OF STUDENT TRUSTEE**

Student Trustee Michaila Long presented the Student Leadership Council Report.

**FOUNDATION REPORT**

Julie Melton reported on top accomplishment, projects in progress and new opportunities on the horizon.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Ritter 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. Prince seconded. Voice vote being all ayes, Chairman Cooprider declared the motion carried.**

Meeting convened into closed session at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting reconvened into open session at 7:46 p.m.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR COMMUNICATION CABLE SERVICES**

A recommendation was made to the Board of Trustees that would allow the College to enter into an agreement with Bodine Communications of Decatur, IL to perform underground boring & associated improvements for an amount of $14,361.00, as presented.

Carr moved to approve the contract that would allow the College to enter into an agreement with Bodine Communication of Decatur, Illinois to perform underground boring and associated improvement for an amount of $14,361.00, as presented. Prince seconded. Roll call vote being all ayes, Chairman Cooprider declared the motion carried.

RECOMMEMENDATION TO APPROVE A ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF THE CONTRACT FOR RICHLAND FEDERAION OF TEACHERS LOCAL 4262 FOR 2020-2021

A recommended was made that the Board of Trustees approve the one-year extension of the 2018-2020 RFT contract as amended by the Memorandum of Understanding, as presented.

**Ritter moved to table this recommendation due to the pandemic event. Bishop Dunning second. Roll call vote being all ayes, Chairman Cooprider declared the motion tabled.**

**APPROVAL FOR PURCHASE OF MOWER**

A recommendation was made to the Board of Trustees authorize the Administration to purchase a Toro Z-Master 7500-D Series 96” Rear discharge Mower for the contract price of $34,066.00 from MTI Distributing, INC. in Berkeley, MO, as presented.

**Campbell moved to approve the recommendation that would allow College Administration to purchase a Toro Z-Master 7500-D Series 96” Rear discharge mower for the contract price of $34,066.00 from MTI Distribution, Inc. in Berkeley, MO, as presented. Carr seconded. Roll call vote being all ayes, Chairman Cooprider declared the motion carried.**

**APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT FOR THE 2020 PROTECTION, HEALTH, AND SAFETY PROJECTS**

A recommendation was made to the Board of Trustees authorizing the Administration to contract with Christy-Foltz of Decatur, at a contract price of $189,891.00 for the 2020 Protection, Health, and Safety projects, as presented.

**Carr moved to approve the recommendation that would allow College Administration to contract with Christy-Foltz of Decatur, Illinois, at a contract price of $189,891.00 for the 2020 Protection, Health, and Safety projects, as presented. Bishop Dunning seconded. Roll call vote being all ayes, Chairman Cooprider declared the motion carried.**

**APPROVAL TO CONTRACT FOR DARKROOM REMODEL**

A recommendation was made to the Board of Trustees authorizing the Administration to contract with Christy-Foltz of Decatur, IL for the work identified at a cost of $13,053, as presented.

**Campbell moved to approve the recommendation that would allow College Administration to contract with Christy-Foltz of Decatur, Illinois for the darkroom remodel at a cost of $13,053.00, as presented. Prince seconded. Roll call vote being all ayes, Chairman Cooprider declared the motion carried.**

FINANCIAL REPORT

BILLS AND TRAVEL EXPENDITURES PAYABLE

The April 2020 Treasurer’s Report and Financial Statement were presented to and discussed with the Board.

A list of bills paid in the amount of $1,259,369.87 for April 2020 was distributed to the Board prior to the meeting.

Prince moved to ratify the April bills and travel expenditures paid and approve the Financial Statement subject to audit. Carr seconded. Roll call vote being all ayes, Chairman Cooprider declared the motion carried.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

None

ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

* Randy Prince expressed his congratulations to the Richland Staff that have worked to get us where we are though this pandemic event.

ADJOURNMENT

Prince moved and Dunning seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

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Randy Prince, Secretary