

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF ILLINOIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT 525
JOLIET JUNIOR COLLEGE

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Welcome/Pledge of Allegiance

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College, Illinois Community College District #525, held in the Board Room at Joliet Junior College, 1215 Houbolt Road, Joliet, IL was called to order by Chairman Budzinski at 5:36 p.m. on Wednesday, November 13, 2024.

Trustees Present: Maureen Broderick, Jim Budzinski, Nancy Garcia Guillen, Diane Harris, Michelle Lee (arrived at 5:36 p.m. and left at 7:37 p.m., then returned at 8:28 p.m. and left at 9:40 p.m.), Alicia Morales, Joshua Stamborski, and Student Trustee Ryan Queeney

Lisa Moral Las from the Will County Children's Advocacy Center led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.2 Communications

Kelly Rohder-Tonelli, Executive Director of Strategic Engagement, introduced Lisa Moral Las, executive director of the Will County Children's Advocacy Center. Lisa said that having the Men who Cook fundraiser at the Weitendorf Agricultural Education Center was very helpful and impactful and they hope for it to be their forever home. She said the site and staff were wonderful.

1.3 Retirement Recognitions

Dr. Amy Gray read the retirement recognitions for Cynthia Bochenek, Laura Egner, Alice Fritz and Donna Katula.

Trustee Morales moved, seconded by Trustee Harris, for the Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College to approve the recognitions. A voice vote was taken. The motion carried.

1.4 Public Comments

There were 17 public comments:

- Mark Jones II, a JJC student, addressed the Board regarding the president's contract and disfunction of the Board.
- Kathleen Bond, co-president of the JJC TOSSC union, addressed the Board regarding embracing diversity and inclusion at JJC.
- Alisha Brennon, JJC Professor, addressed the Board regarding comments Trustee Lee made during the last meeting.
- Brenton Bishop, from JJC Pride Alliance, addressed the Board regarding non-supportive comments and disrespect for student identities from a Trustee.
- Ash Klinder, a JJC student, addressed the Board regarding disturbing behavior of a Trustee against the student Trustee.

- Juliana Aguilar, a JJC student, addressed the Board regarding the temperature of the Board.
- Luke Galloway, a JJC student, addressed the Board regarding the relationship between students and the Board.
- Jakayla Johnson, from JJC Student Government, addressed the Board regarding recent comments made by a Trustee against student government.
- Kimberley Martinez, from Latinos Unidos, addressed the Board regarding Trustee behavior.
- Stephanie Damenco, chair of LGBTQ subcommittee, addressed the Board regarding comments made by a Trustee at the end of the last meeting.
- Emily Powers, a JJC student, addressed the Board regarding Roberts Rules of Order and disrespect by a Trustee of the student Trustee.
- Michael Krempsi from the US Patriots Society, addressed the Board regarding his disagreement with removing gender specific language from JJC Scholarships.
- Molly Krempsi addressed the Board regarding her disagreement to remove gender language from JJC scholarships.
- Suzanna Ibarri, Joliet City Councilwoman, addressed the Board regarding respecting an individual's pronouns.
- David Lazano, former JJC Student Trustee, addressed the Board asking them to be respectful to all students.
- Sean Miller, a JJC student, addressed the Board regarding the Board's embarrassing and disrespectful behavior.
- Destinie Jimerson, a student, addressed the Board regarding women's scholarships.
- Michelle Lee, JJC Trustee, attempted to speak regarding a violation of her rights to speak during public comments.

1.5 Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was observed for members of the college family, students, community leaders, or relatives thereof, who had passed away since the last meeting.

1.6.1 Finance Audit Report

Anthony Cervina from Sikich gave the report saying the firm audited the college's financials and issued all financial reports with an unmodified opinion which is the highest level of assurance they can provide. There were no findings, compliance issues or audit adjustments. Anthony said the college remains in a strong financial position both from a short- and long-term perspective.

