

THE BOARD OF ILLINOIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 515

Six Hundred Ninetieth Regular Meeting
October 30, 2007

MINUTES

Mr. Mark Fazzini, Chair, convened the 690th Regular Meeting of the Board of Illinois Community College District No. 515 at 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 30, 2007 in the Board Room of the College.

ROLL CALL:

Board Members Present

_____ Mr. Mark Fazzini, Chair
_____ Ms. Jacqueline Agee, Secretary
Ms. Peg Donohue
Ms. Kathleen Doyle
Mr. Phil Faso
Ms. Lesliefaye Gogins, Student Trustee

Board Members Absent

Mr. John Marks, Vice Chair
Ms. Mary Lee Johnson

Table Participants Present

Dr. Paul J. McCarthy, President
Ms. Patricia Trost, Board Recorder
Dr. Linda Uzureau, Vice President, Academic Affairs
Ms. Terri Winfree, Vice President, Community & Economic Development
Ms. Mary Reaves, Vice President, Student Affairs
Mr. John Flannigan, Faculty Representative
Ms. Susan Braasch, Staff Representative
Mr. Bryce Johnsen, Student Representative

Administrative Staff Members

Ms. Gwen Dean, Mr. Brian Donovan, Ms. Christy Donovan, Mr. Robert Fairbank, Ms. Lynita Gebhardt, Ms. Diane Janowiak, Mr. Jerry Mackay, Dr. Susan Solberg, Michele DuTour Walavich

Faculty Members

Ms. Susan Bayer, Mr. Burdett Barrett, Ms. Linda Dethloff, Ms. Patti Eberhardt, Mr. Jason Evans, Ms. Barbara Gorbitz, Ms. Nancy Kasten, Ms. Marian Kelly, Ms. Debbie Manley, Ms. Vivian Zimmerman

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Support Staff Members

Ms. Jennifer McCorkle, Mr. Julius Neveles, Mr. Sean Smith, Mr. Al Thompson, Mr. Strat Westgate, Ms. Jill Yott

News Media

Mr. Rick Ducat, *The Star*, Mr. Gary Kopycinski, eNewsParkForest.com, Mr. Jonathan Pitman, eNewsParkForest.com

Other

Ms. Nicole Canta, PSC student; Ms. Pam Kovach, Governors State University student; Ms. Johanna Manasse, Prairie State College Foundation

ORAL/WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. John Flannigan addressed the Board about the concern that the Board has adopted an agenda for the College that is not shared by any of its constituencies, including the public, and that it seems designed to undermine the very progress that everyone at the College has struggled to nourish.

Mr. Fazzini does not share Mr. Flannigan's views. While some people in the community have expressed some of those same views, the vast majority of people he has come into contact with do not share Mr. Flannigan's views with regard to the issues you present to the Board time and time again. Every trustee works very hard to make a decision on every issue based on the things presented to them.

Ms. Doyle respectfully disagreed with Mr. Fazzini pointing out that those constituents she has spoken to and who have contacted her time and time again confirm everything Mr. Flannigan has addressed at the past few meetings. Her constituents have congratulated her on taking the stance she has taken.

Ms. Donohue responded she is very concerned about the unprecedented actions that have taken place at the College. She agrees with Mr. Flannigan that when someone is new to the Board, it is important to learn about everything. There are good people who sit on the Board and it is not easy to make decisions for or against whatever is brought before them; however, the Board has to weigh the issues and respect the professional staff. She is not here to do their jobs, she is here to support the staff and to help set policy.

When Mr. Faso first became a member of the Board, it was apparent to him that there was a lot of arguing; there was a split when it came to Dr. McCarthy. The Board members are the owners, they are running a business and have to do what is right for the business. Every day in business life a lot of managers leave companies and they take key people with them.

According to Ms. Gogins, the problem students are facing is the fact faculty as well as administration and staff may follow. What students desire is the same quality of education at the community college level that students are getting at four year colleges. Prairie State College has instituted search committees to seek out faculty to provide students with the expertise and the progressive level of teaching that is necessary to be able to compete in today's world.

