

**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
DECEMBER 10, 2024**

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 10, 2024, in Building E, Room E100.01.

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chair Redmer called the regular meeting to order at 5:40 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, Mr. Rodriguez, Ms. Arroyo, Mr. Parks and Student Trustee Ms. Heiser.

*Trustees absent:* None.

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

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

***Motion:*** Trustee Ollayos moved to recess to closed session.

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

***Roll-Call Vote:*** Aye, 7: Redmer, Rakow, Nowak, Ollayos, Parks, Arroyo and Rodriguez; nay, 0; Student Trustee Heiser, aye; motion carried at 5:42 p.m.

**3. Reconvene Open Session**

The closed-session concluded at 6:44 p.m. The board reconvened in open session at 6:50 p.m. in E125, Seigle Auditorium.

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF  
DECEMBER 10, 2024

#### 4. Preliminary Matters

##### A. Roll Call

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

*Trustees absent:* None.

*ECC staff:* Dr. Heinrich, Interim President; Dr. Schopen, Interim VP, Teaching, Learning and Student Development; 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 Trustee Rodriguez.

##### D. Board Purpose

The Board Purpose was recited by Trustee Parks.

#### 5. Interim President's Report

- Dr. Heinrich acknowledged Anitra King, SSECCA president in the audience.
- ECC held its 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Apprenticeship Expo event on November 21. The event included:
  - A Special Recognition: Governor Pritzker, through DCEO, sent a proclamation celebrating the week and ECC.
  - 40 businesses attended.
  - 300 high school juniors and seniors attended.
  - More than 75 community members attended the expo.
  - Compliments were received from community members, businesses, and state partners, including the Department of Labor, DCEO, and IDES.
  - The Workforce Development division under Dr. Cook and the entire Strategic Partnerships and Experiential Learning team provided leadership for this event.
- Our Physical Therapy Assistant program received full reaccreditation for 10 years without recommendations or a compliance report by the Commission for Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education. It was nationally only 1 of 2 that received 10 years with no recommendations. Barbara Ostrowska, Program Director, led this effort.
- The multi-chamber business after hours event on December 4 was a great success. The event had not been held since 2015. Eleven chambers were represented with approximately 200-250 people in attendance Meaningful connections were made as people discussed creative ways to partner to serve our district.
- ECC has been competing in the ICCB's "Feed the Need" event to collect donations for the Spartan Food Pantry. As of November 27, over 14,672 items were donated, with a wide variety of student clubs, departments and board members contributing.

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF  
DECEMBER 10, 2024

- Recognitions:
  - In 2012, Dr. Jamie Pang, Associate Dean of Curriculum, Compliance, & Specialized Academic Initiatives, established an informal group of community college curricular positions, because these are scattered throughout Illinois community colleges and are structured differently everywhere. Years later, this remains true in our state and served as the impetus to pursue a statewide commission. The newly established Illinois Community Colleges-Advancement of Curricular Excellence (ILCC-ACE) will address both operational and strategic topics which may include competency-based education, integrating AI, 8-week course models, and more.
  - Dean of Math, Science, and Engineering, Dr. Farah Bennani, has been invited to deliver the opening keynote address at the 30th International Congress of Distance Education (CIAED) in Curitiba, Brazil in May. This invitation came directly from the President of the Brazilian Association of Distance Education, which is Brazil's premier forum for digital and distance education. The congress draws 2,000 participants from across the globe and is a significant opportunity for international visibility and collaboration.
- Student Scholarships:
  - December 3 was the first year an ECC student has been chosen to receive a \$1,000 scholarship from the Elgin Lion's Club. Valeria Hernandez, TRIO student, OLAS president, works for the City of Elgin, is securing an internship currently with U-46, and is an education student hoping to become a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher who hopes to one day teach in district U-46.
  - We celebrated 4 students in November at the Elgin Hispanic Network Thanksgiving luncheon, each of whom received a scholarship. Aolany Campuzano is a recent ECC grad now at UIC, Sirleine Machicado is an ESL student recently arrived from Bolivia, Jonathan Aguniaga is in ECC education program and wants to be special ed teacher and does pastries/baking on his own time, and Valeria Hernandez is the same student I just described who also won the Lion's Club scholarship. Congratulations to our students, and thank you to EHN for their support!
- The Center for Undergraduate Research, Innovation, and Creativity (CURIC) Fellow; student Olivia Barnes was accepted to present at the Southwest Popular/American Culture Association (SWPACA) conference. Dr. Gaddis, her faculty mentor, will accompany her to the conference.
- Trustee Patrick Parks was recognized by the Three Fires Council Boy Scouts of America at the Kane County Good Scout Breakfast. He received the Tribute to Heroes Award in the category of Freedom of Worship.
- This week we will be celebrating all of our graduates. Thursday evening, we'll celebrate our Basic Operations Firefighters in the events center for their graduation ceremony, and then on Saturday, we will celebrate our transfer and career and technical education graduates at ceremonies.

