

**Illinois Community College District #511
Rock Valley College
3301 North Mulford Road
Rockford, IL 61114**

**REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Educational Resource Center Performing Arts Room (PAR), Room 0214
July 27, 2021
5:15 p.m.**

MINUTES

Call to Order

The Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Community College District No. 511, Winnebago, Boone, DeKalb, McHenry, Ogle, and Stephenson Counties, Illinois, convened in the Performing Arts Room (PAR), Room 0214, in the Educational Resource Center, on the Rock Valley College main campus at 3301 North Mulford Road, Rockford, IL, on Tuesday, July 27, 2021 at 5:15 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Jarid Funderburg, who welcomed everyone to the first in-person board meeting since February 2020.

Roll Call

The following members of the Board of Trustees were present at roll call:

Mr. Jarid Funderburg
Mr. Paul Gorski
Mr. John Nelson

Mr. Bob Trojan
Ms. Gloria Cudia
Student Trustee Evelyn Molina

The following trustees were absent: Ms. Lynn Kearney, Ms. Crystal Soltow.

Also in attendance: Dr. Howard Spearman, President; Mr. Ron Geary, Vice President Academic Affairs and Campus Safety; Mr. Jim Handley, Vice President Human Resources; Ms. Ellen Olson, Executive Director Finance/Interim Chief Financial Officer; Ms. Heather Snider, Vice President Institutional Effectiveness and Communications; Dr. Patrick Peyer, Vice President Student Affairs; Mr. Keith Barnes, Vice President Equity and Inclusion; Ms. Ann Kerwitz; Assistant to the President; Ms. Kris Fuchs; Assistant to the President; Attorney Matt Gardner, Robbins Schwartz.

Communications and Petitions (Public Comment)

No public comments were received.

Recognition of Visitors

There were no visitors to be recognized.

Adjourn to Closed Session

Board Chair Funderburg announced that a closed session will be held at the end of the meeting.

General Presentation

There were no general presentations.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Trustee Gorski, seconded by Trustee Cudia, to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting, the June 22, 2021 Regular meeting and the June 26, 2021 Special meeting.

There was no discussion. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Action Items

1. BR 7821 – Claims Sheet #788

The Board Report reads in part: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the claims sheets from the Ellucian check register for the period from June 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021. The total is \$2,559,238.01.

A motion was made by Trustee Gorski, seconded by Trustee Trojan, to approve Board Report 7821, Claims Sheet #788.

There was no discussion. The motion was approved by majority roll call vote. Trustees Cudia, Gorski, Trojan, and Funderburg voted yes. Trustee Nelson voted no. Student Trustee Molina voted yes (advisory).

2.A BR 7822-A – Purchase Report #765-A – FY22 Purchases

The Board Report reads in part: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the marked items for purchase on Board Report 7822-A, Purchase Report #765-A.

\$ 80,000.00	A. Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL
\$ 100,000.00 NOT TO EXCEED	B. Windstar, Carroll, IA
\$ 24,500.00	C. Blackboard Ally, Reston, VA
\$ 23,210.00	D. Action Printing, Fond du Lac, WI

A motion was made by Trustee Nelson, seconded by Student Trustee Molina, to approve Board Report 7822-A, Purchase Report #765-A.

Interim Chief Financial Officer Ellen Olson explained that changes in the report since the July 13 Committee of the Whole meeting are reflected in Items B. and D. The cost for Item B is “not to exceed” \$100,000, while the cost for Item D, printing of the Community/Continuing Education catalog, will be paid with FY22 budgeted funds until confirmation is received from the federal government on the use of HEERF funds for this expense.

The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

2.B BR 7822-B – Purchase Report #765-B – FY22 Advanced technology Center (ATC) Change Orders

The Board Report reads in part: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the marked items for purchase on Board Report 7822-B, Purchase Report #765-E.