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Mr. Johnsen addressed the Board on behalf of the Student Government Association. He expressed the students' disappointment in Dr. McCarthy's contract not being extended, the Board's decisions on hiring, and their lack of involvement in College and student activities. They appreciate Dr. McCarthy's availability to students and his attendance at student functions.

Ms. Agee asked who Mr. Johnsen was referring to when he said "you." He was referring to the majority of the Board. Ms. Agee stated he never asked if she ever attended a student activity or had lunch in the Café. If he is going to make statements about her, call her first to get the answers. Don't make blanket statements without knowing the facts.

Ms. Donohue asked that the Board address the police department issue; Mr. Fazzini received a phone call from the City of Chicago Heights late in the afternoon and had planned that it would be discussed in executive session.

Ms. Johanna Manasse, Prairie State College Foundation Director, noted that while she is deeply concerned about the decisions being made about administration as everyone else appears to be, her mission today is the mission of the Foundation which is to support students. The primary way the Foundation supports students is to provide scholarships. She invited everyone to attend the Special Event which will be held on Friday, November 9th at Olympia Fields Country Club.

Ms. Gogins has been very careful to keep from crossing the line on what the Student Government Association is doing and what she is doing as Student Trustee. Mr. Johnsen is the leader in Student Government and she listened to what he read. As student leaders, they are aware when officials are on campus because they attend college activities and are apprised of who is there and who is not. Because they check in at the office, they are aware of when trustees are on campus. The students asked the trustees who were running for the Board to come to a forum to inform students of what their purpose was in running.

INTRODUCTIONS/RECOGNITIONS

Ms. Winfree introduced Ms. Patricia DeHesus, Associate Dean of Adult Education and Ms. Jennifer McCorkle, Executive Assistant to Ms. Winfree, who was attending for a homework assignment.

Ms. Jennifer Stoner, Director of Communications & Marketing, presented an overview of the College's new website.

Dr. Uzureau introduced Ms. Barb Gorbitz, Professor/Coordinator of Dental Hygiene. Ms. Gorbitz presented an exemplary practice used by the Dental Hygiene faculty to improve the pass rate of dental hygiene students on board exams.

CONSENT ITEMS

Ms. Donohue moved and Mr. Faso seconded that the Board of Trustees approve the following items of consent:

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Minutes

That the Board of Trustees approve the Minutes of the Board Workshop of September 12, 2007; Executive Session of September 12, 2007; the Budget Hearing of September 18, 2007; Minutes of the 689th Regular Meeting of September 18, 2007; and Executive Session Minutes of September 18, 2007, as presented.

The second set Executive Session minutes of September 18, 2007 was pulled for review in closed session.

Full-Time Faculty Overloads, Adjunct Faculty Salaries, and Salaries for Administrators and Staff on Teaching Assignments - Fall 2007, 16 Week Classes, First Eight Week Classes, and Late Start Classes (Credit Courses)

That the Board of Trustees approve the full time faculty overload compensation in the amount of \$215,106.75, adjunct faculty compensation in the amount of \$587,303.93, and compensation for administrators and staff on teaching assignments for credit courses in the amount of \$12,835.00, for the first eight weeks, 16 week classes and late start classes, of the 2007 fall term.

Adjunct Faculty Salaries and Compensation for Administrators and Staff for Non-Credit Courses, for the First Eight Weeks, 2007 Fall Term

That the Board of Trustees approve the adjunct faculty compensation in the amount of \$63,630.15, and compensation for administrators and staff on teaching assignments for non-credit courses in the amount of \$5,964.00, for the first eight weeks of the 2007 fall term.

Resignation of Ms. Tammy Sun Spencer

That the Board of Trustees accept the resignation of Ms. Tammy Sun Spencer, Assistant Professor and Coordinator of English-As-A-Language.

Retirement of Dr. Linda F. Uzureau

That the Board of Trustees approve the retirement of Dr. Linda F. Uzureau, effective June 30, 2009.

New A.A.S. Degree – Music Production

That the Board of Trustees approve the new Associate in Applied Science degree, Music Production.

Bills Payable - FY2008

That the Board of Trustees approve the FY2008 List of Bills Payable for October, as indicated in the enclosure.

Upon the call of roll, the vote was as follows:

Ms. Agee	Aye
Ms. Donohue	Aye
Ms. Doyle	Aye
Ms. Faso	Aye
Mr. Fazzini	Aye
Ms. Gogins	Aye

The vote being five (5) Ayes, no (0) Nays, and one (1) Advisory, the motion carried.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Agee moved and Ms. Doyle seconded that the Board of Trustees go into Executive Session for the “appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity,” “security procedures and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff or public property” and “discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06 of the Open Meetings Act.”

Upon the call of roll, the vote was as follows:

Ms. Agee	Aye
Mr. Faso	Aye
Ms. Donohue	Aye
Ms. Doyle	Aye
Mr. Fazzini	Aye
Ms. Gogins	Aye

The vote being five (5) Ayes, no (0) Nays, and one (1) Advisory, the motion carried, the meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 5:43 p.m.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Ms. Doyle moved and Mr. Faso seconded that the Board of Trustees return to Open Session at 6:23 p.m. All members present voted Aye, and the motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS

Minutes

Ms. Donohue moved and Mr. Faso seconded that the Board of Trustees approve the Executive Session Minutes of September 18, 2007, with a release date of one year.

Upon the call of roll, the vote was as follows:

Ms. Agee	Aye
Ms. Donohue	Aye
Ms. Doyle	Abstain
Ms. Faso	Aye
Mr. Fazzini	Aye
Ms. Gogins	Aye

The vote being four (4) Ayes, no (0) Nays, one (1) Abstain, and one (1) Advisory, the motion carried.

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Appointment of Vice President, Business & Information Services

Ms. Agee moved and Ms. Gogins seconded that the Board of Trustees appoint Mr. J. Randall Dempsey as Vice President of Business & Information Services, at a salary of \$110,000, effective November 1, 2007.

Upon the call of roll, the vote was as follows:

Ms. Agee	Aye
Ms. Donohue	Aye
Ms. Doyle	Aye
Ms. Faso	Aye
Mr. Fazzini	Aye
Ms. Gogins	Aye

The vote being five (5) Ayes, no (0) Nays, and one (1) Advisory, the motion carried.

Bid Recommendation – 102 Computers

Ms. Gogins moved and Ms. Doyle seconded that the Board of Trustees award the bid for 102 computers, keyboards, mice and 87 monitors to the lowest responsible bidder, Sysix Technologies, in the amount of \$86,134.41 for the total bid.

Upon the call of roll, the vote was as follows:

Ms. Agee	Aye
Ms. Donohue	Aye
Ms. Doyle	Aye
Ms. Faso	Aye
Mr. Fazzini	Aye
Ms. Gogins	Aye

The vote being five (5) Ayes, no (0) Nays, and one (1) Advisory, the motion carried.

Video Production – Chicago Heights

The Board was contacted by the City of Chicago Heights to participate in a video which would promote the area. The City of Chicago Heights asked various governmental bodies who would be included in the video for a \$1,000 contribution. The video will be shown 27 times per week on the cable channel. It was agreed the College should receive a copy of the video.

Mr. Faso moved and Ms. Donohue seconded that the Board of Trustees approve the \$1,000.00 donation to the City of Chicago Heights to help defray the cost of the production of a video which will include Prairie State College.

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Upon the call of roll, the vote was as follows:

Ms. Agee	Aye
Ms. Donohue	Aye
Ms. Doyle	Aye
Ms. Faso	Aye
Mr. Fazzini	Aye
Ms. Gogins	Aye

The vote being five (5) Ayes, no (0) Nays, and one (1) Advisory, the motion carried.

Theobald Associates, Certified Public Accountants and Consultants

Dr. McCarthy reported the College hired Theobald Associates to assist the College in getting prepared for the audit. This motion will allow their bills to be included in the bill list rather than bringing it to the Board each time. Ms. Doyle asked how the College hired Theobald Associates. At one time, Mr. Don Theobald was part of one of the College's previous auditors and is now a consultant.

Ms. Doyle asked if Board approval was needed before hiring Theobald Associates. Because of the emergency nature of the situation, Dr. McCarthy asked the Board Chair because of the loss of the controller and an ICCB deadline. The ICCB deadline has been extended. Mr. Fazzini added the law does allow the College to forego the bidding process in an emergency situation.

Ms. Donohue asked that in the future the trustees be notified when this type of an issue occurs. Dr. McCarthy noted Ms. Michele DuTour Walavich, Assistant Controller, was exceptionally helpful in this process.

Ms. Gogins moved and Mr. Faso seconded hat the Board of Trustees approve the payment of fees, on a monthly basis, to Theobald Associates, Certified Public Accountants & Consultants, in connection with the preparation of schedules for the annual audit.

Upon the call of roll, the vote was as follows:

Ms. Agee	Aye
Ms. Donohue	Aye
Ms. Doyle	Aye
Ms. Faso	Aye
Mr. Fazzini	Aye
Ms. Gogins	Aye

The vote being five (5) Ayes, no (0) Nays, and one (1) Advisory, the motion carried.

Tentative Tax Levy

Ms. Agee moved and Ms. Doyle seconded that the Board of Trustees approve the tentative tax levy for 2007.

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Upon the call of roll, the vote was as follows:

Ms. Agee	Aye
Ms. Donohue	Aye
Ms. Doyle	Aye
Ms. Faso	Aye
Mr. Fazzini	Aye
Ms. Gogins	Aye

The vote being five (5) Ayes, no (0) Nays, and one (1) Advisory, the motion carried.

REPORTS

President's Report

Dr. McCarthy noted there is a lot of renovation going on around the College. The Information Center is completed and will hold an Open House on November 2nd and the Campus & Public Safety renovation is just beginning. The atrium furniture and the carpeting is also on track and will be installed during the Thanksgiving break. If you walk around the atrium, you will notice brackets in two corners; those are where the speakers for the emergency notification system will be installed.

Dr. Uzureau included in her Board Report the state figures for enrollment which are good for the College. Most of the community colleges had a decrease in enrollment; however, the College saw an a 4% increase. When dollars are allotted on the basis of credit hours, how the College stacks up against other community colleges is important.

The Illinois Education Fund awarded scholarships for five nursing students. This is called last dollar funding to assist students who may not be outstanding students but are students with average grades. It gives them funding to attend school and other extra assistance. This was received from State Representative David Miller who made a connection with ISAC.

Prairie State College will be represented at Dr. Elaine Maimon's installation as President at Governors State University. The College has done quite a bit of work with Governors State and a number of initiatives have begun since her arrival.

President's Cabinet Monthly Reports

Dr. Uzureau, Ms. Winfree and Ms. Reaves were available for questions on their monthly reports.

Our College Identity

This document outlines the College's philosophy, mission, strategic plan, committees and organizational structure of the College. It is for information purposes only.

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Student Government Budget

This is for information purposes only.

