APPROVED

Minutes of the 445th

Meeting of the

Illinois Community College Board

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April 30, 2021

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

It is recommended that the following motion be adopted:

The Illinois Community College Board hereby approves the Board minutes of the April 30, 2021 meeting as recorded.

**Item #1 – Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum**

Chair Lopez called the Board meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. and asked Ann Knoedler to call roll. The following Board members were present on the call: Paige Ponder, Doug Mraz, Terry Bruce, Lynette Stokes, Suzanne Morris, Nick Kachiroubas, and Larry Peterson. Board members Teresa Garate and Enrique Velazquez, Student Board member were absent. A quorum was declared.

**Item #2 – Announcements and Remarks by Dr. Lazaro Lopez, Board Chair**

Chair Lopez welcomed everyone to the April 30th Special Board Meeting. He began by thanking everyone for taking the time out of their busy schedules to attend this special board meeting where the members reviewed IBHE’s Strategic Plan for Higher Education. On behalf of the Board, Chair Lopez thanked the IBHE, particularly Executive Director Ginger Ostro, for her collaboration with Dr. Durham, ICCB leadership staff, ICCB Board members, and members of the community college system throughout the development of the IBHE strategic plan. Chair Lopez also expressed thanks to the Board members for their engagement in the planning process. The plan did not reflect every priority ICCB had nor did it solve every problem, but the plan will move Illinois higher education forward in the right direction. This has been a collaborative process that speaks to the strong partnership between the agencies and the higher education system. Not only has this collaboration helped to familiarize participants with the plan but it also helped strengthen the members ability to respond to the many strategies in the plan that Dr. Durham took the Board through.

**Item #3 – Review of the IBHE Strategic Plan for Higher Education**

The Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE), has released a draft version of the IBHE Strategic Plan for Higher Education for review and comment. This plan was developed in collaboration with the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) and Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) as well as the involvement of hundreds of higher education leaders and stakeholders across Illinois, and with input from nearly 10,000 individuals. ICCB members and Community college leaders were involved in many different aspects of the plan, including on the IBHE Strategic Plan Advisory Committee, as participants in focus groups, and as representatives in Design Working Groups. The Board members had the opportunity to review the draft plan and discuss any comments related to the plan before it is finalized for approval at an upcoming IBHE Board meeting. Dr. Durham walked the Board through the plan during a power point presentation that helped guide the discussion. Dr. Durham and staff will draft a response letter with the recommendations received from today’s discussions. Within about a week, that letter will be distributed to the Board members before it is sent to the IBHE staff.

**Item #4 – Approval of the IL Community College Board Springfield Office Lease Agreement**

The current lease of the Harry L. Crisp Educational Center expires June 30, 2021 and approval must be given before a new lease can be signed with the building owner. The lease includes utilities, maintenance, janitorial cleaning services, property insurance and free parking for employees. This free parking saves employees around $40 - $60 / month. Also, there is a commitment from the foundation to improve building accessibility and ADA compliance for the building over the coming months. Further, ICCB has access to a conference room for the Board meetings and other meetings that gets consistent and regular use by the system. The Illinois Community College System owns the building and is strong partner to the agency. Further, they were able to defer rent payments for nearly two years during the budget impasse (with incremental payments here and there until it was over), and routinely wait 3-6 months on GRF payments now. ICCB staff’s long-term recommendation would be to approve this space.

Nick Kachiroubas made a motion, which was seconded by Lynette Stokes, to approve the following motion:

The Illinois Community College Board hereby approves the Executive Director to enter into a real estate lease agreement for a term of 60 months with the Illinois Community College System Foundation for 25,166 square feet of space at the Harry L. Crisp Educational Center at 401 East Capitol Avenue, Springfield Illinois, 62701.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Terry Bruce Yea Larry Peterson Yea

Nick Kachiroubas Yea Paige Ponder Yea

Doug Mraz Yea Lynette Stokes Yea

Suzanne Morris Yea Lazaro Lopez Yea

The motion was approved.

**Item #5 - Other Business**

There was no other business.

**Item #6 - Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Item #7 - Adjournment**

Suzanne Morris made a motion, which was seconded by Paige Ponder, to adjourn the Board meeting at 10:46 a.m.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Terry Bruce Yea Larry Peterson Yea

Nick Kachiroubas Yea Paige Ponder Yea

Doug Mraz Yea Lynette Stokes Yea

Suzanne Morris Yea Lazaro Lopez Yea

The motion was approved.