APPROVED

Minutes of the

466th Meeting of the

Illinois Community College Board

Marriott Bloomington-Normal Hotel & Conference Center

Redbird E Room

201 Broadway

Normal, IL

June 6, 2025

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

It is recommended that the following motion be adopted:

The Illinois Community College Board hereby approves the Board minutes of the June 6, 2025, meeting as recorded.

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

Chair Laz Lopez called the Board meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and asked Ann Knoedler to call roll. The following Board members were present: Maureen Banks, Craig Bradley, An-Me Chung, Marlon McClinton, Teresa Garate, Lisa Dziekan, George Evans, Sylvia Jenkins, and Larry Peterson. Mara Botman was not in attendance. A quorum was declared.

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**Item #5 – Acknowledgments**

Chair Lopez moved this item up due to Dr. Cornille’s other meetings.

**Item #5.2 - Dr. Keith Cornille, President, Illinois Council of Community College Presidents**

Dr. Lopez presented Dr. Keith Cornille, outgoing President, Illinois Council of Community College Presidents, with a certificate of recognition for his service to the Board and system and expressed appreciation for his efforts this past year. Dr. Cornille thanked the Board. He also introduced the next ICCCP president, Dr. Avis Proctor, from Harper College.

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**Item #2 - Announcements and Remarks by Dr. Laz Lopez, Board Chair**

Dr. Lopez welcomed everyone to the meeting, which is combined with the IL Community College Trustees Convention. It is always good for all of us to come together as a system at this event. The agenda is full and the timeframe is tight due to having to be out of the room and at the Luncheon by Noon. Today the topics of discussion will be Budget and Legislation, Executive Session, and the Executive Director Evaluation. Due to the Trustees having a training at 9:15 this morning, the Acknowledgements will need to be moved up on the agenda.

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**Item #5 - Acknowledgments**

**Item #5.2 - Dr. Keith Cornille, President, Illinois Council of Community College Presidents**

Dr. Lopez presented Dr. Keith Cornille, outgoing President, Illinois Council of Community College Presidents, with a certificate of recognition for his service to the Board and system and expressed appreciation for his efforts this past year. Dr. Cornille is the President of Heartland Community College and for the last year has served as the Chair of the Council of Community College Presidents. He chose quite a time to do it, with the Community College Baccalaureate legislation, dual credit negotiations, and of course, guiding folks through discussions around the incoming Trump administration. Dr. Cornille has worked tirelessly to bring more involvement from each of the presidents and unity of voice amongst them as they work to advance the cause of community colleges. Thank you for your service as the Council Chair.

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Chair Lopez went on to say that ICCB staff will be doing a presentation on the Governor’s budget proposal, during the meeting later. He thanked Governor Pritzker and the General Assembly for the increase in the budget for the system and the agency. Staff will update the Board on the budget details later in the meeting.

Chair Lopez ended his report by expressing his concerns about proposed cuts to Adult Education in the Trump Budget proposal. This elimination would eliminate existing levels of federal funding for adult education, affecting programs that are critical to creating pathways for our most vulnerable populations. This program serves over 60,000 students and we fund around 70 providers that range from CBOs to K12 to Community colleges. These cuts would be devastating. ICCB sent a letter and is working with the Governor’s Office on advocacy.

**Item #2.1 - Nomination of the Illinois Community College Board Vice Chair**

Sylvia Jenkins nominated Teresa Garate for the position of Vice Chair of the Illinois Community College Board, which was seconded by George Evans. Seeing as there were no other nominations, Chair Lopez closed the floor for nominations.

The motion to nominate and elect Teresa Garate for the position of Vice Chair of the Illinois Community College Board was approved via unanimous voice vote.

**Item #3 - Board Member Comments**

Chair Lopez introduced the new student Board member, Allison M, who will be joining the Board on July 1, 2025 for a 1 year term. She is in the Ag Transfer Program at Lake Land College.

The Board thanked Chair Laz Lopez for his 10 year term as the IL Community College Board Chair.

**Item #4 – Executive Director Report**

Executive Director Brian Durham began by stating his comments will be focused on item #4.1 - Illinois Community College Board Goals Annual Update.

**Item #4.1 - Illinois Community College Board Goals Annual Update**

Executive Director Brian Durham gave an update and review of the progress on all the ICCB Board goals. This update occurs annually during the June Board meeting. An in-depth written report was included in the Board materials. The document provides supplementary information and additional details around key aspects of the goals.

The goals also overlap significantly, as each specific program has implications for all three Board goals. In addition, the agency performs several core functions that were also briefly described prior to the specific discussion on each goal. These core responsibilities are listed below with some key data points where appropriate. The update on the three Board goals follows, which highlights three initiatives across each Goal area.

