

**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
APRIL 15, 2025**

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, April 15, 2025, in Building E, Room E100.01.

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

Chair Redmer called the regular meeting to order at 5:41 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, President; Dr. Schopen, VP, Teaching, Learning and Student Development; Ms. Scholl, Assistant VP, Business & Finance; Dr. Phil Garber, VP, Planning, Institutional Effectiveness & 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 Rakow moved to recess to closed session.

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

***Roll-Call Vote:*** Aye, 7: Redmer, Rakow, Nowak, Ollayos, Rodriguez, Parks, and Arroyo; nay, 0; Student Trustee Heiser, aye; motion carried at 5:43 p.m.

**3. Reconvene Open Session**

The closed-session concluded at 6:53 p.m. The board reconvened in open session at 6:59 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, Mr. Rodriguez, Ms. Arroyo, Mr. Parks and Student Trustee Ms. Heiser.

*Trustees absent:* None

*ECC staff:* Dr. Heinrich, President; Dr. Schopen, VP, Teaching, Learning and Student Development; Dr. Wagner, VP, Business and Finance; Dr. Phil Garber, VP, Planning, Institutional Effectiveness & 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 Ollayos.

##### D. Shared Values

The Shared Values were recited by the Trustees.

#### 5. President's Report

- Dr. Heinrich acknowledged SSECCA leadership in attendance.
- April 25, ECC will host the Skyway STEM Competition 2025. This is a poster contest designed to inspire student engagement in STEM disciplines by encouraging participants to explore STEM-related questions, apply field-specific methodologies, and use logical reasoning to address problems. We have 30 submissions – our faculty will lead activities, and one of our faculty, Dr. Jesik, will deliver a keynote lecture; *Where Time Stops and Physics Breaks*.
- Experience ECC is April 16 – a great opportunity for potential students and families to take tours, meet faculty, learn more about ECC.
- The Community Recovery Support Specialist (CRSS) Program at Elgin Community College was recently recognized as a Center of Distinction by Advocates for Human Potential (AHP), the official organization behind WRAP (Wellness Recovery Action Plan) training. ECC is the first higher education institution to receive this recognition.
- Dr. Cathy Taylor will serve as co-chair of the Illinois Innovation Network (IIN) Subcommittee on Community College Collaboration. The Illinois Innovation Network (IIN) is a state-wide initiative that connects universities, communities, and industries to drive innovation, workforce development, and economic growth.
- Student Trustee Heiser was nominated as ICCTA's 2025 Prairie State College / Gigi Campbell Student Trustee Excellence Scholarship. She is one of eight nominated for this award.
- ECC student Abigail Schaber is one of 7 nominees for the newest ICCTA honor -- the Gregg Chadwick Student Service Scholarship.
- ECC's Rho Kappa Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa recently returned from their Catalyst Convention in Kansas City and brought home some amazing awards.

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- Brenda Arroyo was recognized as a Distinguished Chapter Officer, among 3000 of her Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) peers. This honor was in recognition of her exceptional College Project initiative, which includes partnerships with Finance, Nutrition, and Yoga experts across campus. With over 1400 chapters worldwide, each with several officers, Brenda was one of only 32 awardees to receive this prestigious recognition. Our chapter also won a College Project Award (50 recipients worldwide) which was created and led by Brenda. Rho Kappa Chapter also won a Distinguished Chapter Award – one of 35 awarded. This is a result of our combined score in the College Project and HIA Hallmark Award entries.
- One of ECC's former PTK officers and ECC Alumni, Michael Storey, was recognized as a PTK Board of Directors Alumni Achievement Award winner. This award is only given sporadically, in fact in PTK's over 100-year history it's been awarded fewer than 35 times.
- 2024-2025 Phi Theta Kappa Rho Kappa Chapter International Awards
  - Distinguished Officer – Brenda Eliza Royer (32 students awarded)
  - Distinguished College Project (Top 50)
  - Distinguished Chapter (Top 35)
  - Top 100 chapter
  - Board of Directors Alumni Achievement Award – Michael Storey
  - Reach Award (15% increase in membership)

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

Ms. Anitra King, President of SSECCA, offered thanks to Dr. Ollayos for her 30 years of service to the District 509 community.

**7. Board Reports**

**A. Committee of the Whole**

Trustee Arroyo provided an overview of the Committee of the Whole meeting held Monday, April 14, 2025. Presentations included: Emergency Operations Plan Update by Ms. Kies and PACE Campus Climate Survey Trends by Dr. Garber. A construction update was provided. Board Actions and items on the April 15, 2025 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.

**B. Illinois Community College Trustee Association (ICCTA)**

Trustee Ollayos shared that the leadership team for next year is coming together and the award nominations are being reviewed for the June awards banquet.

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

Trustee Ollayos shared that updates regarding education funding and upcoming changes have been provided. The call for presentation proposals for October has gone out.

**D. Legislative**

Trustee Rakow shared the following:

- Trustees Rakow and Ollayos and Dr. Heinrich attended the ICCTA meetings in Lisle. Topics of discussion included: National landscape changes, DEI language and confusion on campuses, etc.

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- Preparations continue for the upcoming ICCTA Lobby Day in Springfield, scheduled for May 6 and 7, 2025. We are currently working on logistics and organizing our delegate arrangements. This year, our main goal is to express our gratitude to our legislators for their efforts during these uncertain times and to provide an update on the MTC building. The message will be similar to what we presented in February at the National Legislative Summit in Washington DC.
- ECC's Center for Civic Engagement was highlighted. They organized a visit to Springfield last week for a group of about six students. During their trip, the students met with legislators, attended a committee meeting, and observed legislative action on the House floor. They shared their experiences as ECC students and discussed the programs they have participated in.

**E. ECC Foundation**

Trustee Parks reported the following:

- Total monetary giving in FY25 is currently at \$1,231,598.
- As of March 20, 2025, \$370,313 in scholarships have been awarded to 321 students.
- The ECC Retirees Network has scheduled a Spring tour of the San Filippo mansion in South Barrington on May 1 with a group lunch to follow.
- The Alumni Network Steering Committee met in March and will be sending a survey to ECC alumni to determine how the Committee should proceed with a variety of initiatives.
- State Farm Insurance continues its investment in the Burlington emergency services facility with a new \$10K grant, which will be implemented to support the introduction of fire safety careers to young students.

**F. Student Report**

Student Trustee Heiser highlighted the following from her written report: Black History Month events; Women's History Month events, New Spartan Connections; Building Konnections; Nutrition Workshop; Party at the Polls; and the Student Trustee Election.

**8. College Reports**

**Board Action No. 177-A-25, Acceptance of Written College Reports**

- A. Personnel (March)
- B. Treasurer (February)
- C. Student (February 1-March 19)

***College Reports Under Separate Cover***

- D. Institutional Advancement and ECC Foundation (March)
- E. Community Engagement and Legislative Affairs (March)

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

**Motion:** Student Trustee Heiser moved to accept the college reports.  
**Second:** Trustee Nowak seconded the motion.

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

**9. Consent Agenda**

Chair Redmer read the following consent agenda items:

- A. Board Action No. 178-A-25, Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, March 11, 2025**
- B. Board Action No. 179-A-25, Minutes of Closed Session of Board Meeting, March 11, 2025**
- C. Board Action No. 180-A-25, Destruction of Audiotapes of Closed Session Board Meetings, June 13, 21 & 22, 2023**
- D. Board Action No. 181-A-25, Release of Select Closed-Session Minutes of Board Meetings of March 2023 – December 2024**
- E. Board Action No. 182-F-25, Ratification of Report of Expenses**
- F. Board Action No. 183-F-25, Ratification of Trustee Travel Expenses**
- G. Board Action No. 184-A-25, Trustees' In-State Attendance at Illinois Community College Trustee Association (ICCTA) Meeting**
- H. Board Action No. 185-A-25, Emergency Operations Plan Update**
- I. Purchases**
  - 1. Board Action No. 186-C-25, Architectural Fees – Truck Driving Building** authorizes the administration contract with Pekins & Will, (Chicago, IL) for additional architectural service fees for the College's Truck Driving Building in the amount of \$44,970 for a total not to exceed amount of \$467,929 for the project.
  - 2. Board Action No. 187-B-25, Consulting Services for New External Digital Signage** authorizes the administration to contract with IMEG (Naperville, IL) for design, drawings, and bidding documents associated with replacing the existing external digital displays. The contract will be in place until completed in an amount not to exceed \$29,500.
  - 3. Board Action No. 188-T-25, End User Software Support Subscription** authorizes the administration to increase the current contract with Salesforce (previously Tableau, San Francisco, CA) in order to switch licensing from the current Tableau Server (ECC-managed hosting) to Tableau Online (Tableau-managed hosting) not to exceed \$97,890.00 annually. This contract will replace the current subscription and extend the licensing for this software through August, 2027.
  - 4. Board Action No. 189-S-25, Precision Tig Welders Purchase** authorizes the administration to purchase precision TIG welders from WeldingMart LLC (Kaukauna, WI), the lowest responsible bidder, in an amount not to exceed \$47,534.56.
  - 5. Board Action No. 190-T-25, Purchase and Installation of Library Security Technology Gates, Accessories, and Software** authorizes the administration to purchase hardware and software for library security technology gates, accessories, and five (5) years of support from FE Technologies (Southlake, TX) in the amount not to exceed \$50,371, over the term.
  - 6. Board Action No. 191-T-25, Sale of Used Computer Equipment** authorizes the administration to sell used computer equipment consisting of desktop computers with peripheral equipment, monitors, and monitor stands to Cornerstone Technologies, Inc. (Norcross, GA), the highest responsible buyer, in a total amount of \$41,500.

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7. **Board Action No. 192-M-25, Spring Impact Magazine** authorizes the administration to purchase print services for the Spring Impact Magazine from Schiele Group (Elk Grove Village, IL), the lowest responsible bidder, in an amount not to exceed \$37,700.
8. **Board Action No. 193-B-25, Ratification of Building Equipment Maintenance Services** ratifies and authorizes the administration to contract for three (3) years for building equipment maintenance services with Thermo Systems (Elmhurst, IL), in the amount not to exceed \$136,078 over the term.

**Motion:** Trustee Nowak moved to accept the consent agenda as presented.

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

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

**10. Board Action No. 194-A-25, Resolution Adopting Results of Student Trustee Election and Appointing the Student Trustee for 2025-2026**

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

**11. Board Action No. 195-A-25, Resolution of Appreciation, 2024-2025 Student Trustee, Jess Heiser**

Student Trustee Heiser's Resolution of Appreciation was read by Trustee Rodriguez.

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

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

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

**12. Board Action No. 196-A-25, Resolution of Appreciation, Trustee Clare Ollayos, DC**  
Trustee Ollayos' Resolution of Appreciation was read by Trustee Rakow.

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

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

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

**13. Old Business**

There was no old business brought forward.

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**14. New Business**

There was no new business brought forward.

**15. Adjournment**

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

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

***Voice Vote:*** Aye, 7; Redmer, Rakow, Nowak, Ollayos, Rodriguez, Arroyo and Parks; nay; 0; Student Trustee Gidlund, aye: meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

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Patricia Arroyo, Board Secretary

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Diane Kerruish, Board Recorder