\$ 24,153.00	A.	Stenstrom & Sons Construction, Rockford, IL
\$ 1,433.00	B	Stenstrom & Sons Construction, Rockford, IL
\$ 823.00	C	Stenstrom & Sons Construction, Rockford, IL
\$ <1,247.00>	D	Stenstrom & Sons Construction, Rockford, IL
\$ 13,988.00	E	Stenstrom & Sons Construction, Rockford, IL
\$ <3,705.00>	F	Stenstrom & Sons Construction, Rockford, IL
\$ 1,615.00	G	Stenstrom & Sons Construction, Rockford, IL
\$ 946.00	H.	Stenstrom & Sons Construction, Rockford, IL
\$ 1,553.00	I.	Stenstrom & Sons Construction, Rockford, IL
\$ 2,054.00	J.	Stenstrom & Sons Construction, Rockford, IL
\$ <1,503.00>	K.	Stenstrom & Sons Construction, Rockford, IL
\$ 3,296.00	L.	Stenstrom & Sons Construction, Rockford, IL
\$ 7,350.00	M.	Stenstrom & Sons Construction, Rockford, IL
\$ 23,467.00	N.	Stenstrom & Sons Construction, Rockford, IL
\$ 832.00	O.	Stenstrom & Sons Construction, Rockford, IL
\$ 149.00	P.	Stenstrom & Sons Construction, Rockford, IL

A motion was made by Trustee Trojan, seconded by Trustee Nelson, to approve Board Report 7822-B, Purchase Report #765-B

Ms. Ellen Olson explained the three change orders, Items N, O and P, that have been added since the July 13 Committee of the Whole meeting. Trustee Trojan indicated he would like to see the net change of each report.

The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

3. BR 7822-C – Purchase Report #765-C – FY22 Emergency Purchase

The revised Board Report reads in part: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the marked items for purchase on Board Report 7822-C, Purchase Report #765-C.

\$ 46,695.00	A.	Helm Service, Freeport, IL
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A motion was made by Trustee Gorski, seconded by Student Trustee Molina, to approve Board Report 7822-C, Purchase Report #765-C.

Ms. Ellen Olson explained that the air conditioning unit in the Print Services workroom of the Support Services Building (SSB) has stopped working and is beyond repair; therefore, a new HVAC unit will be needed. In response to a question from Trustee Nelson, Ms. Olson confirmed that Helm Service is a union shop and is the College's HVAC provider.

The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

4. BR 7823 – Board Personnel Report #748

The Board Report reads in part: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the personnel items outlined in the report.

A motion was made by Trustee Nelson, seconded by Trustee Trojan, to approve Board Report 7823.

Trustee Gorski commented that Ms. Jennifer Thompson, who has been appointed executive director of college communications, is a longtime friend of the family and he is very happy with her selection to that position.

The motion was approved by majority roll call vote. Trustees Cudia, Nelson, Trojan and Funderburg voted yes. Trustee Gorski abstained. Student Trustee Molina voted yes (advisory).

- 5. BR 7824 – 2021-2022 Dual Credit Memorandum of Understanding between Boylan Catholic High School and Rock Valley College**
- 6. BR 7825 - 2021-2022 Dual Credit Memorandum of Understanding between Oregon School District #220 and Rock Valley College**
- 7. BR 7826 - 2021-2022 Dual Credit Memorandum of Understanding between South Beloit School District #320 and Rock Valley College**

Each of the above listed Board Reports #7824, 7825 and 7826 reads in part: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the Dual Credit Memorandum of Understanding between Rock Valley College and [name of] School District [#000] beginning August 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022.

- 8. BR 7827 - 2021-2022 Linking Talent with Opportunity Memorandum of Understanding between Belvidere District 100 and Rock Valley College**
- 9. BR 7828 - 2021-2022 Linking Talent with Opportunity Memorandum of Understanding between Byron School District #226 and Rock Valley College**
- 10. BR 7829 - 2021-2022 Linking Talent with Opportunity Memorandum of Understanding between Meridian School District #223 and Rock Valley College**
- 11. BR 7830 - 2021-2022 Linking Talent with Opportunity Memorandum of Understanding between Winnebago School District #323 and Rock Valley College**

Each of the above listed Board Reports #7827, 7828, 7829 and 7830 reads in part: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the Linking Talent with Opportunity Memorandum of Understanding between Rock Valley College and [name of] School District [#000] beginning August 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022.

