

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

1. Call to Order
The Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College, Illinois Community College District #525, held at Joliet Junior College, 1215 Houbolt Road, Board Room, Joliet, IL was called to order by Chairman O’Connell at 5:32 p.m. on Wednesday, April 26, 2023.
2. Roll Call
Trustees Present: Maureen Broderick, Jim Budzinski, Nancy Garcia Guillen (virtual), Michelle Lee, Jake Mahalik, Alicia Morales, Dan O’Connell and Student Trustee Josh Stamborski
3. Pledge of Allegiance
Diane Harris led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Public Comments
Bill O’Conner, Chair of the Business Department, requested to address the board. Bill stated that enrollment is very strong in the business environment because of the excellent teaching that the faculty does and the concern they have for students. He stated the department has very dedicated faculty advisors who really take the interests of students meeting their goals. He said he believes eight-week classes are the wave of the future. There are also very good success rates for four-week classes. He would like to propose JJC implement a four-week winter session.

Aiden Fifer then spoke about his support for Student Trustee Stamborski. He has witnessed the personal growth of Josh as he is smart, informed and strives to always do the right thing. He feels that Josh as gone above and beyond and raised the bar in his student trustee position.

Ayesha Shafiuddin, the former Student Trustee from the College of DuPage, also wanted to recognize Student Trustee Joshua Stamborski for his great service. She said Josh has served in the chair role for the ICCB Student Advisory Committee. While in this roll, Ayesha had the opportunity to see his leadership qualities and his collaborative skills. Ayesha feels that Josh is meticulous in details and makes sure the best solutions are pursued in the interest of the students at the state and national level. She thanked Josh for inspiring her and congratulated him.
3. Approval of Election Results
President Namuo read the election certification results provided by the County Clerk of Will County declaring Alicia Morales and Diane Harris the winners of the six-year term of Trustee for Joliet Junior College Board of Trustees. Alicia Morales Received 17,110 votes and Diane Harris received 15,532 votes out of the 69,386 total valid votes cast.

4. Recognition Of Board Members Leaving the Board President Namuo presented Chairman O'Connell with a plaque recognizing his dedication and commitment to JJC during his terms of office, 2007 – 2013 and 2015 – 2023. Chairman O'Connell said he had the deepest admiration for all that the staff does for JJC.

Dr. Amy Kuspa-Sims then recognized Student Trustee Joshua Stamborski. Amy thanked Joshua for his service and said he is a true leader for his peers. Joshua always did his research to do the most he could to advocate for the students of JJC. President Namuo then presented Joshua with a plaque for his service. Joshua thanked the two students who spoke today for their kind words. Joshua said his guiding principle comes from an old Greek proverb which is that old men plant trees under which who's shade they will never get to feel. His hope is that JJC continues to water the trees he has planted.

5. Adjourn Sine Die of Old Board Trustee Morales motioned, seconded by Trustee Broderick at 5:54 p.m. that the Joliet Junior College Board of Trustees adjourn sine die. Ayes: Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Lee, Mahalik, Morales and O'Connell. Student Trustee Stamborski favored the motion. The motion carried.

6. New Student Trustee Appointment Dr. Amy Kuspa Sims introduced the new Student Trustee Iyeisha Ellis. Iyeisha is working to complete her Associates Degree to transfer and major in business. She has been active in student government, a member of the Collegiate Club Council, Black Student Union, National Society of Leadership and Success and she works in the Office of Student Activities. Dr. Sims said that she may be on the same journey as the student trustees before her, but she truly believes Iyeisha will leave her own footprint.

7. Oath of Office & Seating of New Board Members President Namuo issued the oath of office to the elected Trustees, Alicia Morales and Diane Harris and the Student Trustee Iyeisha Ellis and they were seated as members of the Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College.

8. Call to Order of The New Board The following members were present: Maureen Broderick, Jim Budzinski, Nancy Garcia Guillen, Diane Harris, Michelle Lee, Jake Mahalik and Alicia Morales and Student Trustee Iyeisha Ellis.

9. Board Reorganization

Election of Chair: Trustee Lee nominated Trustee Jim Budzinski for Chair. Trustee Maureen Broderick nominated herself for Chair. Trustee Lee motioned and Trustee Mahalik seconded to close the nominations for the position of Chair of the Board. Ayes: Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris, Lee, Mahalik and Morales. Student Trustee Ellis favored the motion. The motion carried.

Trustee Broderick requested to read a statement which said: We all have a big decision to make tonight and who will lead this board for the next term. We have to start with the premise that we are all equals and we all bring unique skills to the table. This is like a judge that looks at a criminal case. A judge starts with the premise that all are innocent until proven guilty. We have to look at us and anyone could be our next leader. I think it would be beneficial if all of us, who are nominated, to give a short background on what we each brings to the table. I'm suggesting that we start with a couple of important points. One

would be personal background, educational background, professional background and your experience as a board member to let the audience know who is really a strong leader for this board. We are all elected officials. We run on the premise that nobody really knows who we are. We sit on this board and make some major decisions for this multimillion-dollar corporation to benefit the college. I think you need to know what we bring to the table as leaders.

Trustee Lee said she would like to make a statement why she nominated Jim Budzinski. Jim has a very strong financial background. Jim also has a very strong background in technology to help with JJC going forward with decisions around the ERP. He is calm, cool and collected and I think he will do an amazing job. He also has a background in business in general, so he's very well acquainted with board meetings and how to run them.