* **College Recognition.** The ICCB approved four districts (10 colleges: City Colleges of Chicago (7 colleges), Shawnee Community College, Lincoln Land Community College, Illinois Valley Community College) during FY 2025 for Recognition. There are two additional districts (Harper College, Morton College) set to go to the Board in June.  Similar to accreditation, Recognition is a statutory requirement for community colleges to be eligible for continued state funding.
* **Program Approval and Review in the System**. There are currently 4578 total active credit programs, including 4,283 CTE and 295 transfer programs in the system. This includes 1,228 AAS degrees, and 3055 certificates. There were 121 new programs approved since July 1st of 2024, an increase of 67 since the January 2025 reporting date. There have been 237 programs removed in this fiscal year. The Board has approved 296 new courses since January, with 877 approved since the beginning of this fiscal year.
* **Community College Funding & Grants Administration.** The ICCB continues to administer over 992 grants totaling $524.7 million in fiscal year 2025, including 287.8 million for Base Operating and Equalization grants to the colleges.
* **Systemwide Data Collection and Reporting.** ICCB manages over 849 distinct final submissions from the colleges, with 759 submitted this year to date. This coordinated approach reduces the administrative burden on individual colleges. ICCB is also participating [Data Rescue Project](https://www.datarescueproject.org/) to stay engaged in national data policy discussions and support the preservation of critical data for benchmarking and strategic planning.
* **Partnership with the Office of the Governor and the General Assembly.** The agency serves as a resource for members of the General Assembly and assists legislators with addressing issues important to them and their constituents. Throughout the legislative session, the agency is deeply engaged with the GA on issues of importance to the agency and system, including but not limited to the Board’s own legislative priorities. In addition, the leadership team works closely with the Governor’s Office on the administration of programs and the implementation of the Governor’s priorities.

**Item #5 - Acknowledgments**

**Item #5.1 - Bishop Wayne Dunning, President, Illinois Community College Trustees Association**

Dr. Lopez presented Bishop Wayne Dunning, outgoing President, Illinois Community College Trustees Association, with a certificate of recognition for his service to the Board and system and expressed appreciation for his efforts this past year. Bishop Wayne Dunning is a 35 year member of the Richland Community College Board of Trustees and when not serving is a Pastor at Faith Fellowship Christian Church and teaches at Decatur Public Schools #61. Over this past year, Bishop Dunning has led the ICCTA organization and has been a strong advocate for more funding for community colleges, the Community College Baccalaureate and continuing the strong partnerships with the ICCB and the Presidents.

**Item #6 - Advisory Organizations**

**Item #6.1 – Illinois Community College Trustees Association**

Mr. Jim Reed stated that June 6-7 the ICCTA held their annual convention, as well as the awards banquet which will be held in the evening on the 6th, so this was a quick update. During their last meeting he provided updates. The group hosted trustees and presidents in Springfield for the May 6 Illinois CommunityCollege Caucus reception and May 7 Community College Lobby Day. They welcomed State Sen. Adriane Johnson, chair of the Senate Local Government Committee, and State Rep. Wayne Rosenthal (who also serves as chair of the Lincoln Land Community College board of trustees), to ICCTA’s morning legislative briefing on May 7. The group also reviewed ICCTA’s fact sheets on Community College Baccalaureate degrees. During the meeting, the group learned of possible cuts in federal Pell Grant and adult education funding and also received updates from the Illinois Community College Board and the Illinois Council of Community College Presidents. The new ICCTA officers for 2025-2026, which will be elected at the association’s June 7 meeting is Shawn Boldt (Highland) – vice president, Amanda Howland (Lake County) – secretary, Laura Wedekemper (Kaskaskia) – treasurer. The group adopted the association’s Fiscal Year 2026 budget as recommended by the ICCTA Executive Committee; learned that the Executive Committee approved a 1-year employment contract extension for executive director Jim Reed; were informed that the Executive Committee approved recommendations for ICCTA’s 2025 service awards, which will be presented at the association’s June 6 banquet; and welcomed remarks from former Heartland Community College student trustee Auston Koch.

**Item #6.2 - Illinois Community College System Foundation**

Dr. Barry Hancock announced former Executive Director of ICCB, Joe Cipfl, recently gave the foundation a large donation to go to Southwestern IL College in Spring of 2026. Theres a new Scholarship, Presidential Scholarship, that will be in the Spring of 2026. The group discussed the higher education futures table. The building received updates to accommodate the handicaps in the bathrooms.

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At this time, the Board took a break at 10:14 a.m. and returned at 10:30 a.m.

