BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
July 27, 2026

Call to Order:	Chair Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., and the following Trustees answered roll call:

	Brian Duncan	Tom Demmer
	Margaret Tyne	Sam Ramirez
	Lisa Wiersema	Student Trustee Ronnie Clark
Excused:	Danelle Burrs	Brian Duncan – 6:33pm arrival
	Tom Demmer left at 6:45pm	

SVCC Staff:
President, Dr. Jon Mandrell
Vice President of Information and Planning, Aaron Schupbach-Roe
Vice President of Academics, Sasha Logan
Vice President of Student Services, Jennifer Schultz
Director of Facilities, Rich Groleau
Human Resources Director Megan Kuhn
Board Assistant, Myndi Fletcher
Professor II Business, Dr. Emily Zimmerman

Consent Agenda: It was moved by Trustee Tyne and seconded by Trustee Ramirez- the Board approve the consent agenda. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Clark advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.

President's Report: Dr. Mandrell thanked everyone for coming to the Business After Hours event on July 16, 2026. It was a very hot evening, but the turnout was great and the event was successful.

Dr. Mandrell continued with pointing out the new name plates and informed the Trustees that they will soon have updated name tags. Our marketing team has been hard at work to update numerous things around campus.

Dr. Mandrell acknowledged the passing of Dr. James Barber, who passed away on May 2, 2026. James had a long and distinguished career at Sauk, first joining the faculty in 1968 as an Assistant Professor of English and earning an appointment to Associate Professor in 1972. In 1974, he stepped into administration as the Director of Community Services, continuing his leadership as the Assistant Dean for Adult and Continuing Services in 1975. He returned to teaching in 1982, serving as a Professor of English until 1997. James was highly accomplished academically, holding a Master of Arts in Speech from the University of Denver and a Doctorate of Education from Northern Illinois University.

Dr. Mandrell also acknowledged the passing of local community leader, SVCC supporter, and former instructor Linda Giesen who passed away on June 19, 2026.

Linda was a remarkable leader whose career left a lasting impact on the Sauk Valley region and beyond. Her extraordinary story of service to the community and dedication to SVCC inspired countless individuals. In 2024, Sauk Valley Community College honored Linda with an Honorary Associate in Arts Degree in Criminal Justice in recognition of her exceptional contributions.

Embodying the SVCC spirit of lifelong learning, Linda earned her law degree from the University of Iowa and went on to build a successful legal career in Dixon. She later served as Lee County State’s Attorney and became a respected attorney in private practice. Beyond her professional accomplishments, Linda was deeply involved in numerous service organizations. Her leadership with Rotary, United Way, and numerous community initiatives helped strengthen the Sauk Valley region and improve the lives of many. She was also a strong supporter of the SVCC Impact Program.

Trustee Thompson and Dr. Mandrell both recalled some fond memories of Linda Giesen and provided stories.

Dr. Mandrell and Sasha Logan held a discussion on the recent Indonesia Study Abroad trip in June 2026. Dr. Emily Zimmerman and student Mia Trujillo traveled to Indonesia as part of a study abroad experience that provided valuable educational and cultural engagement. Dr. Zimmerman spoke of the trip, provided a power point presentation, and expressed what a great learning experience it was.

Dr. Mandrell and Aaron Schupbach-Roe spoke about the Summer and Fall 2026 enrollment data. Aaron gave a presentation highlighting the statistics. The summer data headcount was down compared to last summer, but the online courses experienced a significant increase. The fall data revealed that enrollment is up by 6.8% and total credit hours are up by 9.3%.

Dr. Mandrell and Director of Facilities, Rich Groleau, provided an update on the projected updates and long-term vision for the campus. Mr. Groleau gave a summary of past and future projects. The next CDB project will have a large portion of the roof updated, as well as resurfacing of the tennis courts. The College will also be installing four EV Chargers. Dr Mandrell noted there are no EV Chargers in Sterling, IL, and two within Dixon, IL.

Trustee Duncan asked about the soccer field and its usage. Rich spoke that it is used and taken care of by Dixon High School for their soccer program.

Reports/Comments from Board Trustees and the SVC Foundation:

Student Trustee Ronnie Clark provided an overview of the recent blood drive on campus. She also spoke of a history project that she and Dr. Mandrell researched, which was to determine if she is the first African American student trustee. Based on current feedback, it appears that she is. Trustee Duncan stated he believes Ronnie is the first married student trustee, as Ronnie recently was wed.

Foundation Report: Trustee Margaret Tyne spoke on behalf of Dr. Lori Cortez on the Points of Pride with SVCC visiting Indonesia, the Impact program having 218 students enrolled this fall, having more than 100 community members braving the heat for Sauk's Business After Hours event, and the upgrades completed to our largest lecture hall, room 1K04. She also discussed the Foundation securing a $20,000 endowment to support our Agriculture students, a $100,000 gift to support the Impact Students, and provided information on the next fundraising event at Long Branch Saloon in Amboy on August 6, 2026. Dr. Mandrell also spoke of Morrison now being fully funded with the Impact Program.

Trustee Thompson stated that he and Trustee Tyne took a walk through 1K04 before the meeting and noted how great the changes look.

