CONVENING OF THE MEETING

Call to Order

The regular meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 16, 2021, in the Board Room and 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, and Bruce Campbell

Trustees Absent: Virginia Book

Also present: Dr. Cris Valdez and other staff members

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Regular Meeting on January 19, 2021 had been distributed to the Board prior to this meeting.

Campbell moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on January 19, 2021. Prince 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 all in attendance.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

College Activities Report

**February 2021**

- Black History Month Celebration – [www.richland.edu/blackhistory](http://www.richland.edu/blackhistory)
- Late Start Class Promotion – [www.richland.edu/latestart](http://www.richland.edu/latestart)
- Annual Report Released – [www.richland.edu/annualreport](http://www.richland.edu/annualreport)

Various Dates
- Macon County Health Department COVID Vaccine Clinics
- National Sequestration Education Center
February 16 & 18  Highway Construction Program Orientation Dates
              10am or 2pm

February 24  Black History Month Speaker - Marcus Gentry (Virtual Speaker)
              12:30pm via Zoom

March 2021

Women’s History Month Celebration – www.richland.edu/womenshistory

March 5  Midterm

March 15-20  Spring Break – No Classes

Media Coverage:

- New Foundation Board Members
- Drive-Through COVID Clinics at Progress City
- Gretchen Warner, Richland Student Starting Own Bakery Business
- Minority Mentor Protégé Program

New Spring 2021 Non-Credit Classes can be found here:
https://www.richland.edu/academics/workforce/professional-development-business-training

- Board of Trustees Meeting – Board Room, March 16, 2021
- Other activities listed in the Board Book
Personnel Update

**New Employee**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anna Logan</td>
<td>Adult Ed ESL Coordinator</td>
<td>01/04/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeremy Morris</td>
<td>Director, Minority Mentor Protégé Program</td>
<td>01/20/2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Retirements, Resignations, and Terminations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Last Day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alex Berry</td>
<td>Director, Student Development</td>
<td>01/29/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Lockhart</td>
<td>Coordinator, Career Program Support</td>
<td>01/29/2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SPECIAL REPORTS

REPORT OF ICCTA

Bruce Campbell shared highlights of the ICCTA meeting held via Zoom on January 30, 2021

- Learned that the **Illinois Council of Community College Presidents** has drafted a letter to petition **Gov. JB Pritzker** to include front-line community college employees in the state’s 1-B Group vaccination schedule;
- Previewed the Illinois General Assembly’s spring 2021 session. Lawmakers have cancelled most session days in February and plan to work remotely due to ongoing COVID concerns;
- Received an update on state budget issues. The **Illinois Board of Higher Education** has recommended a 2% increase in state funding for community colleges and a $15 million set-aside for community college Monetary Award Program grants. The Governor will deliver his budget address on February 17;
- Discussed the recently passed **omnibus education reform bill**, which was one of the four pillars of the **Legislative Black Caucus** Agenda. Two components affect community colleges: 1) the **Developmental Education Reform Act** requires consistent placement across the state, with
new reporting requirements every other year; and 2) the Illinois Workforce Investment Board will study the feasibility of consolidating workforce development programs;

- Were informed that ICCTA is applying for a grant from the Joyce Foundation to research and collect data on the state’s need for community college baccalaureate degrees;
- Announced that ICCTA will not hold an in-person Lobby Day in Springfield this year. Instead, trustees will focus on a hybrid approach of in-district lobbying and Zoom meetings with targeted legislative leaders;
- Learned that the Illinois Community College Board has suspended the High School Equivalency Constitution Test until December 31 due to a huge backlog of students;
- Reviewed community colleges’ 2021 federal legislative priorities, including Higher Education Act reauthorization, Pell Grant expansion, and student loan debt forgiveness;
- Reminded trustees of ICCTA’s virtual meetings with U.S. Sen. Richard Durbin (on February 3) and U.S. Sen. Tammy Duckworth (on February 4). The meetings will take place prior to the Association of Community College Trustees/American Association of Community Colleges’ February 8-10 virtual National Legislative Summit;
- Discussed efforts to increase college flexibility in spending down federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act grants. ICCTA has co-signed a letter with other higher education advocates that seeks an additional $97.3 billion in pandemic-related relief funds;
- Received an update on the development of ICCTA’s new strategic plan, which will be presented to the Board of Representatives in March;
- Learned that community colleges are actively involved in crafting IBHE’s 10-year Strategic Planning initiative. Martha Burns (Oakton) and Jim Reed (ICCTA) represent trustees on the steering committee;
- Were informed that the ICCTA Onboarding Committee is producing a series of member-only podcasts on governance. Topics will include trustee responsibilities and the Illinois Open Meetings Act;
- Heard that the ICCTA Public Relations Committee is developing a searchable Q&A database for the association’s website. The “Trustee Chat” resource will be accessible to ICCTA members only;
- Encouraged trustees to register for ICCTA’s March 12 seminar on “The Urgency to Treat Cybersecurity as a Business Decision,” which will take place as part of ICCTA’s March 12-13 in-person meeting in Schaumburg; and
- Endorsed two Illinois candidates for the fall 2021 Association of Community College Trustees elections: Fritz Larsen (Black Hawk) for Central Region director, and Dr. Maureen Dunne (DuPage) for ACCT director-at-large.

The next ICCTA Board of Representatives will meet in person on March 12-13, 2021 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Schaumburg, Illinois.
COLLEGE SPOTLIGHT

Rev. Courtney Carson and Dr. Jeremy Morris presented the Minority Protégé Program.

MONITORING REPORT

John Oliver presented the Monitoring Report – Community/Partnerships

REPORT OF STUDENT TRUSTEE

Dr. Isaac Zuniga presented the Student Leadership Council Report.