1.6.2 Faculty Union Report

Dr. Bob Marcink gave the report congratulating the recent retirees and thanked the students for coming to the meeting. Bob said he was angry that the students feel disrespected and that an attempt to intimidate and shut students up occurred at the last meeting. He said for more than a year the Board meetings have been almost unbearable and it is time to turn the temperature down at these meetings. He said he would like to see, moving forward, that everyone be respectful and listen to each other. The people in the Board room have one purpose which is to keep the students' needs first.

1.6.3 Adjunct Faculty Union Report

Dr. Barbara Will-Henn addressed the Board saying she is troubled by the recent events at Board meetings. She said the Trustees need to remember that the constituents they represent are everyone and this college is for the students. Dr. Will-Henn said all of us should remember the first concern should be the students. The Board has a responsibility to work together with civility, harmony, mutual respect, cooperation and to uphold the final decisions of the Board regardless of their own differences of opinions.

1.6.4 JJC Foundation Report

No report was given.

1.6.5 Building and Grounds Committee Report

Trustee Stamborski gave the report which covered the projects that were in closeout, in design, in construction and projects bids.

1.6.6 Board Policy Committee Report

Trustee Garcia Guillen gave the report consisting of an overview of the fourteen policies that are on the agenda as a first read.

1.6.7 Finance Committee Report

Trustee Morales said she did not have anything to add beyond what the auditors already reported.

1.6.8 President's Report

Dr. Namuo gave the report acknowledging the courage of the students who were in attendance. He said dual credit is up 15.89%, headcount is up 6.62%, credit hours are up 5.6% and there are now nearly 6,000 students in dual credit programs. He also recognized the finance team for the unqualified audit and their work on the tax levy. Dr. Namuo recapped the recent cabinet retreat which included a creative design thinking challenge and a neurodiversity presentation by Dr. Maureen Dunne. The 2024 Discover JJC event had over 500 potential students attend. He celebrated the JJC's Men's Soccer team who won the midwest regional championship. Dr. Namuo also announced that JJC won the Central Regional award and the National Equity award at the recent ACCT conference. He also said he is not afraid to stand up for what is right and just.

Dr. Escortina Ervin then said a few words regarding the National Equity award that JJC won. She said this award gives us courage and inspires us to continue on this equity journey and to celebrate our students and ensure that they feel included and welcome at JJC.

1.7 Closed Session #1

Trustee Morales moved, seconded by Trustee Stamborski, for the Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College to move to a closed session at 7:37 p.m. for the reasons of 2(c)1, 2(c)8 & 2(c)11.

AYES: Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris, Lee, Morales and Stamborski. Student Trustee Queeney favored the motion. The motion carried.

1.8 Return to Public Session

Trustee Morales moved, seconded by Student Trustee Queeney, for the Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College to return to public session at 8:29 p.m.

AYES: Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris, Lee, Morales and Stamborski. Student Trustee Queeney favored the motion. The motion carried.

1.9.1 Approval of Minutes for the Special Meeting held on October 7, 2024

Trustee Morales moved, seconded by Trustee Stamborski, for the minutes of the Board of Trustees Special Meeting held on October 7, 2024 to be approved as submitted.

Trustee Broderick asked to amend the minutes. Trustee Morales and Trustee Stamborski agreed to amend the motion. Trustee Morales then withdrew her amended motion.

Trustee Morales then moved, seconded by Trustee Harris for the minutes of the Board of Trustees Special Meeting held on October 7, 2024 to be approved as submitted.

AYES: Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris, Morales & Stamborski. NAYS: Broderick & Lee. Student Trustee Queeney favored the motion. The motion carried.

1.9.2 Approval of Minutes for the Regular Meeting held on October 16, 2024

Trustee Morales moved, seconded by Trustee Stamborski, for the minutes of the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting held on October 16, 2024 to be approved as submitted.

AYES: Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris, Morales & Stamborski. NAYS: Broderick & Lee. Student Trustee Queeney favored the motion. The motion carried.

1.10 Approval of Agenda

Trustee Morales moved, seconded by Student Trustee Queeney, for the agenda to be approved as submitted.

AYES: Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris, Morales & Stamborski. NAYS: Broderick & Lee. Student Trustee Queeney favored the motion. The motion carried.

