

SOUTHEASTERN ILLINOIS COLLEGE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
DECEMBER 2, 2025; 6:00 PM
RODNEY J BRENNER BOARD ROOM

The Southeastern Illinois College Board of Trustees held its regular meeting on Tuesday, December 2, 2025, at 6:00 pm in the Rodney J. Brenner Board Room. On roll call, the following members were present: Mrs. Debbie Hughes, Mr. Frank Barbre, Mr. Richard Morgan, Mr. Jim Ellis, Mrs. Gina Sirach, Mr. Blake Bradley, and Mr. Avery Henderson.

Also present were: Dr. Karen Weiss, Ms. Lisa Hite, Dr. Tyler Billman, Dr. Chris Barr, Dr. Kyla Burford, and Mrs. Kathy Volkening.

Mrs. Hughes welcomed guests and allowed time for comment.

Reports:

ICCTA (Barbre)

Trustee Barbre reported he and Trustee Ellis attended the ICCTA meeting in Naperville, IL from November 13-15. Artificial Intelligence was a major topic along with possible changes in Federal funding.

Student Trustee (Avery Henderson)

Mr. Avery Henderson reported:

- Men's basketball played University of Cincinnati-Clermont on November 22. We are 11-0.
- Volleyball hosted a high school volleyball all-star game on November 16.
- Clubs:

Circle K, PTK and Student Government: Sponsoring the annual "Freddie's Angel Tree" on campus through December 1. This year we will focus on SIC students.

Nursing: Participating in the Heaven's Kitchen's Seasoning event and the Elks Snowflake Fundraiser

Student Government: Sponsoring a "Hygiene Drive" through December 3rd.

Theatre: How the Grinch Stole Christmas and the Foundation's Holiday Dinner was held on November 21-23.

- Activities:

Adulting 101: Keeping Your Information Safe On-Line on November 19
Clothes Closet for students in December

President's Report (Weiss)

Dr. Weiss provided the following updates:

- Met with Student Government on October 15th. Based on student feedback we have placed signs around campus with information on how to contact Security.

- The Art Selection Committee for the CDB Art in Architecture project for the Williams Career & Training Center met to review three artists' proposals on Monday, November 17th. John Medwedeff with Medwedeff Force & Design was selected as the commissioned artist to complete a sculpture to hang on the foyer wall in the Williams Center.
- On-site ICCB review was held Tuesday, November 18th. All went well with the visit. We should receive a report in the next 60 days.
- The Nursing Department received the DRA grant in the amount of \$94,653 to purchase medical equipment for use in the nursing labs.
- SIC's Powersports program will receive a \$20,000 scholarship fund through Polaris for students currently enrolled in the program.
- A \$300,000 grant was given to expand our trade programs. This might be used to expand our Welding Department,
- We received \$83,000 from Perkins. We are looking at hiring a CTE Recruiter.
- Work is currently being done on a FIPSI grant in preparation for spring.
- Dr. Burford received a \$148,000 grant for mental health support.
- Dr. Billman is working on an oil and gas certificate for the Carmi campus.
- There has been significant growth in the Fire Brigade training.
- We are getting new carpet in the theatre. It will be installed over our winter break.
- Dr. Burford has been working on surveys and grants.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Trustee Ellis and seconded by Trustee Bradley to approve the consent agenda which included the October 21, 2025 regular and closed session minutes, destroying tapes of the April 2024 closed session, the Treasurer's report, and the approval of bills for October 2025 which totaled \$1,280,993.58 which included \$595,935.99 in Payroll. On roll call the following members voted:

Aye _____ Nay

Mrs. Debbie Hughes

Dr. Frank Barbre

Mr. Morgan

Mr. Ellis

Mrs. Sirach

Mr. Bradley

Mr. Henderson (Student Trustee)

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Sirach and seconded by Trustee Bradley to approve the reimbursement of travel, meals, and lodging expenses for Dr. Barbre and Mr. Ellis to attend the ACCT Legislative Summit, February 8-11, 2026. Total estimated expenses are \$5500.00.

Aye _____ Nay

Mrs. Debbie Hughes
Dr. Frank Barbre
Mr. Morgan
Mr. Ellis
Mrs. Sirach
Mr. Bradley
Mr. Henderson (Student Trustee)

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Non-Action Items

- A.** Mental Health Panel Meeting Notes – This is a requirement by law that we provide this information to the Board.
- B.** HB1312 – Illinois Biven Act (immigration enforcement) – Legislation was tamed down from the initial presentation of the Act. Since we are covered by FERPA, we are not allowed to give out student information. We have to send our procedures to ICCB by January 1st, and we will be consulting Robbins Schwartz regarding this.

Action Items

- A.** A motion was made by Trustee Bradley, seconded by Trustee Ellis to table the presentation of the annual audit until January 2026. All members voted aye. Motion carried.
- B.** A motion was made by Trustee Barbre, seconded by Trustee Bradley to approve the Budget Transfers. All members voted aye. Motion carried.
- C.** A motion was made by Trustee Bradley, seconded by Trustee Ellis to approve the new BP 9013.1 - Anti-Hazing. All members voted aye. Motion carried.
- D.** A motion was made by Trustee Sirach, seconded by Trustee Bradley to approve the New BP 5030.4 – Faculty Pay on Internships, Clinicals, and Labs. All members voted aye. Motion carried.
- E.** A motion was made by Trustee Bradley, seconded by Trustee Sirach to approve the amended BP 5012 - Insurance. All members voted aye. Motion carried.
- F.** A motion was made by Trustee Sirach, seconded by Trustee Ellis to approve serving alcohol at the Saline County Chamber Dinner on February 10, 2026. All members voted aye. Motion carried.
- G.** A motion was made by Trustee Sirach, seconded by Trustee Bradley to approve the Aither Heath Insurance Renewal for 2026. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

New Business, Topics, or Discussion

None

Personnel

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

- A. Approve the Social Science Instructor Job Description
- B. Approve the Hiring of a Full-time Welding Instructor
- C. Approve Spring 2026 Adjunct Recommendations

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 6:35 pm.