

**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 12, 2023**

The Board of Trustees of Community College District 509, Counties of Kane, Cook, DuPage, McHenry and DeKalb, State of Illinois, convened a regular meeting on Tuesday, December 12, 2023, in Building E, Room E100.01.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Redmer called the regular meeting to order at 5:42 p.m., indicated that a quorum was present, and asked the recorder to call roll.

Trustees present: Dr. Redmer, Ms. Rakow, Mr. Nowak, Dr. Ollayos, Ms. Arroyo, Mr. Rodriguez, Mr. Parks and Student Trustee Mr. Kolbusz.

Trustees absent: None.

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

2. Recess to Closed Session

The Chair asked for a motion to recess immediately to closed session under the following exceptions to the *Illinois Open Meetings Act*:

- A. To discuss minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act
- B. To consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the college. . . .
- C. To discuss litigation, when an action...has been filed...or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent. . . .
- D. To consider collective negotiation matters...for one or more classes of employees. . . .
- E. To discuss the purchase or lease of real property...discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. . . .

all pursuant to Chapter 5 of the *Illinois Compiled Statutes* Sections 120/2 (c) (21, 1, 11, 2 and 5 respectively).

Motion: Trustee Rakow moved to recess to closed session.

Second: Trustee Rodriguez seconded the motion.

Roll-Call Vote: Aye, 7: Redmer, Rakow, Nowak, Ollayos, Arroyo, Parks and Rodriguez; nay, 0; Student Trustee Kolbusz, aye; motion carried at 5:44 p.m.

3. Reconvene Open Session

The closed-session concluded at 6:28 p.m. The board reconvened in open session at 6:36 p.m. in E125, Seigle Auditorium.

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4. Preliminary Matters

A. Roll Call

Trustees present: Dr. Redmer, Ms. Rakow, Mr. Nowak, Dr. Ollayos, Ms. Arroyo, Mr. Rodriguez, Mr. Parks and Student Trustee Mr. Kolbusz.

Trustees absent: None

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

B. Consideration of and Possible Actions on Any Requests for a Board Member's Electronic Participation in Meeting.

No considerations necessary at this meeting.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Chair Rakow.

D. Shared Values

Trustees recited the Shared Values.

5. President's Report

- Dr. Sam acknowledged Lori Clark, ECCFA president and Anitra King, SSECCA president in the audience.
- The ECC police department participated in *No Shave November* and raised \$610 for the Spartan Pantry. He thanked them for their commitment to the community.
- 169 students will be at the 10 a.m. career/tech ceremony. 155 students will be at the 2 p.m. transfer degree ceremony. 463 degrees (326 are transfer degrees) and 263 certificates will be awarded. The total number of students earning a degree or certificate is 662. Some students are earning multiple degrees/certificates.
- Dr. Sam provided a presentation and historical perspective of the College's tax levy and tuition rates.

6. Audience Wishing to Address the Board

The following audience members addressed the Board:

- Lori Clark, ECCFA president, offered comments in support of the SSECCA Union and wished everyone a happy holiday.
- The following IL residents offered comments on **Board Action No. 090-F-24, Resolution to Adopt 2023 Tax Levy and/or Board Action No. 098-F-24, Tuition for Fiscal Year 2025:** Jim Whittington, Brian Anderson, Simon Schrage, Lance Bell, Maureen O'Carroll, Frank Esposito, Aris Garcia and Enoch Essendrop.
- Anitra King, SSECCA president, offered comments on the College's upcoming 75th anniversary, 50th anniversary for hip-hop music and the longevity of SSECCA employees at the College.

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- The following IL residents emailed comments to the Board regarding **Board Action No. 090-F-24, Resolution to Adopt 2023 Tax Levy and/or Board Action No. 098-F-24, Tuition for Fiscal Year 2025:** Lance Bell, Mary Mazzeri, Scott Swidler, Kristi Kittel, Steve and Chris Rakers, Nabi Fakroddin, Roxanne Vendegna, Sue Kittel, Jake Rutherford, Cindy Cheek, Jacqueline Majka, Pam Heimsath, Gary Heissler, Nicole LoDolce, Andrew Rachal, Laura Boehm, Thomas Seifert, Tom Ripley, Pam Carr (facebook), Cecilia Valdivia, Thomas Richard, Adam Jensen, Kenny Tokarz, Steve Elliott, Kathryn Gorenz, Seth Holmen, and Julie Farquhar.