12. BR 7831 – Running Start Program – Durand Community Unit School District #322

The Board Report reads in part: It is recommended that the Rock Valley College Board of Trustees approve the Running Start Intergovernmental Agreement with Durand Community Unit School District #322 effective July 27, 2021 for classes beginning August 16, 2021.

In response to a trustee question, Attorney Matt Gardner confirmed that trustees could vote on all of the Early College Memorandums of Agreement and the Intergovernmental Agreement in one motion.

A motion was made by Trustee Nelson, seconded by Trustee Trojan, to approve Board Reports #7824, 7825, 7826, 7827, 7828, 7829, 7830, and 7831. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

13. BR 7832 – Intergovernmental Agreement: Rock Valley College and the City of Belvidere, Illinois “All-Hazards” Police Response Plan

The Board Report reads in part: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Belvidere, Illinois, formalizing responsibility and response to police calls for service at the Rock Valley College Advanced Technology Center site located within the city limits of Belvidere. Attorney Reviewed.

A motion was made by Trustee Nelson, seconded by Trustee Trojan, to approve Board Report 7832. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

14. BR 7833 – Sublease Agreement between Rock Valley College and The Workforce Connection

The Board Report reads in part: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the sublease agreement with The Workforce Connection for office space located at 303 North Main Street, Rockford, IL. Attorney Reviewed.

A motion was made by Trustee Nelson, seconded by Trustee Trojan, to approve Board Report 7833.

Ms. Ellen Olson confirmed that this expense is paid with pass-through funds through the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

15. BR 7834 – Subaward Agreement between Rock Valley College and Goodwill of Northern Illinois -Youth Program

The Board Report reads in part: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the subaward agreement for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act One-Stop Operator and Career Services - Youth Program grant. Attorney Reviewed.

A motion was made by Trustee Gorski, seconded by Trustee Cudia, to approve Board Report 7834. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

16. BR 7835 – Subaward Agreement between Rock Valley College and Goodwill of Northern Illinois - One-Stop Operator and Career Service

The Board Report reads in part: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the subaward agreement for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act One-Stop Operator and Career Services grant. Attorney Reviewed.

A motion was made by Trustee Nelson, seconded by Trustee Trojan, to approve Board Report 7835. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

17. BR 7836 – Rock Valley College Athletics Bowling Program

The Board Report reads in part: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve funding of up to \$20,000 in operational expenses for the Rock Valley College bowling team, effective FY2022. These funds will help cover the cost of a coaching stipend, travel, gear, and equipment for the Rock Valley College bowling team. The bowling program will continue to operate as a non-scholarship program.

A motion was made by Trustee Nelson, seconded by Student Trustee Molina, to approve Board Report 7836. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

18. BR 7837 – Authorization to Add Golf as a National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Intercollegiate Sport

The Board Report reads in part: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve reinstatement of the golf team as an official NJCAA intercollegiate sport and fund up to \$20,000 in operational expenses effective FY2023. The funds will help cover the cost of a coaching stipend, travel, gear, and equipment for the Rock Valley College golf team. The golf program will operate as a non-scholarship program.

A motion was made by Trustee Funderburg, seconded by Trustee Nelson, to approve Board Report 7837. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

19. BR 7838 – Athletic Program National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division II Request

The Board Report reads in part: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the following:

- 1) The Rock Valley College Athletic Program's request to change from NJCAA Division III status to NJCAA Division II status effective FY 2023 and
- 2) The funding of athletic scholarships at 50 percent of the maximum allowable for the following sports: Volleyball, Men's Soccer, Women's Soccer, Men's Basketball, Women's Basketball, Baseball and Softball, totaling no more than \$300,000 in scholarship expenses per year for the next four years. These scholarships will cover all tuition and fees in terms of waivers for courses needed to earn a degree at Rock Valley College.

A motion was made by Trustee Cudia, seconded by Student Trustee Molina, to approve Board Report 7838. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

20. BR 7839 – Revised Schedule Board of Trustees Committee of the Whole Meetings

The Board Report reads in part: Based on discussions at the June 22, 2021 Regular board meeting and the July 13, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting, the Board of Trustees approves the revised schedule for Committee of the Whole meetings. Effective August 1, 2021, Committee of the Whole meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of the month beginning at 5:15 p.m. Regular board meetings will continue to be held on the fourth Tuesday of the month beginning at 5:15 p.m., unless rescheduled due to the holidays.

