

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR MEETING  
SOUTHEASTERN ILLINOIS COLLEGE  
3575 COLLEGE ROAD, HARRISBURG, IL 62946  
DECEMBER 5, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.

The Southeastern Illinois College Board of Trustees held its regular meeting on Tuesday, August 15, 2023, in the Rodney J. Brenner Board Room at SIC. On roll call, the following members were present: Dr. Franke Barbre, Mr. Dave Dennison, Mr. Jim Ellis, Mrs. Debbie Hughes, Mr. Richard Morgan, and Student Trustee Ms. Addison Bean. Mr. Blake Bradley was absent.

Also present: Dr. Jonah Rice, Dr. Karen Weiss, Dr. Tyler Billman, Dr. Kyla Burford, Dr. Chris Barr, Lisa Hite, Kathy Volkening, Michelle Smith (Kemper CPA), and Jennifer Reed (Kemper CPA).

Dr. York welcomed guests and allowed time for comment.

**Kemper CPA Group**

Michelle Smith distributed the audit completion letter and the financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2023. The audit completion letter states that Kemper encountered no significant deficiencies with internal control while performing and completing their audit. The auditors spoke about areas that are “opportunities for improvement” but did not qualify as a deficiency. The report issued on the financial statements is unmodified.

**ICCTA Report – Dr. Barbre**

Dr. Barbre presented the ICCTA Highlights from November. He attended the ICCTA quarterly meeting where the subject of Artificial Intelligence was a topic of conversation. Future meetings will be highlighting this subject in more depth. He reported that Jim Reed was complimentary on the ICCTA Regional Trustee meeting that SIC hosted on November 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Student Trustee Report – Addison Bean**

Ms. Addison Bean reported that “Elf”, the musical was a sold out production in November. Competitive teams across campus have been busy with tournaments. Nursing students held a Nutrition Fair. Children’s Choir held their first Christmas program last weekend and it was well attended. Studio 618 will present their first dance recital next week.

**Dr. Rice’s Report**

Dr. Rice presented a summary from the ICCB Year End Report. He informed the board that he has met with 2 solar companies and has an appointment with another one soon to discuss the potential of solar power at SIC. He mentioned that one of the companies requires a \$3000 feasibility fee just to look at the potential for putting in solar. The members of the board were in agreement that the fee would have to be waived if they want our business. Dr. Rice agreed but reiterated that we are strictly in the fact finding phase right now but if we were to move forward he will discuss this

with any company that would charge a fee. Dr. Barbre expressed his concern of the possible negative reaction from the public if we were to use solar power. Dr. Rice updated the board on where we are with Campus Works. We have begun our first advisement period for IT and our upcoming ERP and SaaS/Cloud decision in the coming few years. He reported that the board will need to engage in faculty negotiations next year. We will be working on a 5 part diversity report that is now required by ICCB. There will be a sexual assault survey sent out to students in the spring. We are hoping for good student participation. Work on our Master Facilities and Improvement Plan should begin in the coming 24 months. Egyptian Health Department will be doing opioid overdose education and training for some SIC employees. The Absher-Graves Scholarship is going to be changing some beginning next year. The Foundation Annual Giving Drive has been one of the most productive in history. Dr. Rice explained that mental health concerns will continue to be a significant issue. In 2022, the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline received more than 5 million calls, texts, and chats. Dual credit will continue to be a hot topic as “The Great Squeeze” will be an issue for community colleges. Dr. Rice shared that Dr. Weiss has been busy with grants and has secured a CDL contract with the Marion Federal Prison. He reported that the gym has a new scoreboard with LED lighting. The CTE Academy is going strong. The Learning Commons continues to be a busy place after the extensive renovation. Dr. Rice expressed his appreciation to the Board for their approval of that project.

### **SICEA – Paul Cummins**

Paul Cummins was absent from giving his report.

### **Consent Agenda**

Trustee Hughes made a motion, seconded by Trustee Barbre, to approve the Consent Agenda, which included October 31, 2023, regular and closed session minutes, destroying the tapes of the May 2022 closed session, treasurer’s report, approval of bills for October, 2023 which totaled \$2,428,184.51 which included \$622,691.25 in payroll. On roll call, all members voted, aye. Motion carried.

Reimbursement of Travel, Meals, and Lodging Expenses. Dr. Barbre and Mr. Ellis will travel to Washington DC for the Legislative Summit February 4-7, 2024. Total estimated cost is \$4500.00. A motion was made by Trustee Hughes, seconded by Trustee Dennison, to approve the reimbursement of travel, meal, and lodging expenses. On roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

### **Non-Action Items**

- A. Review Revised Board Policy #2009.1 Attendance by Electronic Means – First Reading.
- B. Review Proposed Board Policy #2009.2 Board Meeting Minutes – First Reading.
- C. Review Proposed Board Policy #2009.3 Recording of Public Meetings – First Reading.
- D. Review Revised Board Policy #2011 Public Meetings – First Reading.

- E. Review Revised Board Policy #2012 Closed Session – First Reading.
- F. Review Revised Board Policy #2012.1 Recording of Closed Session – First Reading.
- G. Review Proposed Board Policy #2023 Electronic Communications – First Reading.
- H. Review Proposed Board Policy #9001.3 Student Disability Documentation – First Reading.
- I. Review CNA Handbook changes
- J. Review Upward Bound Compliance Assessment
- K. Review Student Support Services Evaluation Report

### **Action Items**

- A. A motion was made by Trustee Ellis, seconded by Trustee Morgan, to approve the IPMG Health Insurance Renewal for 2024. All members voted aye. Motion carried.
- B. A motion was made by Trustee Ellis, seconded by Trustee Morgan, to approve the annual audit. All members voted aye. Motion carried.
- C. A motion was made by Trustee Ellis, seconded by Trustee Barbre, to approve the The Certificate of Tax Levy. All members voted aye. Motion carried.
- D. A motion was made by Trustee Barbre, seconded by Trustee Hughes, to approve the Budget Transfers. All members voted aye. Motion carried.
- E. A motion was made by Trustee Hughes, seconded by Trustee Dennison, to approve the SIC/JALC Cost Sharing Agreement for Truck Driving - All other members voted aye. Motion carried.

### **New Business, Topics, or Discussion**

Dr. Rice let the board know that we may be entertaining bids for new liability coverage. He will keep the board updated on any new information as it becomes available.

### **Personnel**

A motion was made by Trustee Ellis, seconded by Trustee Morgan, to approve all items listed in Personnel. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

- A. Approve Adjunct Assignments for Spring 2024 Academic Term

### **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 7:45 p.m.