

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR MEETING  
SOUTHEASTERN ILLINOIS COLLEGE  
3575 COLLEGE ROAD, HARRISBURG, IL 62946  
JULY 16, 2019 – 6:00 PM

The Southeastern Illinois College Board of Trustees held its regular meeting on Tuesday, July 16, 2019 in the Rodney J. Brenner Board Room. On roll call, the following members were present: Dr. Pat York, Mr. David Dennison, Mrs. Debbie Hughes, Mr. Jim Ellis, Mr. Richard Morgan, Dr. Frank Barbre, and Bridget Payne. Also present were: Mr. Gene Hanses (from Robbin-Schwartz), Mr. David Pistorius (from First MidState), Lisa Hite, Dr. Karen Weiss, Dr. Chad Flannery, Mrs. Sara DeNeal, Dr. Jonah Rice, and Mrs. Lisa Dye.

Dr. York welcomed guests and allowed a time for comment.

**ICCTA Report – Dr. Barbre**

Dr. Barbre, Mr. Ellis, and Dr. Rice attended the annual ICCTA convention in early June. Dr. Barbre and Mr. Ellis took the trustee training which is required every 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> year. Robbin-Schwartz did the training and it was well presented, good information, and interesting. Later this summer SIC will receive a CD of the training so that our other trustees can use it. The highlight of the convention was the awards banquet. During this 2 ½ hour ceremony, Susie Lampley was recognized as our teacher of the year and Dr. Rice was awarded the Advocacy Award. The advocacy award was given to Dr. Rice for his outstanding leadership. This prestigious award honors Dr. Rice's dedicated leadership in advocating for the needs of students and the Illinois community college system. Dr. Barbre thanked Mr. Ellis and his wife, Marilyn, for preparing and donating a farewell meal for ICCTA retiring Executive Director, Mike Monaghan.

**SICEA – Sara DeNeal**

Southeastern Illinois College Phi Beta Lambda students, Lexa Carney of Eldorado, EmmaLee Pruitt of Norris City, and Mattie Ryder of Eldorado, along with advisor Kelsie Rodman, joined more than 2,000 of America's best and brightest college students as they traveled to Texas to Create. Lead. Inspire. EmmaLee Pruitt placed first in the nation, and won \$1,000, in Small Business Management Plan. Mattie Ryder placed fourth in the nation, and won \$200, in Marketing Concepts. Carney and Ryder also placed seventh in the nation in Social Media Challenge. Maggie Calcaterra completed a successful softball camp of approximately 64 players on June 26 and 27.

**Dr. Rice's Report**

Dr. Rice took the Trustees on a tour of the Learning Commons and the Ella Elizabeth Hise Art Museum before the meeting. He said the Learning Commons is half-way completed and that students are going to love spending time in this area. He has high hopes that the Governor will be here for the grand opening of the art museum. Dr. Rice reported that Mr. Ellis will be in Virginia this weekend and has plans to meet with Mr. Hise, take him to dinner, and thank him for his

generosity to SIC. Dr. Rice reported on SIC's budget. Our portion of the State system increase is just under a 2% increase over last year. Given the small high school graduating class, we expect tuition to be down from last year. We expect no significant change in EAV. We need to meet with the Board Finance Subcommittee to finalize and set some initial priorities. We are planning on a red budget and can absorb it but would not want to sustain such a practice. Regarding construction, Dr. Rice reported the Hise project is nearing completion. Floor tile in the A,B, and C buildings has been delayed. Environmental Services and Academic Services have met and determined a plan that minimizes moves and considers functional space. Dr. Rice asked for everyone's patience during this flooring delay. In HLC news, SIC is fully accredited and is in good standing. The visiting team praised our strengths in strategic and facilities planning, fiscal management, governance, procedures/policies, and staffing. The HLC team wanted us to change our assessment practices, particularly with general education assessment. While SIC has been praised in the past and even presented at HLC on assessment, this team did not realize our methods were based on presentations we have seen at the HLC annual convention. We may concede the need for third party general education assessment, but want to appeal to the Institutional Actions Council. That will be in December. Regarding retention/persistence/completion, the visiting team wanted a more robust data analytic system, but neglected to interview our current IR director, our past IR/Web director, me, or any members of our HLC Quality Initiative Project which was on RPC. We will appeal this finding to the IAC in December as well as a lack of due diligence. Dr. Rice said that he invited Dr. Weiss, Dean Sirach, Dr. Billman, and Director Barr to his house given the College was closed on Friday June 14<sup>th</sup> to have a conference call with the HLC and also to strategize our presentation. Dr. Rice said he appreciated their commitment and ongoing work on this project. Dr. Rice reported that our insurance cost is expected to be flat based on our financial position. The AFJROTC program has been shot down twice by the AF liaison. Congressman Shimkus and Senator Duckworth have asked for suggestions to help make this work. Dr. Rice will try once more to get this program for our area. Harrisburg Fire Department is most likely back as a dual responder. This may be official by Harrisburg City Council on Thursday. This helps our fire rating. Dr. Rice thanked John Gunning for working on this situation. The Cabinet Retreat is next week and the focus will be setting missions and bylaws for all committees as suggested by the HLC visiting team. Dr. Rice thanked Mr. Ellis for supporting the SICF's silent auction by partnering with him to provide a good evening of bar-b-que; thanked Dr. Weiss for her work with safety training; thanked Dr. Flannery for his work on dual credit, and scholarships; thanked Dean Sirach for her work on ACEN; thanked Dean Hite for her work on the construction projects; and thanked Ed Fitzgerald for his work on the construction projects.

### **Student Trustee Report**

Bridget Payne introduced herself as the new student trustee. She stated that a new club has been started, it is similar to FFA, but at the colligate level. Rachel Parrish and Bridget are working together to start this new club. Several members have already been recruited.