1.11 Approval of Consent Agenda as Presented

Trustee Morales moved, seconded by Trustee Garcia Guillen, for the items identified on the consent agenda to be approved as presented. Trustee Broderick pulled agenda items 3.2.1; 3.2.3; 3.2.6 & 3.2.8.

AYES: Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris, Lee, Morales & Stamborski. Student Trustee Queeney favored the motion. The motion carried.

- 2.1.1 Recommending the Approval of Appointment of One Full-Time Assistant Professor, Technical Department (Tenure Track)
- 2.1.2 Recommending the Approval of Appointment of One Full-Time Associate Professor, Nursing Department (Tenure Track)
- 2.2.1 Classified Staff Report Includes New Hires, Replacements and Separations
- 2.2.2 Recommending Faculty Salary Schedule Columnar Advancement in Accordance with Current Contractual Agreement
- 3.1 Approval to Pay the Listing of Bills for the Period Ending October 31, 2024 as Presented
- 3.2.2 Bid: Interior Painting & Repair
- 3.2.4 Bid: Used Electric Vehicles
- 3.2.5 Consortium: Fleet Vehicles
- 3.2.7 Contractual Service: Building B Veterinary Technology Expansion
- 3.2.9 Sole Source: Executive Forum Membership
- 3.2.10 Sole Source: Grant Funded Marketing
- 3.2.11 Sole Source: Online Scholarship Management Platform
- 3.2.12 Sole Source: Program Fees for Travel Abroad to Africa
- 3.3 Treasurer's Report

- 3.4 Financial Report
- 3.6 Board of Trustees Approval of Abatement of Taxes for the 2018 General Obligation Alternate Revenue Refunding Bond Issue
- 3.7 Board of Trustees Approval of Abatement of Taxes for the 2021 General Obligation Alternate Revenue Refunding Bond Issue
- 3.8 Acknowledgement of the FY 2024 Audit–Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024
- 4.2.1 Second Reading and Approval Board Policies
 - 13.01.02 Consultant Services
- 4.3 Board of Trustees Approval to Adopt Resolution for Receiving and Filing Petitions for Board of Trustee Consolidated Election.

PULLED ITEMS

3.2.1 Bid: City Center Chiller Curb Repair

Trustee Morales moved, seconded by Student Trustee Queeney, for the agenda item to be approved as submitted.

AYES: Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris, Lee, Morales & Stamborski. Student Trustee Queeney favored the motion. The motion carried.

3.2.3 Bid: Replace Domestic Hot Water Tank & Underground Irrigation Piping

Trustee Morales moved, seconded by Trustee Harris, for the agenda item to be approved as submitted.

AYES: Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris, Lee, Morales & Stamborski. Student Trustee Queeney favored the motion. The motion carried.

3.2.6 Consortium: Global Architect Review, ERP Master Plan, and Support

Trustee Garcia Guillen moved, seconded by Trustee Stamborski, for the agenda item to be approved as submitted.

AYES: Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris, Lee, Morales & Stamborski. Student Trustee Queeney favored the motion. The motion carried.

3.2.8 Sole Source: Legal Services

Trustee Morales moved, seconded by Trustee Stamborski, for the agenda item to be approved as submitted.

AYES: Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris, Lee, Morales & Stamborski. Student Trustee Queeney favored the motion. The motion carried.

3.5.1 Motion to Suspend Rules Temporarily to Allow for Public Comment on Tax Levy

Trustee Morales moved, seconded by Student Trustee Queeney, to suspend rules temporarily to allow for public comment on the Tax Levy.

AYES: Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris, Lee, Morales & Stamborski. Student Trustee Queeney favored the motion. The motion carried.

3.5.2 Public Comment

There were no public comments.

3.5.3 Motion to Return to Regular Session

Trustee Morales moved, seconded by Trustee Stamborski, to return to regular session.

AYES: Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris, Lee, Morales & Stamborski. Student Trustee Queeney favored the motion. The motion carried.