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF  
DECEMBER 10, 2024

Chair Redmer moved Board Action No. 123-A-25 forward on the agenda.

**M.5. Board Action No. 123-A-25, Resolution of Appreciation, Professor II of Business, Dr. Susan Timm.**

**Motion:** Trustee Ollayos moved to approve the resolution.

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

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

Trustee Ollayos read the resolution of appreciation for Dr. Susan Timm.

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

There were no audience members wishing to address the Board.

**7. Board Reports**

**A. Finance Committee**

Trustee Rodriguez provided an overview of the Finance Committee meeting held on Monday, December 9, 2024. Items presented and discussed included: Internal Audit Update; FY25 Financial Update; FY26 Budget Discussion; Capital Projects Priority and Cost Update; Property Tax Levy – Tax Year 2024; and Investment Policy Review. Minutes of the Finance Committee will be available on the website once they are approved.

**B. Committee of the Whole**

Trustee Arroyo provided an overview of the Committee of the Whole meeting held Monday, December 9, 2024. A construction update was provided. Board Actions and items on the December 10, 2024 agenda were discussed, no questions were raised. 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 the ICCTA Board of Reps meetings held November 15 & 16 included a legal and legislative update and a presentation on a state-wide marketing program. The next meeting will be at the ACCT NLS in February.

**D. Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT)**

Trustee Ollayos shared that preparations for the upcoming National Legislative Summit in Washington, D.C. in February are in process.

**E. Legislative**

Trustee Rakow shared the following:

- November 26, the Surgical Technology program hosted a tour for State Representatives Anna Moeller and Maura Hirschauer and Senator Karina Villa as part of a statewide effort to inform legislators about the Operating Room Patient Safety Act, which requires hospitals to employ surgical technologists who have completed an accredited educational program and maintain their surgical technologist credential.

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF  
DECEMBER 10, 2024

Drs. Heinrich and Schopen welcomed the legislators. Senators Castro, Villa and Murphy are sponsors of the bill.

- A letter is currently under review requesting Illinois legislators to make the mandated Open Meetings Act training accessible.
- Interviews are taking place this week for the new Chief Community and Government Relations Officer.
- Letters are being sent to the two new District 509 legislators.

**F. ECC Foundation**

Trustee Parks reported the following:

- The Bright Futures campaign concludes December 31. \$3.2 million for Student Success has been raised.
- Over \$281,000 in scholarships have been awarded to students.
- Two members of the current Purses With Purpose cohort will be graduating on December 14.
- A Steering Committee comprised of ECC alumni is being formed to begin planning for 2025 Alumni Network events.
- The 2025 Gala/Founder's Day will be a brunch on Saturday or Sunday tentatively scheduled for September.
- The Foundation is applying for a continued grant opportunity with JP Morgan Chase Foundation.
- The holiday reception was held on Monday, December 9.

**8. College Reports**

**Board Action No. 102-A-25, Acceptance of Written College Reports**

A. Personnel (November)

B. Treasurer (October)

***College Reports Under Separate Cover***

C. Institutional Advancement and ECC Foundation (November)

D. Community Engagement and Legislative Affairs (November)

E. Marketing & Communications Report (Fall, 2024)

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:*** Trustee Ollayos seconded the motion.