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**Item #7 - Committee Reports**

**Item #7.2 - Finance, Budgeting, Accountability and External Affairs**

This item was move up on the agenda. The committee met on the morning of June 6th at 8:00a with George Evans, Larry Peterson, Sylvia Jenkins, Lisa Dziekan, and An-Me Chung in attendance. The following items were discussed: Marketing & Communications Update: 60th Anniversary of Community College System and State Fair; Richland Community College Focused Recognition Report; ICCB 2024 Dual Credit Report; Authorization to Enter into Contracts and Transfer Funds Among Lines; Update to ICCB Financial Management Manual; Proposed Amendments to Administrative Rules; Spring 2025 Legislative Update (report to full board); FY 25 Budget Update (report to full board).

**Item #7.2a - Legislative and Budget Update**

This item was move up on the agenda. Jennifer Franklin, Deputy Director for Finance and Operations, provided a presentation during the board meeting that highlights the fiscal year 2026 budget for higher education.

Matt Berry also provided a presentation on significant higher education legislation adopted during the Spring 2025 session. He also provided a more in-depth handout for the Board to review.

**Item #7.1 - Academic, Workforce, and Student Support**

This item was move down on the agenda. The committee met on the morning of June 6th at 8:00a with Marlon McClinton, Maureen Banks, Craig Bradle, Teresa Garate in attendance. The committee discussed the following: Non-Credit Grant Outcomes; Developmental Education Report Act (DERA); New Units of Instruction.

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Board member An-Me Chung had to leave the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

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**Item #8 - New Units of Instruction**

**Item #8.1 - College of DuPage, Harper College, Lewis & Clark Community College, McHenry County College, Morton College, Rend Lake College, Southeastern IL College, Southwestern IL College, Triton College**

Maureen Banks made a motion, which was seconded by Marlon McClinton, to approve the following item:

The Illinois Community College Board hereby approves the following permanent new units of instruction for the community colleges listed below:

**PERMANENT PROGRAM APPROVAL**

**College of DuPage**

* Advanced Horticultural Therapy Certificate (43 credit hours)

**Harper College**

* Artificial Intelligence and Cloud Computing A.A.S. degree (60 credit hours)

**Lewis & Clark Community College**

* Practical Nursing Certificate (34 credit hours)

**McHenry County College**

* Diagnostic Medical Sonography A.A.S. degree (68 credit hours)

**Morton College**

* Digital Art and Design A.A.S. degree (60 credit hours)

**Rend Lake College**

* Agricultural Technology A.A.S. degree (64 credit hours)

**Southeastern Illinois College**

* Medical Assistant Certificate (38 credit hours)

**Southwestern Illinois College**

* Aviation Electronics Technology A.A.S. degree (60 credit hours)

**Triton College**

* Cosmetology Certificate (50 credit hours)

The motion was approved via unanimous voice vote.

**Item #9 -Recognition of the Illinois Community Colleges**

Craig Bradley made a motion, which was seconded by George Evans, to approve the following item:

**Item #9.1 - Harper College and Morton College**

The Illinois Community College Board hereby grants a status of “recognition continued” to the following districts:

Harper College, District 512

Morton College, District 527

The motion was approved via unanimous voice vote.

**Item #10 - Adoption of Minutes**

Maureen Banks made a motion, which was seconded by Craig Bradley, to approve the following items:

**Item #10.1 - Minutes of the March 21, 2025 Board Meeting**

The Illinois Community College Board hereby approves the Board minutes of the March 21, 2025, meeting as recorded.

**Item #10.2 - Minutes of the March 21, 2025, Executive Session**

The Illinois Community College Board hereby approves the Executive Session minutes of the March 21, 2025 meeting as recorded.

The motion was approved via unanimous voice vote.

**Item #11 - Consent Agenda**

Sylvia Jenkins made a motion, which was seconded by Teresa Garate, to approve the following items:

**Item #11.1 - Calendar Year 2026 Board Meeting Dates and Locations**

The Illinois Community College Board hereby approves the Calendar Year 2026 Board Meeting Dates and Locations listed below:

**Calendar Year 2026 Board Meeting Dates and Locations**

**January 16**

9:30 a.m. – Harry L. Crisp II Community College Center, Springfield

**March 20**

9:30 a.m. – Lake Land College, Mattoon

**June 5**

9:30 a.m. –– Chicago Suburb - ICCTA Convention

**July**

Subject to Call

**August**

Board Retreat – TBD

**September 25**

9:30 a.m. – Lewis & Clark Community College, Godfrey

**December 4**

9:30 a.m. – Harry L. Crisp II Community College Center, Springfield

\*June Board meeting is held in conjunction with the ICCTA and Presidents’ Council meetings.

**Item #11.2 - Authorization to Enter into Interagency Contracts and/or Agreements**

The Illinois Community College Board hereby authorizes its Executive Director, in concurrence with the ICCB Chair, to enter into interagency contracts/agreements, as needed for fiscal year 2026.