A motion was made by Trustee Trojan, seconded by Trustee Cudia, to approve Board Report 7839. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

21. BR 7840 – Donation to the Women’s Suffrage Centennial Project

The Board Report reads in part: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees authorizes the College’s Administration to make a contribution of \$2,500.00 to the Women’s Suffrage Centennial 2020 Committee for a donor plaque to be placed on the endcap of a bench that will be installed as part of the Women’s Centennial Sculpture located on the grounds of the Riverfront YMCA in Rockford, Illinois.

A motion was made by Trustee Nelson, seconded by Trustee Cudia, to approve Board Report 7840.

During discussion, Trustee Trojan indicated that he would vote no, as he believes this would be setting a precedent for donations to the community. Other trustees commented that the Women’s Suffrage Committee did a good job on the overall project, it serves as an educational mission highlighting women’s right to vote and that the group soliciting the donation has raised a portion of the funds for the project.

The motion was approved by majority roll call vote. Trustees Cudia, Gorski, Nelson, and Funderburg voted yes. Trustee Trojan voted no. Student Trustee Molina voted yes (advisory).

22. BR 7841 – Closed Session Minutes Through June 2021

The Board Report reads in part: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the recommendation of Attorney Matthew Gardner (in consultation with the Board Chair) to make a review of closed meeting minutes from October 13, 2020 through June 26, 2021 and recommends the Board of Trustees approve the following:

1. That the minutes of the closed session meetings of October 13, 2020 through June 26, 2021 shall be approved.
2. That the need for confidentiality still exists for the closed session meeting minutes for the period of October 13, 2020 through June 26, 2021.
3. That the verbatim recordings shall be maintained pursuant to an existing litigation hold on College records.
4. That minutes identified in this document shall continue to be confidential until further action of the Board of Trustees.

A motion was made by Trustee Nelson, seconded by Trustee Cudia, to approve Board Report 7841. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Other Business

1. New Business

There was no new business.

2. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

Updates / Reports

1. **President's Update**

- President Howard Spearman welcomed trustees and staff back to in-person meetings and gave an update on his recent activities, noting the following:
- The 4th of July parade in downtown Rockford was a great success, as was the Heritage Days parade held in June in Belvidere. He thanked trustees, staff, students and RVC alums who participated in the parades and/or helped coordinate the events. The Tech Bus was present at both events and was well received.
- Chris Brady and his team are doing a great job at Starlight Theatre. Dr. Spearman was pleased to welcome the audience at opening night of the first show, "A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder." He also saw "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," another great show.
- He attended the TRiO and Delta Alpha Pi celebration at Midway Village, which recognized students for completing their academic programs.
- He also recognized new Student Trustee Evelyn Molina, who has been extremely active engaging students and participating in various summer events.
- State Representative Dave Vella and his team visited campus and heard a presentation on healthcare, manufacturing and Advanced Technology Center programs. They also toured the Woodward Technology Center and the Health Sciences Center.
- Congratulations to Attorney Joe Perkoski on his election as a Fellow to the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers. Election as a Fellow is the highest recognition by one's colleagues of sustained, outstanding performance in the profession, exemplifying integrity, dedication, and excellence.