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

**9. 2024 Tax Levy Hearing**

The public hearing regarding the adoption of the 2024 tax levy was opened at 7:27 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

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF  
DECEMBER 10, 2024

comments. No audience members wished to comment on the tax levy. The public hearing was closed at 7:29 p.m.

**10. Resolution to Adopt 2024 Tax Levy**

**Board Action No. 103-F-25, Resolution to Adopt 2024 Tax Levy**

**Motion:** Trustee Rodriguez moved to approve the resolution as presented.

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

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

**11. Consent Agenda**

Chair Redmer read the following consent agenda items:

- A. Board Action No. 104-A-25, Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, November 12, 2024**
- B. Board Action No. 105-A-25, Closed Session Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, November 12, 2024**
- C. Board Action No. 106-A-25, Destruction of Audiotapes of Closed Session Board Meeting, March 14, 2023**
- D. Board Action No. 107-F-25, Ratification of Report of Expenses**
- E. Board Action No. 108-F-25, Ratification of Board of Trustee Travel Expenses**
- F. Board Action No. 109-F-25, 2025 Tuition for Fiscal Year 2026**
- G. Board Action No. 110-F-25, Instructional Equipment Component of Tuition**
- H. Board Action No. 111-A-25, Faculty Supplemental Assignment Chart Modification Developmental Math Coordinator**
- I. Board Action No. 112-F-25, Resolution Abating the Tax Heretofore Levied for the Year 2024 to Pay Debt Service on the General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2024, of Community College District No. 509, Counties of Kane, Cook, DuPage, McHenry and DeKalb and State of Illinois**
- J. Board Action No. 113-F-25, 2024 Cook County Resolution to Allocate PTELL Reduction**
- K. Board Action No. 114-A-25, Naming of Community Room B180 "Hallpike Community Room"**
- L. Purchases**
  - 1. Board Action No. 115-C-25, Construction of the New Manufacturing and Technology Center (MTC) – Phase 2** authorizes the administration to grant Lamp Incorporated (Elgin, IL) authority to contract, on behalf of Elgin Community College, for the construction trade packages listed in the Board Action for the MTC. The total amount not to exceed \$46,775,026.
  - 2. Board Action No. 116-C-25, Fees for Construction Testing and Inspecting Services for the Manufacturing and Technology Center (MTC)** authorizes the administration to contract with Rubino Engineering, Inc. (Elgin, IL) for professional fees associated with construction testing and inspection services for the MTC, in an amount not to exceed \$61,598.

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF  
DECEMBER 10, 2024

3. **Board Action No. 117-S-25, Ratification of Accessible Van Purchase** ratifies and authorizes the administration to contract with Southern Bus & Mobility (Breese, IL) to purchase a wheelchair accessible van in an amount not to exceed \$90,353.
4. **Board Action No. 118-S-25, Ratification of Truck Driving Program Truck Repairs** ratifies and authorizes the administration to contract with Preventive Maintenance Systems (West Dundee, IL) for the maintenance and repair of trucks and trailers in the fleet, in an amount not to exceed \$66,273.

**M. Personnel**

1. **Board Action No. 119-A-25, Sabbatical Leave for Spring 2026, Dr. William Akers**
2. **Board Action No. 120-A-25, Sabbatical Leave for Spring 2026, Dr. Kellen Bolt**
3. **Board Action No. 121-A-25, Sabbatical Leave for Fall 2025, Mr. Travis Linville**
4. **Board Action No. 122-A-25, Resolution of Appreciation, Lisa McCarthy-West**

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

**Second:** Student Trustee Heiser seconded the motion.

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

**12. Old Business**

There was no old business brought forward.

**13. New Business**

There was no new business brought forward.

**14. Adjournment**

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

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

**Voice Vote:** Aye, 7; Redmer, Rakow, Nowak, Ollayos, Rodriguez, Arroyo and Parks; nay, 0; Student Trustee Heiser, aye; meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

---

Shane Nowak, Board Secretary

---

Diane Kerruish, Board Recorder