

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES  
OCTOBER 13, 2025**

The Board of Trustees of Community College District 509, Counties of Kane, Cook, DuPage, McHenry and DeKalb, State of Illinois, held a meeting of the Committee of the Whole on Monday, October 13, 2025, in E125, Seigle Auditorium.

**1. Call to Order by Presiding Officer**

Chair Rakow called the meeting to order at 3:42 p.m., indicated that a quorum was present, and asked the recorder to call roll.

*Trustees present:* Ms. Rakow, Mr. Rodriguez, Dr. Redmer, Ms. Arroyo, Mr. Parks, Mr. Allen, Ms. Barbosa-Guzman and Student Trustee Mr. Gidlund.

*Trustees absent:* None

*ECC Staff present:* Dr. Heinrich, President; Dr. Schopen, VP, Teaching, Learning & Student Development; Dr. Wagner, VP, Business & Finance; Dr. Phil Garber, VP, Planning, Institutional Effectiveness & Technology; Mr. Vazquez, General Counsel; and Ms. Kerruish, Recorder; ECC staff and visitors.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Rodriguez.

**3. Introductions**

Introductions were made.

**4. Approval of Meeting Minutes of the Committee of the Whole, September 8, 2025**

Chair Rakow requested approval of the minutes of September 8, 2025.

*Motion:* Trustee Allen moved to approve the minutes as presented.

*Second:* Trustee Redmer seconded the motion.

*Roll-Call Vote:* Aye, 5; Rakow, Redmer, Arroyo, Allen and Barbosa-Guzman; nay, 0; abstain, 2; Parks and Rodriguez; and Student Trustee Gidlund, aye. Motion carried.

**5. Presentations**

**A. Strategic Enrollment Plan (SEM) – Mr. Long and Ms. Perrin**

Mr. Long and Ms. Perrin provided an overview of the work being done by the SEM team. The purpose, key enrollment challenges and opportunities, strategic focus and the on-going process were reviewed.

**B. FY25 Performance Report – Dr. Garber**

Dr. Garber provided summary reviews of performance data for goals 3, 4, 1 and 5. The full report will be posted on myelgin.edu in November.

## 6. Construction Update

Dr. Wagner, VP, Business & Finance, provided an overview of the current construction projects on campus.

- **Manufacturing and Technology Center Building Project**

The work on McLean Blvd was concluded in September. Brick work will proceed quickly as deliveries of large quantities of the main wall brick has been received. Window framing will be installed later this week with actual glass panels over the next few weeks.

- **New Truck Driving Classroom Building Project**

The permit has been issued and construction site work has begun. The asphalt will be stripped off within two weeks to begin cutting to the designed depth of stone. Site utilities will continue for the next few weeks.

- **Disability Services Space Remodel**

The furniture order is included in the October Board Actions. Once the order is placed, we will have a better understanding of the delivery timeframe.

- **Building F Renovation (CDB Project)**

Once the final signed contract is received, the first round of cost estimating and program documentation will occur. This is a Capital Development Board project, and the pace of the project is determined by the CDB's schedule.

- **Exterior Digital Signage**

This project will replace the digital screens in the monument signs around campus and upgrade the technology to broadcast messages. We only received one proposal despite seven companies/individuals present for the walk-through. The proposal due date has been extended and a board action is anticipated for the November meeting.

## 7. Review Board Actions on the October 14, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Agenda

### A. Purchases

1. Patient Ventilation Simulator (Manikins)
2. Sale of Used Computer Equipment
3. Service Management Licenses Renewal
4. Winter Sports Bus Transportation
5. Ratification of Electric Vehicles (EV) Purchase
6. Ratification of Furniture for Building D Purchase
7. Ratification of Furniture for the New Student Access and Disability Services Area Purchase
8. Ratification of Microscopes Purchase
9. Ratification of Software Subscription

### B. Other Agenda Items

There were no questions regarding any of the October 14, 2025 agenda items. Action item 9G will be removed as the information is incorrect. A corrected action will be presented on the November agenda.

## 8. Spotlight

Mr. Mark Branson, Chief Marketing & Communications Officer was spotlighted.

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Dr. Heinrich shared the following:

The Founder's Day Brunch was held September 13. 130 people attended, with a net revenue of \$36,888. The event was held on campus in the Jobe Lounge. ECC's catering department created a Wizard of Oz themed menu. ECC alum Charmain McAllister sang, accompanied by ECC Foundation donor Murna Hansemann on the piano. The Culinary Arts program was represented by two students and an instructor demonstrating pastry and candy decorating, and the Fine Arts department featured a student artist demonstrating her amazing drawing skills. Four ECC Foundation awards were presented.

**9. Audience Wishing to Address the Board**

There were no audience members wishing to address the Board.

*The Board recessed at 4:49 p.m. and reconvened at 4:54 p.m.*

**10. Old Business**

There was no old business to discuss.

**11. New Business**

**A. Items of Professional Growth**

**1. ICCTA November Meeting**

Trustee Allen will attend.

**2. Proposed 2026 Board Meeting Calendar**

Trustees supported altering the date of the April 2026 Board Meeting so Dr. Heinrich and other administrators will be able to attend the AACC Conference. For several years the board meetings have conflicted with the AACC Conference date.

**3. Community Engagement Events**

Upcoming community engagement events will be provided via email.

**B. President's Remarks**

Dr. Heinrich shared the following remarks:

- ECC has received the majority of the federal grants that were to be frozen or eliminated. One funding source that we anticipated would be eliminated entirely included our federal Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education or IELCE grant. Adult education funding comes through several grant funding streams (federal basic, state basic), and this particular grant was never listed in our annual allocation for the current year even before the grant funding freeze occurred. But we've received some good news, as we have learned that we are, in fact, receiving our IELCE allocation in the amount of \$106,897, which is almost twice what we received last year. We remain concerned about federal funding overall for the next fiscal year but are grateful things have come through this year.
- This will be the second year that ECC participates in an ICCB competition called Feed the Need, which runs from October 15-December 1. We came in 2<sup>nd</sup> in the state last year and are committed to bringing home the win this year. All donations go directly to our Spartan Food Pantry and can be monetary or food and toiletries.

**C. Chair's Remarks**

Chair Rakow thanked Dr. Heinrich and her team for the clear and concise statement that went out to the students and the community regarding the ICE event on campus last month, as well as holding the listening sessions for students and employees.

**D. Announcements**

There were no announcements.

**E. Issues for Next Month's Agenda**

No issues were brought forward for the next agenda.

**12. Adjournment**

***Motion:*** Trustee Rodriguez moved to adjourn the meeting.

***Second:*** Trustee Arroyo seconded the motion.

***Voice Vote:*** Aye, 7; Rakow, Rodriguez, Redmer, Arroyo, Parks, Allen and Barbosa-Guzman; Nay, 0; Student Trustee Gidlund, aye. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

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Patricia Arroyo, Board Secretary

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Diane Kerruish, Board Recorder