**Item #11.3 - Authorization to Transfer Funds Among Line Items**

The Illinois Community College Board hereby authorizes its Executive Director to transfer funds among fiscal year 2026 appropriated operating line items, as needed.

**Item #11.4 - Authorization to Enter into Contracts for Office Operations**

The Illinois Community College Board approves the following Fiscal Year 2026 contractual agreements:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Funding Source** | **Contractor** | **Estimated**  **Amount\*** | **Contract Period** | **Description** |
| All funds  /allocated | IL Community College System Foundation | $630,962 | 7/01/25 – 6/30/26 | Rental of Office Space (+4th Flr) |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| GED/GRF | Turn-Key Solutions International, Inc. | $227,267 | 7/01/25 – 6/30/26 | *Sole Source Provider:*  High School Equivalency Testing Data submission to feds |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Adult Ed /Federal | Turn-Key Solutions International, Inc. | $26,640 | 7/01/25 – 6/30/26 | *Sole Source Provider*:  Data submission to feds |
| GRF/Allocated | Sorling Northrup | $30,000 | 7/01/25 – 6/30/26 | *Sole Source Provider:*  ICCB Legal Services |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| EDP | Executive Information Systems | $23,872 | 7/01/25 – 6/30/26 | *Master Contract:*  SAS Server License |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| ILDS/SCTE/Fed Trust | TBD | $59,988 | 7/01/25 – 6/30/26 | Communications Consultant |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| GRF | Crowe LLP | $40,000 | DOE – 12/31/25 | *Master Contract:*  FY25 GAAP Package Preparation |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| GED/GRF | GED Testing Services, LLC. | $450,000 | 7/01/25 – 6/30/26 | *Sole Source Provider:*  ILSAVE Discount Program for GED Testing |
| **Funding Source** | **Contractor** | **Estimated**  **Amount\*** | **Contract Period** | **Description** |
| TBD | TBD | $300,000 | 12/01/25-6/30/27 | *RFP:*  Adult Ed Management Information System |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

\*Amounts are estimated based on the Fiscal Year 2025 appropriation or obligations. Amounts may vary from the estimate. Any contract that exceeds 10 percent of the estimate will be brought back to the Board for approval.

The motion was approved via unanimous voice vote.

**Item #12 - Information Items**

There was no discussion.

**Item #12.1 - Fiscal Year 2025 Financial Statements**

**Item #12.2 - Basic Certificate Program Approval approved on behalf of the Board by the** **Executive Director**

**Item #12.3 - Fiscal Year 2024 Dual Credit Report**

**Item #12.4 - 2025 Developmental Education Reform Act**

**Item #12.5 - Proposed Amendments to the Illinois Community College Board Administrative Rules**

**Item #12.5a - Advisory Organizations**

**Item #12.6 - Fiscal Management Manual**

**Item #13 - Other Business**

There was no other business.

**Item #14 - Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Item #15 - Executive Session**

Teresa Garate made a motion, which was seconded by Lisa Dziekan, to approve the following motion:

I move to enter Executive Session for the purpose of **Employment/Appointment Matters** which qualify as acceptable exceptions under Section 2(c) of the Open Meetings Act to hold a closed session.

A voice vote was taken with the following results:

Maureen Banks Yea

Craig Bradley Yea Sylvia Jenkins Yea

George Evans Yea Marlon McClinton Yea

Lisa Dziekan Yea Larry Peterson Yea

Teresa Garate Yea Laz Lopez Yea

The motion was approved. The Board entered executive session at 11:16 p.m.

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Larry Peterson made a motion, which was seconded by Craig Bradley, to reconvene Public Session at 11:39 a.m.

A voice vote was taken with the following results:

Maureen Banks Yea

Craig Bradley Yea Sylvia Jenkins Yea

George Evans Yea Marlon McClinton Yea

Lisa Dziekan Yea Larry Peterson Yea

Teresa Garate Yea Laz Lopez Yea

The motion was approved.

**Item #16 - Executive Session Recommendations**

Larry Peterson made a motion, which was seconded by George Evans, to approve the following motion:

The Illinois Community College Board authorizes the Executive Director to implement a cost-of-living adjustment of 4.75% to all staff and adjust ranges as necessary, pending budget authority on July 1 for FY 2026.

A voice vote was taken with the following results:

Maureen Banks Yea

Craig Bradley Yea Sylvia Jenkins Yea

George Evans Yea Marlon McClinton Yea

Lisa Dziekan Yea Larry Peterson Yea

Teresa Garate Yea Laz Lopez Yea

The motion was approved.

**Item #17 - Adjournment**

George Evans made a motion, which was seconded by Marlon McClinton, to adjourn the Board meeting at 11:41 a.m.

The motion was approved via unanimous voice vote.