Trustee Broderick said she has been married to her husband for a very long time and has three adult children and she comes with a long-standing banking background for over 45 years. Her educational background consists of teaching in the parochial schools for many years. Presently, she serves as a licensed mortgage banker for one of the largest national banks in the area. She has also served as a bank director for a local community bank and also an underwriter. She has been on two national, two state and two local boards. She has dealt with budgets consisting of a couple of thousands to budgets in excess of 120 million. She has served on countless committees and has been appointed as officers on those boards. She has over 22 years of being elected as a school board member. She believes as a trustee, we need to be an advocate to our taxpayers, the students and to everyone that has an any involvement with JJC. Thank you.

Trustee Harris asked Trustee Budzinski to say a few words. Trustee Budzinski said he thinks this is all unnecessary. The board itself, is voting internally for officers of the board. We've already been elected by constituents. This is just a show for the audience. I'll be happy to tell you a little bit about me. I will turn 62 on Cinco de Mayo and might be one of the older statesmen on the board. He has been married for 39 years. He has four children, three of which have completed four years of secondary education. One of them did not because he passed away in his junior year of college. He has served for 40 years in a corporation and has a strong corporate background. In 2019, his job was sold to a company in India. He decided not to go with the company. Instead, he moved over to Edward Jones and got happily into finance. He has passed all the licenses, exams and legal exams required for the position. For over 20 years he has coached competitive soccer. He has worked with children in Will and Kankakee County grade schools doing STEM classes for 7th and 8th graders. That is what got him to JJC. When he came over to look at the old Cisco lab. Somebody here on this campus told him that this is something he should do, run for the board. Since he's up here all the time anyway. Jim said he values education extensively. In fact, he still goes to school every Tuesday and Thursday night and has never gone more than 18 months without being in a college credited class somewhere, either through a requirement of employment, self-teaching or his desire to learn something new. Jim said his vision for the board is to have structured formal meetings that make progress and follow the rules of the Policy Committee and to give fair input to everyone on the board and anyone who comes to the podium with a public comment. Most of all he would like to be a resource for each other, the cabinet and to the President.

The vote for Jim Budzinski as Chair passed. Ayes: Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris (passed once), Lee, Mahalik, Morales. Student Trustee Ellis favored the vote. Nays: Broderick (passed once).

The vote for Maureen Broderick as Chair: Trustee Broderick waived taking a vote.

Trustee Lee motioned and Trustee Mahalik seconded, that the Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College approve the appointment of Jim Budzinski as Chair of the Board. Ayes: Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris, Lee, Mahalik and Morales. Student Trustee Ellis favored the motion (passed once). The motion carried.

Election of Vice Chair: Trustee Garcia Guillen nominated Trustee Alicia Morales for the position of Vice Chair. Trustee Lee motioned and Trustee Garcia Guillen seconded, to close the nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Board. Ayes: Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris, Lee, Mahalik and Morales. Student Trustee Ellis favored the motion. The motion carried.

The vote for Alicia Morales as Vice Chair passed. Ayes: Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris, Lee, Mahalik, Morales. Student Trustee Ellis favored the vote.

Trustee Garcia Guillen motioned and Trustee Lee seconded that the Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College approve the appointment of Alicia Morales as Vice Chair of the Board. Ayes: Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris, Lee, Mahalik and Morales. Student Trustee Ellis favored the motion. The motion carried.

Election of Secretary: Trustee Mahalik nominated Trustee Nancy Garcia Guillen for the position of Secretary. Trustee Mahalik motioned and Trustee Lee seconded, to close the nominations for the position of Secretary of the Board. Ayes: Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris, Lee, Mahalik and Morales. Student Trustee Ellis favored the motion. Nays: Broderick. The motion carried.

The vote for Nancy Garcia Guillen as Secretary passed. Ayes: Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris, Lee, Mahalik, Morales. Student Trustee Ellis favored the vote.

Trustee Mahalik motioned and Trustee Lee seconded that the Board of Trustees of Joliet Junior College approve the appointment of Nancy Garcia Guillen as Secretary of the Board. Ayes: Broderick, Budzinski, Garcia Guillen, Harris, Lee, Mahalik and Morales. Student Trustee Ellis favored the motion. The motion carried.

Trustee Morales asked to say a few words. She wanted to thank everybody, God, number one, for the grace of his love, her Mom, her sons and their wives for always being there and for supporting her and her beautiful husband Pedro for sharing her with the public and for waiting for her to have late dinners on many nights. She said this is so much bigger than just her. This reelection and position elected by her peers represents a culture who want to see themselves as leaders. She said people like me don't always have an opportunity to shine. Education is known to be the great equalizer, but equality cannot be achieved when injustice exists. Trustee Morales said the demographics are changing and it will require leaders to demonstrate their commitment to challenging social, cultural and economic inequalities imposed on students and employees. This is an uneven distribution of power, resources and privilege. It requires us, the Board of Trustees, to create teaching and learning environments that support all students equitably without regard to race, ethnicity, gender identity, religion or learning potential. She thanked her brother and her peers for believing in her and she look forward to working with the entire board.

8. Trustee Lee moved and Trustee Garcia Guillen seconded for the meeting to adjourn at
Adjournment 6:21 p.m. A voice vote was taken. The motion carried.