7. Board Reports

A. Finance Committee

Trustee Rodriguez provided an overview of the Finance Committee meeting held on Monday, December 11, 2023. Items presented and discussed include: Internal Audit Update; FY24 Financial Update; FY25 Budget Discussion; Capital Projects Priority and Cost Update; Property Tax Levy – Tax Year 2023; Investment Policy Review; and Purchasing Process – Cooperative and Consortium Buying.

B. Committee of the Whole

Trustee Arroyo provided an overview of the Committee of the Whole meeting held Monday, December 11, 2023. The following presentation was provided: Adult Basic Education (ABEC) by Dr. Hobson, Erin Vobornik and Marcia Luptak. Dr. Wagner provided a construction update. Board Actions and items on the December 12, 2023 agenda were discussed. Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting will be available on the website once they are approved.

C. Illinois Community College Trustee Association (ICCTA)

Trustee Ollayos shared that there will be a webinar December 15 regarding BA degrees. The next ICCTA meeting will be at ACCT's National Legislative Summit in February.

D. Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT)

Trustee Ollayos highlighted the information regarding the Pell Grant update provided in the written legislative report received.

E. Legislative

Trustee Rakow reported the following: November 11, the Boys and Girls Club of Elgin celebrated their 30th Anniversary Great Futures Gala at the Q Center in St. Charles, IL. In attendance were Trustees Redmer and Arroyo. November 15, the Elgin Hispanic Network celebrated its 36th Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon on campus. In attendance were Trustee Ollayos and Dr. Sam. November 21, the Elgin Area Chamber celebrated its 42nd Annual Thanks & Giving Luncheon on campus. In attendance were Trustee Rodriguez, Trustee Rakow and Dr. Sam. December 5, Elgin's Mayor David Kaptain gave his State of the City address at ECC. In attendance were Trustees Redmer, Ollayos and Student Trustee Kolbusz. Trustee Arroyo attended the Bartlett Chamber of Commerce and Bartlett Rotary Club Annual Holiday Luncheon at Villa Olivia in Bartlett December 7. Senator Linda Holmes' Meet and Greet is scheduled for Tuesday, January 30 from 1-2 p.m. December 5, the House unveiled bipartisan workforce Pell legislation to allow students to apply for Pell Grants for short-term workforce programs. Students in programs ranging from 150-599 clock hours over at least 8 weeks would qualify for workforce Pell grants, with amounts determined similar to federal Pell grants. Plans are

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underway to prepare for the 2024 National Legislative Summit in Washington D.C., which is scheduled to take place February 4-7. Board members attend these events to strengthen relationships within the community, as well as, advocate for the College. Trustee Rakow reminded the Board that review of their annual goals will be done in the New Year.

F. ECC Foundation

Through October 31, FY24 fundraising is \$490,514.17 in monetary giving. Awarding for the 2023-2024 school year is currently underway with 81% of scholarships already awarded. Compared to this time last school year, 15% more of scholarship funds have been distributed. The Retiree Advisory Network Committee is investigating the next social opportunity in the spring at the Arts Center. The Sensational Seventy-Five Alumni selections have been presented and upon confirmation, announcements will begin in early 2024. A special event celebrating our Sensational Seventy-Five is part of our 75th celebration activities in 2024. The Purses with Purpose holiday celebration will be held December 13, hosted at Sharon Fisher-Larson's home. ECC submitted a proposal to the Illinois Community College Board's FY24 Innovative Bridge and Transitions Grant program for Improving Accessibility for Students with Disabilities (\$313,784); a proposal to the Department of Labor Strengthening Community College's Round 4 for a Greater Elgin Advanced Manufacturing Accelerator (\$1,734,017); and a proposal to the Illinois Arts Council to provide matching grant funds (\$12,000) for Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theatre's presentation "Chicago Tap Theater." ECC will submit an Illinois Community College Board FY24 Digital Instruction for Adult Education Grant proposal for Increasing Technology Access for ABEC Students (\$74,928). The Bright Futures campaign will kick off publicly on December 15. A spring cultivation event will be held at the studio of Sandro Miller in Chicago, an ECC alum. An invitation for the Board will be forthcoming in early 2024.

The Board recessed at 7:55 p.m. and reconvened at 8:00 p.m.

