

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT #505  
(Parkland College)**

**Counties of Champaign, Coles, Dewitt, Douglas, Edgar,  
Ford, Iroquois, Livingston, McLean, Moultrie, Piatt, Vermilion, and State of Illinois**

**July 18, 2024**

**ROLL CALL**

The Meeting was called to order by James Voyles, Chair, at 1:05 p.m. in the Graduate Boardroom East, at the Illinois Conference Center, 1900 South First Street, Champaign, Illinois. At the direction of Chair Voyles, Krystal S. Garrett, Assistant to the President/Board of Trustees, called the roll of members of the Board. The following Trustees were present: Maureen Banks, Jarrett Clem, Bianca Green, Carolyn Ragsdale, Dana Trimble, Jaden Campbell (Student Trustee), and James Voyles. Also present was President Pamela Lau.

It was moved by Dr. Banks and seconded by Ms. Ragsdale to allow Trustee Trimble to attend the meeting electronically via Teams due to family illness.

The motion carried by the following vote: AYES— Banks, Clem, Green, Ragsdale, Campbell (Advisory Vote), and Voyles; NAYS—None; ABSTAIN—Trimble; ABSENT—Ayers.

It was moved by Dr. Banks and seconded by Ms. Green to allow Trustee Ayers to attend the meeting electronically via Teams due to illness.

The motion carried by the following vote: AYES— Banks, Clem, Green, Ragsdale, Campbell (Advisory Vote), and Voyles; NAYS—None; ABSTAIN—None; ABSENT—Ayers.

Trustee Ayers joined the meeting at 1:29 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Curtis Shoaf, president of the PAE union, shared a document that compared revenues, salaries, and benefits, noting a total increase of less than \$1M over a nine-year period. He explained that the wage increase portion of their proposal came from the difference of net inflation of 17.7% compared to wages of 8.4%. He added that the union proposed a wage increase of close to 6% to catch employees up to inflation but avoid SURS fines.

He shared a document that showed the projected healthcare costs and asked the Board to consider the healthcare savings over the past nine years; noting that over a ten year span, healthcare costs to Parkland have increased a total of 28% or 2.25% annually. He feels that reducing the healthcare stipend by \$2100 is a massive change over what has been normal to Parkland employees over the past ten years; and is vastly different than the originally agreed upon indexed amount of

8% and ignores the concessions made by the union over the past two contracts. He asked that the Board consider prioritizing getting employees back to a fair cost of living.

Chair Voyles thanked Curtis for putting the information together and speaking to the Board. Mr. Shoaf thanked the Board for the opportunity.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

It was moved by Dr. Banks and seconded by Ms. Ragsdale to go into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing the following topics:

1. Appointment, employment, compensation, resignation, or performance of specific employees.
2. Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees.

The motion carried by the following vote: AYES—Ayers, Banks, Clem, Green, Ragsdale, Trimble, Campbell (Advisory Vote), Voyles; NAYS—None; ABSENT—None.

The Open Meeting resumed at 3:31 p.m.

### **CLOSED SESSION AUDIO APPROVAL**

It was moved by Dr. Banks and seconded by Mr. Trimble to approve the audio recording made of the Executive Session of July 18, 2024 and that the secretary of the Board make provisions for its safe keeping and that it be made available only upon the proper order of the court and a finding by a judge that such audio tape should be released, and that such audio recording will be destroyed 18 months after the date of the meeting if the Board has adopted written minutes of the Executive Session in question.

The motion carried by the following vote: AYES—Ayers, Banks, Clem, Green, Ragsdale, Trimble, Campbell (Advisory Vote), Voyles; NAYS—None; ABSENT—None.

### **VP UPDATES – PRIORITY INITIATIVES**

Mr. Randles shared a copy of a handout that detailed information about the college's operating funds, fund balances, revenues and expenses, EAV, property tax, tuition and fees, and a SWOT analysis. He asked the trustees to review and let him know if they have any questions about the information in the packet.

Dr. Lau introduced the VP priority initiatives. She noted that these initiatives are an attempt to address and increase enrollment by reaching pockets of students who could benefit from Parkland college and ensure that those students are retained and remain successful. Dr. Lau shared a copy of the Equity Plan. This plan shares the data surrounding demographics, retention,

persistence, and completion, barriers to students, assessment of the college response to equity gaps, and the plan moving forward.

Dr. Stuart updated on the community engagement priority initiatives, which is linked to the ways we reach the community and our strategic plan. She shared the goals, strategies, and metrics used to connect the college with individuals and families living at the ALICE level. They identified four audience groups they plan to focus on: African American residents, Latinx and Hispanic residents, immigrant community, and rural community. She provided examples of some of the recruitment approaches and events they have developed for the upcoming year. They hope to create a network of community groups and individuals to help spread the word and connect people to Parkland.

Dr. Sutton updated on the strategic goals of empowering students and engaging with the community. She noted that employers, high schools, and families requested more information to understand what career opportunities are available. She previewed the efforts in career exploration and community engagement activities, career exploration classrooms, and future plans for a mobile career and community engagement unit that can be used for recruitment, testing, and hands-on career exploration events. They plan to continue to pursue grants to help continue to support these initiatives throughout the year. In addition, other priorities that they have been working on include: inclusive design for education and learning (IDEAL), the faculty search process, and structured professional development programming.

Dr. Trame updated on the Reaching Intellectual Success and Empowerment (RISE) initiative, which is an initiative that focuses on underserved populations and aims to increase student recruitment and success by providing wraparound student support. The focus is a six year support period for students and families starting the four years during their high school period through two years here at Parkland. The wraparound support includes efforts from five working groups: transfer/orientation, enrollment, precollege pathway, college academics, and student engagement. He noted that in addition, intentional efforts are being made with international student recruitment and partnerships.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Mr. Clem and seconded by Ms. Green for adjournment.

The motion carried by the following vote: AYES—, Banks, Clem, Green, Ragsdale, Campbell (Advisory Vote), and Voyles. NAYS—None. ABSENT—Ayers.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

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James Voyles, Chair

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Maureen Banks, Secretary