FOUNDATION REPORT

Julie Melton reported on top accomplishment, projects in progress and new opportunities on the horizon. She also provided the Trustees with an event brief on the Culinary Scholarship Dinner that will be held on March 27, 2021.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL TO AWARD FURNITURE CONTRACT

A recommendation was made that the Board of Trustees approve the bids and authorize the Administration to purchase Bid Packages 1, 3, & 5 from Henricksen & Co., Inc. of Peoria for $396,905.64 and Bid Packages 2, 4, & 6 from Resource One Office of Springfield for $176,021.00, as presented.

Campbell moved to approve the bids and authorize the Administration to purchase Bid Packages 1, 3, & 5 from Henricksen & Co., Inc. of Peoria for $396,905.64 and Bid Packages 2, 4, & 6 from Resource One Office of Springfield for $176,021.00, as presented. Carr seconded. Roll call vote being all ayes. Chairman Cooprider declared the motion carried.

APPROVAL TOPURCHASE AMBULANCE SIMULATOR

A recommendation was made that the Board authorize the College Administration to purchase the Ambulance Simulator all necessary component systems from Simulation Solutions LLC, Coleman, Texas for a total cost of $54,500.00, as presented.

Bishop Dunning moved to authorize the College Administration to purchase the Ambulance Simulator all necessary component systems from Simulation Solutions LLC, Coleman, Texas for a total cost of $54,500.00, as presented. Prince seconded. Roll call vote being all ayes. Chairman Cooprider declared the motion carried.
FACULTY PROMOTION

A recommendation was made to the Board of Trustees to promote Brooke Oliver from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor, as presented.

Bishop Dunning moved to promote Brooke Oliver from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor, as presented. Carr seconded. Roll call vote being all ayes. Chairman Cooprider declared the motion carried.

TENURE RECOMMENDATION

A recommendation was made to the Board of Trustees granting Tenure to the following.

The following faculty members are being recommended for tenure:

Brandon Clark, Instructor, Diesel Medium/Heavy Truck (Certificate, Nashville Auto Diesel College). Date of employment in a tenure track position with the College is August 2018.

Paula Rudolph, Nursing Instructor, Health Professions Division (MSN, Benedictine University). Date of employment in tenure track position with the College is August 2018.

Trevor Smith, Instructor, EMS/Program Director (MA, Kent State University). Date of employment in tenure track position with the College is August 2018.

Rachel Walton, Instructor, Medical Assisting Program Director/Practical Nursing Instructor (MSNE, Benedictine University). Date of employment in tenure track position with the College is August 2018.

Prince moved to grant tenure to the following: Brandon Clark, Paula Rudolph, Trevor Smith, and Rachel Walton, as presented. Bishop Dunning seconded. Roll call vote being all ayes. Chairman Cooprider declared the motion carried.

RECOMMENDATION FOR CONTINUANCE

A recommendation was made for continuance for the following:

Christopher Schmersahl, English Associate Professor, Liberal Arts Division (MA University of Missouri – St. Louis). Date of employment in a tenure track position with the College is August 2019.

Dr. David Larrick, Associate Professor, Biology and Sequestration (PhD, Pennsylvania State University). Date of employment in a tenure track position with the College is August 2019.

Bishop Dunning moved to grant continuance for Christopher Schmersahl and Dr. David Larrick, as presented. Campbell seconded. Roll call vote being all ayes, Chairman Cooprider declared the motion carried.
APPROVAL TO PURCHASE COMPUTING EQUIPMENT

A recommendation was made to the Board of Trustees for the purchase of computer & audiovisual equipment from CDW-G of Vernon Hills, IL, for a total purchase cost of $229,769.08, as presented.

Prince moved to approve the purchase of computer & audiovisual equipment from CDW-G of Vernon Hills, IL, for a total purchase cost of $229,769.08, as presented. Campbell seconded. Roll call vote being all ayes. Chairman Cooprider declared the motion carried.

APPROVAL TO PURCHASE AMMUNITION

A recommendation was made to the Board of Trustees for the purchase of ammunition for the Macon County Law Enforcement Training Center from Kiesler’s for $70,616.20, as presented.

Prince moved to approve the purchase of ammunition for the Macon County Law Enforcement Training Center from Kiesler’s for $70,616.20, as presented. Colee seconded. Roll call vote being all ayes. Chairman Cooprider declared the motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

BILLS AND TRAVEL EXPENDITURES PAYABLE

The January 2021 Treasurer’s Report and Financial Statement were presented to and discussed with the Board.

A list of bills paid in the amount of $3,051,198.41 for January 2021 was distributed to the Board prior to the meeting.

Bishop Dunning moved to ratify the January 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

- President Valdez reported to the Board of Trustees that we are still waiting on the rules for the Corona Relief Package (CRRSAA) funds.
- President Valdez reported that Richland is also still waiting on a decision for the CIMA grant.
- In addition, Richland is waiting on the Governors Report to see how to proceed with the Teamsters partnership.
- Summer and Fall registration will be separated in hopes that Fall semester will be more “normal”.
• Please remember to complete the 2021 Presidential Evaluation.
• The 2021 Annual Report was distributed electronically. A big thank you to Tracy Withrow for her dedication to getting it completed. Please share this with others in the community.

ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

• Dale Colee was thankful for the Minority Mentor Protégé presentation. This is a great opportunity for our community.
• Bruce Campbell asked that a breakdown of tuition rates be shared at the March Board of Trustees meeting.
• Vicki Carr asked if TIF Districts money could be shared with the community colleges. Greg explained that typically, they do not budget for the community colleges but Mt. Zion may have some surpluses after their threshold is met. He will keep the Board posted.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Campbell moved and Prince seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

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Randy Prince, Secretary