3.5.4 Board of Trustees Approval of Tax Levy

Trustee Morales moved, seconded by Student Trustee Queeney, for the agenda item to be approved as submitted.

AYES: Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris, Morales & Stamborski. NAYS: Broderick & Lee. Student Trustee Queeney favored the motion. The motion carried.

4. New Business/Old Business

4.1 First Reading of Board Policies

Trustee Broderick questioned why a definition of Trustee in good standing was added to policies. Trustee Stamborski stated that there was a case that went to the Supreme Court for a community college in Houston regarding almost this exact issue which was upheld.

5.1 Student Trustee Report

Student Trustee Queeney gave their report which included recent campus and community events. They discussed the ACCT leadership congress they attended in Seattle, WA. They also highlighted upcoming campus & community events and gave an update on their community college bachelor's degree study which showed 38% of students who participated in the study said they had all their classes in person on campus. 12% said they had no classes in person or on campus. 51% of students work 25 or more hours a week. Student Trustee Queeney also referenced the Model Standards of Good Practice for Trustee Boards which is included in each monthly Board book which states Trustees must exemplify ethical behavior and conduct that is above reproach and puts the interest of the college before all others. Trustees are to support a positive working relationship with other Trustees and the President on and off campus. Trustees should address conflict with other Trustees equitably and respectfully and understand the differences between policy development and administrative operational decisions.

5.2 Representative to ICCTA/ACCT Report

Trustee Harris gave her report consisting of a brief synopsis of her time at the ACCT conference where she attended sessions that included AI innovation and Trustees advocating for public policy. She was very happy that JJC won the national award at the conference.

5.3 Trustee Updates

Trustee Harris said that she was glad to see Joliet Township High School was on the list of top six schools for students enrolled in JJC's dual credit programs.

Trustee Lee said she values students' voices and she understands some may have been offended. She feels students are being encouraged and organized by the Student Trustee. She feels each Trustee is an independent voter and she filed a lawsuit simply to bring to light violations of the Open Meeting Act.

Trustee Broderick said there is no policy where the Chair can remove a Trustee from committees. The policy only says he can appoint Trustees to committees. She also had concerns about Dr. Namuo's contract being sent to Trustees 48 hours before the meeting.

Trustee Morales thanked the students for coming to the meeting. She said JJC is not losing scholarships for women. JJC has to follow Title IX mandates. Trustee Morales said JJC is creating a safe space for all students and is proud that JJC was recognized nationally with an equity and inclusion award.

Student Trustee Queeney said they have never asked anyone to come to a Board meeting. The students are independently organizing to address the Board with their discontent and concerns with this Board. He also clarified for Trustee Lee the use of the pronouns they/them when addressing them.

Trustee Stamborski thanked the students for coming to the meeting and said they have a powerful voice in this room. He said he is sad how the last few meetings have been going.

Trustee Garcia Guillen thanked the students for their bravery, resilience and courage for standing up for what is right and the humanity of their fellow peers. She said she is proud for JJC to champion the DEI programs and initiatives. She also feels Trustees should represent everyone's interests, not their own individual agenda.

5.4 Chair Report

Chairman Budzinski said despite what is going on in the Board room, the college community sees JJC positively as indicated by the regional and national equity awards won and JJC becoming a Hispanic Serving Institution. He acknowledged as Trustees, we do have some things to work on. He said JJC is doing a lot of good things on campus and the Board knows the students are watching.

6. Closed Session #2

Trustee Morales moved, seconded by Student Trustee Queeney, for the Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College to move to a closed session at 9:49 p.m. for the reasons of 2(c)5.

AYES: Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris, Morales and Stamborski. Student Trustee Queeney favored the motion. The motion carried.

7. Return to Public Session

Student Trustee Queeney moved, seconded by Trustee Stamborski, for the Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College to return to public session at 10:27 p.m.

AYES: Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris, Morales and Stamborski. Student Trustee Queeney favored the motion. The motion carried.

8. Adjournment

Trustee Harris moved, seconded by Student Trustee Queeney, for the meeting to adjourn at 10:28 p.m. A voice vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously.