

Item #9.3  
September 17, 2021

UNAPPROVED

Minutes of the  
Illinois Community College Board  
Retreat

Join Zoom Meeting

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August 19, 2021

## RECOMMENDED ACTION

It is recommended that the following motion be adopted:

The Illinois Community College Board hereby approves the Board minutes of the June 4, 2021 meeting as recorded.

### **Item #1 – Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum**

Chair Lopez called the Board meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and asked Ann Knoedler to call roll. The following Board members were present on the call: Paige Ponder, Larry Peterson, Terry Bruce, Lynette Stokes, Suzanne Morris, Teresa Garate, Nick Kachiroubas and Jaleel Harris, Student Board member, were present. A quorum was declared.

### **Item #2 – Announcements and Remarks by Dr. Lazaro Lopez, Board Chair**

Chair Lopez called the meeting to order with the following statement: Though the Governor's disaster proclamation does not in person meetings are necessarily infeasible, the head of a public body may determine that an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent given the disaster. Given the onset of the delta variant, I have made that determination, hence we find ourselves now meeting remotely. He stated that he does anticipate the same plan for September 17<sup>th</sup>, assuming the Governor reissues the disaster proclamation.

It is important to note that as a part of this determination, the ICCB will be keeping a verbatim recording of this meeting for a period of 18 months, as required by law. This zoom meeting will be recorded. Also to be noted, ICCB staff, Matt Berry, is present at the ICCB 2nd floor conference room, per requirements of the OMA law.

Chair Lopez then welcomed everyone to the Board's second remote Board retreat. There are a couple action items to get through this morning, just because the timing was right. The first topic for discussion is about the Biden administration's conversation on Free College.

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For this, there is a recorded presentation with David Baime, Vice President for the American Association for Community Colleges, who is leading the advocacy effort at the federal level. After this, there will be a discussion amongst the Board on any questions that need to be answered. After lunch, beginning around 12:30, Dr. Barbara Endel, will talk about the Future of Work, where the Board will be encouraged to engage in some discussion about the implication of the Future of Work. This session will run until about 2pm. This issue is particularly timely, as the Governor is poised to sign a bill establishing a Future of Work Taskforce. In the last 30 minutes, there will be a discussion about the topic areas the Board will want to see some focus on from the staff in the coming year. The retreat will finish with Executive Session. Chair Lopez then welcomed the new student Board member Jaleel Harris from South Suburban College to the Board. There were no other comments.

**Item #3 – Executive Director Report**

Dr. Brian Durham began by also welcoming student member Jaleel Harris to the Board. There has been many challenges that everyone is working through right now as life tries to return to normal, with significant turnover in staff due to the pandemic. So many are busy reacting to this issue and making decisions and trying to add new staff. The ICCB office had originally been slated to go to a fall in person schedule, with the remote work policy, beginning just right after Labor Day; however, this has already been delayed until the end of September. The schedule will remain in the summer format, which is two days in the office and three work remotely status in order to keep the density down in the building. There will be rolling extensions on this plan to see how everything plays out with the new COVID strain. Hopefully, by January the office schedule will be back to normal.

Dr. Durham went on to say the ICCB staff put together a list of accomplishments for the agency that was requested by the Governor's Office. This consists of a long list of everything that the agency has accomplished over the last couple of years. This document was recently emailed to the Board. One major accomplishment is that in addition to the base operating and equalization dollars, since FY19, ICCB has almost doubled the amount of money distributed to the system in grants due to the federal money coming in and connections to the Governor's Office Relief Funds. Chicago will be the site for the 2022 National State Directors for Community Colleges Summer Conference. This will host all the community college executives from across the country. It will most likely be happening in July 2022.

Lastly, Matt Berry will now report out to the Board on the Illinois Council of Community College Presidents marketing collaborative. Mr. Berry will give a brief overview of what the work the President's are doing to market community colleges in the state. ICCB staff Matt Berry presented on the Illinois Community College Marketing Collaborative: Statewide Community College Brand Development. This marketing campaign was begun to maximize awareness and understanding of community colleges among key/target constituencies throughout the state, with the ultimate goal of driving enrollment and enhancing reputation. Deliverables: A clear, identifiable brand identity; key message and positioning statements that have statewide relevance; visual identify elements that span across all markets; cost-effective public relations and marketing strategy for use and reach across all communities in Illinois; and integration with each institutions visual creative, as well as social media and other digital platforms.

**Item #4 - Endorsement of the IBHE Strategic Plan**

At the Illinois Board of Higher Education's (IBHE) June 15, 2021 meeting, they approved the Strategic Plan for Higher Education entitled A THRIVING ILLINOIS: Higher Education Paths to Equity, Sustainability, and Growth. The IBHE is statutorily required to develop a strategic plan for higher education in cooperation with the ICCB. The plan was developed in partnership and collaboration with the ICCB and the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) as well as the involvement of hundreds of higher education leaders and stakeholders across Illinois, and with input from nearly 10,000 individuals. ICCB Board members and community college leaders were involved in many different aspects of the plan, including as participants on the IBHE Strategic Plan Advisory Committee, as participants in focus groups, and as representatives in Design Working Groups.

The plan contains 25 strategies designed around three goals: 1) Equity: Close the equity gaps for students who have historically been left behind; 2) Sustainability: Build a stronger financial future for individuals and institutions; and, 3) Growth: Increase talent and innovation to drive economic growth. Community colleges and the students they serve figure prominently in the plan. ICCB was disappointed with there being no changes made to the MAP funding section of the plan.

Paige Ponder made a motion, which was seconded by Nick Kachiroubas, to approve the following motion:

The Illinois Community College Board hereby endorses the IBHE Strategic Plan for Higher Education, A Thriving Illinois: Higher Education Paths to Equity, Sustainability, and Growth.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Terry Bruce	Yea	Larry Peterson	Yea
Teresa Garate	Yea	Paige Ponder	Yea
Nick Kachiroubas	Yea	Lynette Stokes	Yea
Suzanne Morris	Yea	Jaleel Harris	Yea
		Lazaro Lopez	Yea

The motion was approved. Student advisory vote: yes.

**Item #5 - Memorandum of Understanding For Construction Management of Laborers Apprenticeship Program AAS between the Illinois Laborers' & Contractors Joint Apprenticeship & Training Program and Shawnee Community College**

The Illinois Community College Board is requested to approve the Memorandum of Understanding and articulation agreement between Shawnee Community College (SCC) and the Illinois Laborers' & Contractors Joint Apprenticeship and Training Program (JATP). This Memorandum of Understanding is a joint effort between SCC and the Illinois Laborers' & Contractors JATP. SCC and JATP to offer a Construction Management of Laborers Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree. The AAS degree is already approved for SCC, but this extends this offering to JATP students only across the state. The AAS degree curriculum includes sixty-two (62) credit hours consisting of thirty-two (32) credit hours of general education courses, provided by SCC, and thirty (30) hours of technical core courses, provided by the JATP, which make up the AAS degree and include classroom and occupational field training. All instructors teaching courses with an LBR (Labor) prefix will be employees of the JATP; however, the parties hereto will jointly review and approve instructors utilized in the JATP. SCC and JATP agree that Applicants selected for the program must meet requirements based on the JATP's apprenticeship standards that are registered by the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training with the U.S. Department of Labor.

Suzanne Morris made a motion, which was seconded by Teresa Garate, to approve the following motion:

The Illinois Community College Board hereby approves the Memorandum of Understanding between Shawnee Community College and Illinois Laborers' & Contractors Joint Apprenticeship and Training Program.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Terry Bruce	Yea	Larry Peterson	Yea
Teresa Garate	Yea	Paige Ponder	Yea
Nick Kachiroubas	Yea	Lynette Stokes	Yea
Suzanne Morris	Yea	Jaleel Harris	Yea
		Lazaro Lopez	Yea

The motion was approved. Student advisory vote: yes.

**Item #6 - Free College Video Presentation and Discussion by Dr. Brian Durham**

President Biden's American Families Plan calls for a 109 billion dollars investment in free community college across the country so that every student can obtain a degree or certificate.

In addition, the plan is calling for approximately \$85 billion investment in Pell Grants, which would help students seeking a certificate or a two- or four-year degree. On July 19, 2021, Chair Lopez and Executive Director Durham had the opportunity to record a presentation from and ask questions to David Baime, Senior VP for Government Relations and Policy Analysis, at the American Association of Community Colleges about the free community college movement. Mr. Baime has led AACC's efforts to advocate for free community college in Congress. Among the topics discussed are the implications of free college, the status of the effort at the White House and in Congress, and potential hurdles to its passage.

The Board viewed the recorded presentation and followed with a discussion. The following are some of the concerns raised regarding the loss of tuition as an income source for colleges: Tuition does not cover cost of instruction for Illinois community colleges—especially the high cost of STEM and health care programs; the incentive to maintain or develop new high-cost programs seems to vanish; well over half of our students currently receive some sort of financial aid; tuition is the only source of revenue that institutions still have some control over; taxes and State funding are essentially out of the colleges control; without tuition revenue during the budget crisis, some colleges might not have survived; some districts have higher tuition rates because of a lower property tax base; local control and autonomy would definitely be diminished; programs such as this are only focused on high school graduates; and funding to continue meeting the needs of the incumbent workforce, returning adults, online, and adult education is critical.

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At this time, the Board took a lunch break at 11:45 a.m. and returned at 12:30 p.m.

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**Item #7 – The Future of Work Presentation and Discussion by Barbara Endel**

Barbara Endel is an independent consultant and senior advisor to national non-profit, Jobs for the Future (JFF). She specializes in system-building and innovation in adult education and workforce development. Dr. Endel has worked extensively with Illinois and ICCB for close to 7 years supporting inclusive career pathways, and bridge programs. She supported the development of the Illinois Adult Education 5 -Year Strategic Plan and coached IL w Accelerating Opportunity for 5 years. This state and local level work has informed her published research, such as What Works for Adult Learners, a meta-analysis of career pathways. Barbara has worked with the US Department of Education, Tyson Foods, CA and FL to build stronger equity-driven student outcomes. She has spoken nationally and internationally on career pathways and the Future of Work.

This session defined the Future of Work and presented several trends that directly impact community colleges, such as workforce training and jobs that are at risk of automation. As part of the discussion, the presenter also showcased what other state community college systems are doing. The overall goal was to present the opportunities and threats of Future of Work concepts and to help inform the system's strategic direction.

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Chair Lopez stated the Board will take a break.

BREAK at 2:05 p.m.

RETURNED at 2:11 p.m.

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**Item #8 – Focus Areas for the Upcoming Year**

Chair Lopez facilitated a guided discussion with the Board members to consider the areas of discussion during the retreat and what areas the Board would like to see additional focus on during the remainder of this fiscal year.

A number of items came forward, such as, rural high schools and the community, the future of work model state plans, adult education, and the IL Board of Higher Education Strategic Plan. The Board agreed that in light of what has occurred this past year and a half, and continues to affect everyone, the Future of Work should be more of the main focus of the Board going forward. This area of focus will also keep in line with the Governor’s Office Future of Work Task Force, which the ICCB and community college system will be following closely.

**Item #9 - Executive Session**

**Item #9.1 - Employment/Appointments Matters**

Suzanne Morris made a motion, which was seconded by Lynette Stokes, to approve the following motion:

I move to enter Executive Session for the purpose of **Employment/Appointment Matters** which qualify as acceptable exceptions under Section 2(c) of the Open Meetings Act to hold a closed session.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Terry Bruce	Yea	Larry Peterson	Yea
Teresa Garate	Yea	Paige Ponder	Yea
Nick Kachiroubas	Yea	Lynette Stokes	Yea
Suzanne Morris	Yea	Jaleel Harris	Yea
		Lazaro Lopez	Yea

The motion was approved. Student advisory vote: yes. The Board entered executive session at 2:23 p.m.

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Terry Bruce made a motion, which was seconded by Paige Ponder, to reconvene Public Session at 2:39 p.m.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Terry Bruce	Yea	Larry Peterson	Yea
Teresa Garate	Yea	Paige Ponder	Yea
Nick Kachiroubas	Yea	Lynette Stokes	Yea
Suzanne Morris	Yea	Jaleel Harris	Yea
		Lazaro Lopez	Yea

The motion was approved. Student advisory vote: yes.

**Item #10 - Executive Session Recommendations**

There were no recommendations.

**Item #11 - Adjournment**

Chair Lopez stated the September Board meeting will be virtual as long as the disaster proclamation is extended. Suzanne Morris made a motion, which was seconded by Lynette Stokes, to adjourn the Board meeting at 2:41 p.m.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Terry Bruce	Yea	Larry Peterson	Yea
Teresa Garate	Yea	Paige Ponder	Yea
Nick Kachiroubas	Yea	Lynette Stokes	Yea
Suzanne Morris	Yea	Jaleel Harris	Yea
		Lazaro Lopez	Yea

The motion was approved. Student advisory vote: yes.