Ms. Gogins was very curious about the amount of money being spent on the student newspaper. Mr. Johnsen noted the newspaper receives 20% of the total Student Government budget. She addressed the editor-in-chief, who has a paid position, regarding the quality of the material in the newspaper. In addition, members of the newspaper staff are quitting. She is concerned about how the college is represented by the newspaper. Ms. Gogins would prefer to see what the students are doing and see that they are informed about what is going on. If something is not more edifying to the student body, then she will seek remedy. Mr. Fazzini asked if there was someone who oversees their budget. Per the Constitution, Ms. Reaves stated Student Government gets together to determine their allotment per the percentage they receive from the student activity fee. According to Board Policy, they receive 35% of the student activity fee that's generated from tuition. Ms. Helen Manley, Coordinator of Student Life, is the advisor who reports to Ms. Angela Winters-Harmon, Assistant Dean of Student Life & Multicultural Affairs. If there is an expenditure over \$1,000, both Ms. Winters-Harmon and Ms. Reaves are required to approve it.

The newspaper is a biweekly publication. The Board requested they receive copies.

Monthly Financial Report

Dr. McCarthy reviewed the monthly financial report.

ITEMS FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Schedule for Future Board/College Events

Dr. McCarthy announced the annual Halloween Party will be on Wednesday, October 31st. Mr. Strat Westgate has put this event together for local children for 11 years. The Illinois Skyway College Jazz Festival will be held on campus on Saturday, November 3rd from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. The Foundation's Special Event will be held on Friday, November 9th at Olympia Fields Country Club. The Board's regular monthly meeting will be held a week earlier than normal on Tuesday, December 18th.

ICCTA/ACCT Report

The ICCTA meeting will be held on Friday, November 9th which is the same day as the Special Event. Several board members attended the ACCT meeting in San Diego. Mr. Fazzini distributed the ACCT financial report to the Board members. Ms. Donohue, who had never attended this conference before, attended a number of very good sessions and was glad she went. She added Mr. Fazzini made an effort to get the Board members together in San Diego. Mr. Fazzini noted there were 1800 registered participants and a lot of networking went on. He participated in a number of very good sessions. Ms. Gogins commented it was a good networking opportunity. The session that impacted her most was the Americanization of Latinos.

Prairie State College Foundation Report

Ms. Donohue noted the Board planned to put together a contribution for the Special Event silent auction.

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RFP – Auditors

Dr. McCarthy noted the RFP will be on next month's agenda. The present three year contract is up for renewal.

Table Participant Comments

Mr. Neveles stated there are four unions at the College. He and Ms. Vivian Zimmerman are in attendance representing two of them. He is concerned about the status of the police department. Mr. Fazzini stated it was discussed in executive session as the Board is allowed to do, and they are working with the City of Chicago Heights to advance the agreement that they have to put in place in order to move forward. Mr. Neveles stated the College has been playing this game with the City of Chicago Heights for over a year now. He believes the agreement is not necessary to move forward. Mr. Fazzini stated it has been determined that the agreement is necessary. Mr. Neveles added Chicago Heights is not the only game in town. The College could use Cook County or the State of Illinois. Mr. Fazzini stated the Board understands that.

Mr. Flannigan congratulated Dr. Uzureau on her retirement. It has been his privilege to work with Dr. Uzureau who will be sorely missed. He thanked Ms. Gogins for arranging the student forums which were an innovation. He was impressed by the tone and civility of the forum he attended. Mr. Flannigan responded to Mr. Faso's comments about following Dr. McCarthy. His comments were directed more to the perception of the new trustees. He would like them to share the reasons for their actions with the college community because it is the only way their actions can be valued, expressed, shared or adopted by others. He thanked Ms. Doyle and Ms. Donohue for their comments earlier in the meeting.

Mr. Fazzini pointed out the need to be careful about personnel matters and discussion of such shall remain in executive session.

Ms. Braasch congratulated Dr. Uzureau on her retirement. It has been a learning experience being one of her staff members and she appreciates everything Dr. Uzureau has taught her. She also thanked Ms. Gogins for setting up the forums, and thanked Mr. Flannigan and Mr. Johnsen for their comments.

Mr. Johnsen commented the 4% increase in enrollment is a great testament to everyone at the College. He congratulated volleyball team on their 6th place finish. Mr. Johnsen outlined some things he learned at the recent leadership conference he attended. He announced the Student Government Association will be meeting on November 5th at 4:00 p.m. in the Board Room. It is open to everyone to attend.