G. Student Report

Student Trustee Kolbusz highlighted several student events including the following: November 15, Celebrate Diwali; November 1 – December 1, Honors in Action and CASA Kane County Holiday Giving Program; November 6 and 7, Phi Theta Kappa One for Me One for You; November 8, Drunk Busters; November 15, Phi Theta Kappa Induction Ceremony. Also mentioned was the Eye of the Observer Podcast. A detailed report of these and many other events is included in the Reports Section.

8. College Reports

Board Action No. 089-A-24, Acceptance of Written College Reports

- A. Personnel (November)
- B. Treasurer (October)
- C. Student (October 26-November 22)

College Reports Under Separate Cover

- D. Institutional Advancement and ECC Foundation (November)

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E. Community Engagement and Legislative Affairs (November)

F. Marketing & Communications Report (Fall, 2023)

Chair Redmer confirmed receipt, either attached or under separate cover, of the aforementioned written reports.

Motion: Trustee Parks moved to accept the college reports.

Second: Student Trustee Kolbusz seconded the motion.

Roll-Call Vote: Aye, 7; Redmer, Rakow, Nowak, Ollayos, Arroyo, Rodriguez, Parks; nay, 0; Student Trustee Kolbusz, aye; motion carried

9. 2023 Tax Levy Hearing

The public hearing regarding the adoption of the 2023 tax levy was opened at 8:09 p.m. Chair Redmer asked if there was anyone present wishing to comment on the tax levy. There was no response to this request; and no comments followed the second and third requests for comments. Audience members commented on the tax levy during the audience wishing to address the board item earlier on the agenda. The public hearing was closed at 8:12 p.m.

10. Resolution to Adopt Property Tax Levy, 2023

Board Action No. 090-F-24, Resolution to Adopt 2023 Tax Levy

Motion: Trustee Parks moved to approve the resolution as presented.

Second: Student Trustee Kolbusz seconded the motion.

Trustee Nowak stated that this is not the right time to increase taxes. He provided information regarding the current inflation factor and the vast number of people struggling in this current economy. Trustees Ollayos, Parks, Arroyo, Rodriguez, Rakow, Redmer and Student Trustee Kolbusz appreciated the comments provided by those in attendance; however, they all indicated that this tax levy, after three years of a flat levy, is in the best interest of the institution and the future of the local economy. This is never an easy decision and it is re-visited each year.

Motion: Trustee Nowak moved to amend the motion to levy 2.9% versus the 5.8% as presented.

Second: Trustee Rakow seconded the amended motion.

Trustee Nowak suggested a lower percentage as a compromise.

Roll-Call Vote: Aye, 2; Nowak, Arroyo; nay, 5; Redmer, Rakow, Ollayos, Parks, Rodriguez; Student Trustee Kolbusz, nay; the amended motion failed.

Trustee Ollayos called the question to vote on the original motion to approve the resolution for the tax levy as presented.

Roll-Call Vote: Aye, 6; Redmer, Rakow, Arroyo, Ollayos, Parks, Rodriguez; nay, 1; Nowak; Student Trustee Kolbusz, aye; motion carried.

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11. Consent Agenda

Trustee Nowak requested the following item be removed from the consent agenda:

H. Board Action No. 098-F-24, Tuition for Fiscal Year 2025

Chair Redmer read the following consent agenda items:

