RockValleyCollege

Community College District No. 511
3301 N. Mulford Road, Rockford, IL 61114

BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING-SWEARING IN OF NEW TRUSTEE
5:15 p.m. Tuesday, September 8, 2026

Call to Order

The Rock Valley College (RVC) Board of Trustees Special meeting convened on Tuesday, September 8, 2026, in the Performing Arts Room (PAR, Room 0214) in the Educational Resource Center (ERC). Board Chair Paul Gorski called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

Roll Call

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

Mr. Paul Gorski	Ms. Kristen Simpson
Mr. Robert 'Bob' Trojan	Ms. Crystal Soltow- joined later by phone
Ms. Gloria Cardenas Cudia	Ms. Sarah Ortiz Espinoza, Student Trustee
Mr. John Nelson	

Also present: Dr. Howard J. Spearman, President; Dr. Amanda Smith, Vice President of Academic Affairs; Dr. Keith Barnes, Vice President of Cultural Excellence and Belonging; Dr. Patrick Peyer, Vice President of Student Affairs; Ms. Heather Snider, Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness and Communications; Dr. Terrica Huntley, Vice President of Human Resources; Ms. Saba Jaffery, Vice President of Operations; Ms. Ellen Olson, Vice President of Finance; Ms. Ann Kerwitz, Assistant to the President; Ms. Carly Diciolla, Assistant to the President; Ms. Tracy Luethje, Executive Assistant to the Vice President of Operations; Attorney Joseph Perkoski, Robbins Schwartz.

Temporary Appointment of Secretary

A motion was made by Trustee Bob Trojan, seconded by Trustee John Nelson, to appoint Kristen Simpson as acting secretary for this meeting. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

Board Member Attendance by Means Other Than Physical Presence

Board Chair Gorski announced that Trustee Crystal Soltow would like to attend the meeting by phone. A motion was made by Trustee John Nelson, seconded by Trustee Trojan to allow Trustee Soltow to join the meeting by phone. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

Communications and Petitions

There were no communication or petitions.

Recognition of Visitors

Ms. Terri Knight was introduced as the new trustee who would be sworn in during this meeting.

Swearing in of New Trustee

Board Chair Paul Gorski welcomed Ms. Terri Knight and invited College Attorney Joe Perkoski to swear in Ms. Knight as the newly appointed trustee. Attorney Perkoski then administered the oath of office to Ms. Terri Knight as the newest member of the Board of Trustees of Rock Valley College. Ms. Knight will serve until the April 6, 2027 election.

Appointment of Secretary

A motion was made by Trustee Trojan, seconded by Trustee Nelson, to appoint Trustee Kristen Simpson as board secretary. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

Next Committee of the Whole Meeting:

September 8, 2026, directly after the Special Meeting. It will be held in the Performing Arts Room (PAR, Room 0214) located in the Educational Resource Center (ERC) on the main campus.

Next Regular Board of Trustees Meeting:

September 22, 2026, 5:15 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Performing Arts Room (PAR, Room 0214) located in the Educational Resource Center (ERC) on the main campus.

Adjourn

At 5:21 p.m., a motion was made by Trustee Nelson, seconded by Student Trustee Ortiz Espinoza, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

Submitted by: Carly A. Diciolla

Ms. Kristen Simpson, Secretary

Paul Gorski, Board Chairman