Ms. Donohue thanked Mr. Johnsen for his thoughtful and well-written comments. His position as a representative of the student body is very important. She thanked Mr. Flannigan for his eloquent comments which were from the heart.

Ms. Agee apologized for her outburst, but added that from the very first letter that was sent as well as the very first newspaper article, it has been said she did not base her decisions on anything hard or concrete. She was never asked what she based her decisions on. This is what she was trying to say to Mr. Johnsen. Ms. Agee didn't know she was suppose to check in at the office when she was on campus or she would have done that. She has been on campus many a day and has eaten in the Café many a day. When Ms. Agee makes a comment and then someone stands very threateningly and stares her down, she finds that very threatening. As an attorney, she needed to point that out.

(The student was removed from the meeting.)

Ms. Gogins thanked the Student Government Association and Black Student Union for their support of the student forums. At each of the forums, she expressed her view noting this was her view and explained to the students they need to have their own view. Ms. Gogins pointed out a number of students attended the Board meeting and thanked them for attending.

Ms. Gogins apologized to Ms. Agee but since this is an educational institution, this is the students' training ground for life. She takes very seriously the manner in which they are addressed. Students need to learn to challenge, but on two occasions when two different students were addressed by a Board member and she thought it to be very provocative. The students are very serious. She does not want to be accusatory or offensive, but it is a Board issue. Ms. Gogins was impressed by Mr. Johnsen. When Ms. Agee first came on the Board, in open session, she said she would be on campus and attend activities. The students believed and trusted that. When Ms. Agee is on campus, she needs to make it known that she is here.

Mr. Faso feels the College is lucky to have Dr. Uzureau, who is an amazing woman, until June 2009. He congratulated her on her retirement. Mr. Faso apologized to Mr. Flannigan for responding strongly. He didn't realize that he needs to go to the faculty and give them his thoughts before making decisions. In observing things, Mr. Faso makes decisions from his heart. He thanked Mr. Flannigan for his comments.

Ms. Doyle commended the faculty and staff for keeping teaching and learning in the forefront despite the turmoil. She hopes Board decisions are about teaching and learning. The 4% increase in enrollment shows that what the College is doing is working and that people want to be part of it.

Mr. Fazzini could not address all the issues tonight. Everyone feels very passionately about their thoughts and are entitled to do so. The Board needs to conduct their meetings in an appropriate way and handle them as they should under Robert's Rules of Order. Hopefully, decisions can be made to benefit everyone.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Doyle moved and Mr. Faso seconded that the Board of Trustees go into Executive Session for the "appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity."

Upon the call of roll, the vote was as follows:

Ms. Agee	Aye
Mr. Faso	Aye
Ms. Donohue	Aye
Ms. Doyle	Aye
Mr. Fazzini	Aye
Ms. Gogins	Aye

The vote being five (5) Ayes, no (0) Nays, and one (1) Advisory, the motion carried, the meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 7:22 p.m.

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RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Ms. Donohue moved and Ms. Doyle seconded that the Board of Trustees return to Open Session at 8:08 p.m. All members present voted Aye, and the motion carried.

Employee Discipline

Ms. Donohue moved and Ms. Doyle seconded that the Board of Trustees sustain the actions of the administration with regard to the disciplinary action.

Upon the call of roll, the vote was as follows:

Ms. Agee	Nay
Ms. Donohue	Aye
Ms. Doyle	Aye
Ms. Faso	Aye
Mr. Fazzini	Abstain
Ms. Gogins	Nay

The vote being three (3) Ayes, one (1) Nay, one (1) Abstain, and one (1) Advisory, the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Gogins moved and Mr. Faso seconded that the Board of Trustees adjourn the meeting. All members present voted Aye, and the meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Mark Fazzini, Chair

Jacqueline Agee, Secretary

Patricia G. Trost, Board Recorder