2. **Leadership Team Updates**

- Chief Academic Officer Ron Geary announced that the College will have a presence at the Boone County Fair, including a Truck Driver Training vehicle. In addition, a free Covid-19 saliva testing site opened July 12 in the lobby of the Woodward Technology Center. Since then, 17 tests were administered, and all were negative. RVC will also be present at a job fair to be held July 28 at the UAW facility in Belvidere to assist the nearly 1,700 workers who have been laid off at Chrysler. In response to a question from Trustee Nelson, Mr. Geary explained that the Covid-19 saliva testing site is currently limited to students and staff to allow time to solidify the process before opening the site to the community.
- Vice President Jim Handley explained that he will attend a special Crisis Intervention training to be held next week. This training addresses the current mental health crisis and will be available to the College's police officers and staff. Trustee Nelson commented that this is outstanding work by leadership, but he did not see any publicity for it. Vice President Heather Snider explained that the College will be able to increase its information-sharing when the College's new executive director of communications starts on August 23.
- Interim Chief Finance Officer Ellen Olson announced that the audit begins next week and reminded trustees to return audit form 99 directly to Sikich. She also announced that the College has received notice from the State that the Advanced Technology Center is exempt from property taxes.
- Vice President Heather Snider provided an enrollment update, noting that fall enrollment is down 3.5%, 86% of goal, which is a reflection of last week's deregistration. A typical enrollment report will be presented at the August Committee of the Whole meeting. Snider confirmed that the goal is the budget.

- Vice President Patrick Peyer announced that Student Affairs is pushing registration heavily and will be hosting another Explore RVC event on August 5. Students will be able to receive information on admissions, advising, career services, financial aid, and student employment opportunities. The Winnebago County Health Department's mobile vaccine clinic bus will be on campus that day offering free Covid-19 vaccinations from 4:00-6:00 p.m. As an added incentive for students to register, the College will use HEERF (Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds) to issue checks directly to students. Those who enroll for the Fall 2021 semester will receive \$50 per credit hour up to 18 credits (\$900). Peyer also invited trustees to help welcome students back to campus August 16 and 17, the first two days of weekday classes.

3. Trustee Comments

- Trustee Gorski commented that he is glad to be back meeting in person.
- Trustee Nelson commented that he is not pleased to be meeting in person, as the number of Covid cases is increasing. He encourages everyone to get vaccinated and thinks the College should require vaccines, but if not, those who are not vaccinated should wear a mask.
- Trustee Cudia commented that she had a wonderful tour of the ATC recently and saw many changes. In addition, she has spoken with Ron Geary's office regarding the pocket-size marketing piece and is looking forward to receiving a supply at the August Committee of the Whole meeting.
- Trustee Trojan commented that the robotics competition normally held at RVC in July was held at City Market last Sunday due to Covid restrictions. Eighteen teams from four states participated in the very successful event. He is hoping to return to RVC next year.
- Board Chair Funderburg welcomed everyone back to the in-person meeting and encouraged everyone to visit the Boone County Fair.

4. ICCTA Report

Trustee Nelson indicated that no report was available.

5. Student Trustee Report

Student Trustee Ms. Evelyn Molina presented a brief review of her participation in student-related activities including attending one of the Thirsty Thursday webinars titled "Anxiety, Depression, and Stress: Managing Mental Health." In addition, the Student Government Association (SGA) is planning a student v. staff kickball event in early August that will give students an opportunity to interact with some of the College's instructors and staff.

6. RVC Foundation Liaison Report

Trustee Trojan reported that the RVC Foundation Board did not meet this month.

7. Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Report

The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) report was accepted as presented.

Adjourn to Closed Session

At 6:04 p.m., a motion was made by Trustee Nelson, seconded by Trustee Trojan, to adjourn to closed session to discuss: 1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees per Section 2 (c) (1); and/or 2) Collective negotiating matters per Section 2 (c) (2); and/or 3) The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body per Section 2 (c) (5), all in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Reconvene Open Meeting

At 6:41 p.m., a motion was made by Trustee Nelson, seconded by Trustee Cudia, to adjourn the closed session and reconvene to open session.

The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote. No action was taken as a result of closed session.

Next Meeting

The next Committee of the Whole meeting will be held in person on Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at 5:15 p.m. in room 1308 of the Woodward Technology Center on the Rock Valley College main campus.

The next Regular meeting will be held in person on Tuesday, August 24, 2021 at 5:15 p.m. in room 0214, known as the Performing Arts Room (PAR), in the Educational Resource Center on the Rock Valley College main campus.

Adjournment

At 6:41 p.m., a motion was made by Trustee Trojan, seconded by Trustee Cudia, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Submitted by Ann Kerwitz


Robert Trojan, Secretary


Jarid Funderburg, Chairperson