## **Consent Agenda**

A motion was made by Trustee Ellis, seconded by Trustee Hughes to approve the Consent Agenda which included the May 2019 minutes, destroying tapes of the July 2017 closed session, the Treasurer's Report and the approval of bills for May 2019 which totaled \$1,311,052.29 which included \$670,176.69 in payroll, and the Treasurer's Report and the approval of bills for June 2019 which totaled \$1,629,543.51 which included \$423,128.72 in payroll. On roll call all members voted aye. Motion carried.

## **Action Items**

A. Selection of First Midstate, Inc. as Underwriter/Placement Agent and Chapman and Cutler LLP as bond/disclosure counsel to the Underwriter/Placement Agent with respect to the District's General Obligation Refunding Community College Bonds.

Mr. Pistorius from First MidState spoke to the Board about refinancing prior bonds to reduce taxes for district taxpayers for up to nearly \$77,000. The current interest rate is 31.32% and the estimated new rate is 28.80%. No public hearing is needed to move forward. We would need a bond resolution at our August meeting. SIC won't see the savings, but the tax payers will and Pistorius said that is a positive move in the community.

A motion was made by Trustee Barbre, seconded by Trustee Ellis to accept the selection of First Midstate, Inc. as Underwriter/Placement Agent and Chapman and Cutler LLP as bond/disclosure counsel to the Underwriter/Placement Agent with respect to the District's General Obligation Refunding Community College Bonds.

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

B. Approval of Treasurer's Bond Increase Proposal.

A motion was made by Trustee Morgan, seconded by Trustee Barbre to approve treasurer's bond increase proposal.

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

C. Approval of Curriculum Report.

A motion was made by Trustee Ellis, seconded by Trustee Morgan to approve curriculum report.

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

D. Approval of Tri-State Copier Agreement.

A motion was made by Trustee Hughes, seconded by Trustee Morgan to approve Tri-State copier agreement.

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

E. Approval of SAN/Backup System Purchase.

A motion was made by Trustee Hughes, seconded by Trustee Dennison to approve SAN/Backup System Purchase.

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

F. Approval of PHS Flooring Replacement Change Order Number G-1.

A motion was made by Trustee Hughes, seconded by Trustee Ellis to approve PHS flooring replacement change order number G-1.

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Non-Action Items**

A. Correspondence.

Leslie Ferrell, First MidState, Michael Monaghan, and Moraine Valley Community College all sent nice letters that Dr. Rice wanted to share with the Board.

B. Dual Credit Summer 2019 Report.

In addition to Dr. Flannery's report, Dr. Rice added that SIC provides nearly a half a million dollars to local high school students to spend their time to completion with a post-secondary credential.

C. Developmental Education and Placement Update.

Dr. Rice told the Board that as for developmental education, legislation is expected to pass later this year on a Bill that will require colleges and universities to eliminate much of their developmental education and revise placement measures. This Bill would be a "one size fits all." Rice said this Bill is a big deal and will affect staffing, (especially if SIC does not get Title III) and that we have a lot of students who need remedial classes. SIC has tried multiple strategies in our own efforts to reduce developmental education, and our research shows that co-requisite courses in English, have resulted in a nearly triple success rate in comparison to the traditional dev ed approach. Rice said this is an unwinnable situation and the universities are against it too.

D. Board Policy Revision #6003 Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace.

Dr. Rice said we are revising this policy due to recent legislation on marijuana.

E. Board Policy Revision #6005 No Smoking.

Dr. Rice said we are revising this policy due to recent legislation on marijuana.

F. Board Policy Revision #9010 Drug and Alcohol Abuse.

Dr. Rice said we are revising this policy due to recent legislation on marijuana.

G. Water Tower Proposal.

Gene Hanses from Robbin-Schwartz gave a summary of the most recent proposal. A rental/maintenance fee of \$750.00 per month has been added. The money would be put in an escrow account and used for maintenance/renovation. SVCD rejected this addition. Mr. Hanses

requested removing the word “solely” from the proposal. SVCD rejected this request. Mr. Hanses requested removing the wording “insurance indemnification.” SVCD rejected this request. SVCD did agree to maintain the value. Mr. Hanses was hesitant to keep the “further agreed” clauses and he said the “unless” clause about most favored nation rates were not as clear as he would like for them to be. Additionally, the proposal included qualifications that he did not think should be included. The Board discussed risk aversion possibilities. The Board agreed to ask for one more meeting with SVCD and College officials to see if a mutually beneficial agreement can be reached by the September Board meeting where the Board will take a vote on whether to pursue such an agreement or not.

### **Personnel**

Trustee York said that he would excuse himself and not vote for the list of personnel items because item G involved a relative of his.

A motion was made by Trustee Ellis, seconded by Trustee Barbre to approve all items listed in Personnel.

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Approved revision to nursing job description, approved revision to psychology job description, approved revision to student success center assistant job description, approved revision to student resource assistant job description, approved transfer of Maggie Calcaterra from advisor to psychology instructor, approved to hire Alison Edmund as biology instructor, approved to hire Gareth York as theater instructor, approved to hire Jared Drake as men’s basketball coach/academic success monitor, approved to hire Sabrina Stout and Amy Hicks as nursing instructors, approved to hire Matt Vavro as women’s basketball coach/fitness center coordinator, approved to hire Rachel Atkins as cosmetology instructor, approved to hire Michael Intravaia as food service manager, approved to hire Travis Bond as academic advisor, approved Karen McConnell’s (nursing instructor) retirement, and approved to hire adjunct faculty.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, Trustee Morgan made the motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Trustee Barbre. All members voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 7:16 pm.