Board Policy *516.01 Drug, Alcohol, and Smoke-Free Campus* First Reading:

It was moved by Trustee Wiersema-and seconded by Trustee Tyne the Board approve the revisions to *516.01 Drug, Alcohol, and Smoke-Free Campus*, as presented for a first reading. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Clark advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.

Faculty Resignation - Economics	It was moved by Trustee Duncan and seconded by Trustee Ramirez the Board approve the resignation of Dimitra Freehill as Professor of Economics effective July 23, 2026. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Clark advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
Faculty Resignation - Nursing	It was moved by Trustee Wiersema and seconded by Trustee Ramirez-the Board approve the resignation of Michelle Gillihan as Nursing Faculty effective July 15, 2026. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Clark advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
Administrator Resignation – Director of Application and Data Governance	It was moved by Trustee Ramirez and seconded by Trustee Duncan the Board approve the resignation of Art VanZuiden as Director of Applications and Data Governance effective July 30, 2026. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Clark advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
Administrator Appointment – Dean of Business, Career, and Technical Programs	It was moved by Trustee Wiersema and seconded by Trustee Duncan the Board approve the appointment of Dr. Emily Zimmerman as Dean of Business, Career, and Technical Programs beginning August 3, 2026 at an annual base salary of $97,094.40. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Clark advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
ICCB Resource Allocation and Management Program (RAMP) Capital Project Requests Resolution:	It was moved by Trustee Tyne and seconded by Trustee Ramirez the Board adopt the resolution approving the College's Fiscal Year 2027 RAMP capital project priorities and authorizing submission to the Illinois Community College Board. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Clark advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
Commercial Driver's License (CDL) Program Fee Adjustment:	It was moved by Trustee Wiersema and seconded by Trustee Ramirez the Board approve the Commercial Driver's License (CDL) course fee increase to $279.50 per credit hour, effective for academic terms beginning after September 1, 2026. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Clark advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
FY27 Insurance Renewal	It was moved by Trustee Tyne and seconded by Trustee Duncan the Board approve College's FY27 insurance premium payment to the Illinois Community College Risk Management Consortium in the amount of $198,560.21 to be paid from the Liability, Protection, and Settlement Fund. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Clark advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
FY27 Treasurers Bond	It was moved by Trustee Duncan and seconded by Trustee Wiersema the Board approve the Fiscal Year 2027 Public Official Bond issued by Hartford Fire Insurance Company in the amount of $6,000,000 for the College Treasurer. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Clark advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.

Contract Approval – Baker Group – Sauk Valley Community College Building Automation System Service Agreement	It was moved by Trustee Ramirez and seconded by Trustee Wiersema the Board approve the contract with Baker Group totaling $41,553 through June 30, 2029. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Clark advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
Educational Lab, Library and Employee Computer and Projector Replacement	It was moved by Trustee Duncan and seconded by Trustee Tyne the Board approve the purchase of the equipment listed for $205,203.45 from Funding Bond proceeds and $15,115.00 from Operating funds. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Clark advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
Contract Approval – ISE EnterpriseSCHEDULE	It was moved by Trustee Duncan and seconded by Trustee Ramirez the Board approve the contract for ISE EnterpriseSCHEDULE for $32,290.40. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Clark advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
Software Renewal - Lightcast	It was moved by Trustee Duncan and seconded by Trustee Wiersema the Board approve the contract for Lightcast for $13,905 in funds for year 1, but to return for approval if it is requested to continue with institutional funds in 27-28 and 28-29. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Clark advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
Cooperative Procurement Approval – Baseball and Softball Bleachers	It was moved by Trustee Tyne and seconded by Trustee Duncan the Board approve the purchase of four Baseline Series five-row aluminum bleachers from The Park Catalog in the amount of $33,335, utilizing Sourcewell Contract No. 081523-NRS, to be funded through restricted use bond proceeds. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Clark advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
Contract Approval – Baseball Infield Improvements	It was moved by Trustee Ramirez and seconded by Trustee Tyne the Board approve a contract with Next Landscaping LLC in the amount of $30,000 for the Baseball Infield Improvements Project, to be funded through restricted use bond proceeds. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Clark advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
Appointment of Local Election Official	It was moved by Trustee Duncan and seconded by Trustee Tyne the Board approve the appointment of Myndi Fletcher as the Local Election Official and Wendy Rienstra as the alternate. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Clark advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
Request to Serve Alcohol	It was moved by Trustee Duncan and seconded by Trustee Ramirez the Board approve serving alcoholic beverages on October 10, 2026 for an event welcoming SVCC’s new president, Dr. Jon Mandrell. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Clark advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.

Closed Session: It was moved by Trustee Duncan and seconded by Trustee Wiersema the Board move into closed session at 6:58 p.m. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Clark advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.

Adjournment: Since the scheduled business was completed, it was moved by Trustee Ramirez and seconded by Trustee Clark the Board adjourn. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Clark advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.

Next meeting: Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.
The next regular meeting of the Board will be at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, August 17, 2026, in the Hellmich Riverview Conference Center.

Respectfully submitted,

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Margaret Tyne, Secretary