- A. **Board Action No. 091-A-24, Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of November 14, 2023**
- B. **Board Action No. 092-A-24, Minutes of Closed Session Board Meeting of November 14, 2023**
- C. **Board Action No. 093-A-24, Destruction of Audiotapes of Closed Session Board Meeting of April 12, 2022**
- D. **Board Action No. 094-F-24, Ratification of Report of Expenses**
- E. **Board Action No. 095-F-24, Ratification of Board of Trustee Travel Expenses**
- F. **Board Action No. 096-A-24, Intergovernmental Agreement Between Community College District No. 509 and the City of Elgin**
- G. **Board Action No. 097-A-24, 2023 Cook County Resolution to Allocate PTELL Reduction**
- I. **Board Action No. 099-A-24, Compensation Rates for Intensive English Program (IEP) Instructors**
- J. **Board Action No. 100-A-24, 403b and 457b Plan Fiduciary**
- K. **Board Action No. 101-A-24, Trustees' Out-of-State Travel to 2024 ACCT National Legislative Summit**
- L. **Board Action No. 102-A-24, Changes to Leave Plans for Employees**
- M. **Purchases**
 - 1. **Board Action No. 103-T-24, LinkedIn Learning Renewal**, authorizes the administration to contract with LinkedIn Learning (Sunnyvale, CA), in an amount not to exceed \$69,011 over three years through a renewable annual contract.
 - 2. **Board Action No. 104-M-24, Spot Light Fixture Purchase**, authorizes the administration to purchase eighteen (18) ColorSource Spot V lighting fixtures and accessories for Second Space Theatre from BMI Supply (Queensbury, NY), the lowest responsible bidder, in an amount not to exceed \$25,514.
 - 3. **Board Action No. 105-B-24, Lounge Furniture Purchase**, authorizes the administration to purchase furniture for student lounges – Spartan Corner and Jobe Lounge and Lakeside Lounges located in Building B from Krueger International (Chicago, IL), in an amount not to exceed \$29,000.
 - 4. **Board Action No. 106-T-24, Internal Digital Signage Equipment Purchase**, authorizes the administration to purchase digital signs/screens, installation, and software for internal signage for all campus locations from BEAR Construction Company (Rolling Meadows, IL), in an amount not to exceed \$706,150, the lowest responsible trade package bidder.
 - 5. **Board Action No. 107-M-24, Copier Maintenance Agreement**, authorizes the administration to enter into a two (2) year maintenance agreement for the Canon C850 Image Press copier with Marco Technologies, LLC (Rockford, IL), in an amount not to exceed \$79,000 over the two years.

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- 6. Board Action No. 108-M-24, Ratification of Police Vehicle Purchase**, ratifies and authorizes the administration to purchase a new 2023 Ford Police Responder F150 truck for the College's police department from Morrow Brothers Ford, Inc. (Greenfield, IL), in an amount not to exceed \$49,240.

N. Personnel

- 1. Board Action No. 109-P-24, New Hire, Instructor of Anatomy and Physiology, Dr. Amanda Gerke**, approves the appointment of Dr. Amanda Gerke as a tenure-track Instructor of Anatomy & Physiology at a salary of \$76,206 (Lane X, Step 2) on the Elgin Community College Faculty Association (ECCFA) 2024 salary schedule, effective Spring semester, 2024.
- 2. Board Action No. 110-P-24, New Hire, Instructor of Manufacturing, Mr. Anthony Bellavia**, approves the appointment of Mr. Anthony Bellavia as a tenure-track Instructor of Manufacturing at a salary of \$60,732 (Lane I, Step 4) on the Elgin Community College Faculty Association (ECCFA) 2024 salary schedule, effective Spring semester, 2024.

Motion: Trustee Ollayos moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Second: Trustee Parks seconded the motion.

Roll-Call Vote: Aye, 7; Redmer, Rakow, Nowak, Arroyo, Ollayos, Parks, Rodriguez; nay, 0; Student Trustee Kolbusz, aye; motion carried.

Other

- H. Board Action No. 098-F-24, Tuition for Fiscal Year 2025**, maintains and adopts the following rates effective Summer 2024:

District Resident, Work In-District, In-District Internet	\$135.00 per semester credit hour
Out-of-District Resident	\$297.00 per semester credit hour
Out-of-District Internet	\$260.00 per semester credit hour
Out-of-State & International Resident	\$396.00 per semester credit hour
Out-of-State & International Internet	\$310.00 per semester credit hour

Motion: Trustee Nowak moved to approve the agenda item as presented.

Second: Trustee Rodriguez seconded the motion.
Trustee Nowak offered a compromise regarding a tuition increase.

Motion: Trustee Nowak moved to amend the motion regarding the action as presented to increase tuition by \$2 instead of the \$3 presented in the board action.

Second: There was no second; the amended motion failed.

Roll-Call Vote: Aye, 6; Redmer, Rakow, Arroyo, Ollayos, Parks, Rodriguez; nay, 1; Nowak; Student Trustee Kolbusz, aye; motion carried.

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12. Old Business

Chair Redmer reminded the Board to complete the reading assignment for January.

13. New Business

Trustee Ollayos indicated that she and Trustee Arroyo would try to put something together for the Board of Trustees to showcase at the 75th anniversary talent show.

14. Adjournment

Motion: Trustee Nowak moved to adjourn the meeting.

Second: Trustee Parks seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: Aye, 7; Redmer, Rakow, Nowak, Arroyo, Ollayos, Parks, Rodriguez;
nay; 0; Student Trustee Kolbusz, aye: meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Shane Nowak, Board Secretary

Diane Kerruish, Board Recorder