

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**November 24, 2025**

Call to Order: Chair Bob Thompson called the board retreat to order at 6:00 p.m., and the following members answered roll call:

Brian Duncan	Danelle Burrs
Lisa Wiersema	Tom Demmer
Margaret Tyne	Sam Ramirez
Student Trustee, Madison Krum	

SVCC Staff: President, Dr. David Hellmich  
Vice President of Academics and Student Services, Dr. Jon Mandrell  
Vice President of Advancement, Dr. Lori Cortez  
Vice President of Business Services, Kent Sorenson  
Director of Facilities, Rich Groleau  
Director, Human Resources, Megan Kuhn  
Director of Research and Planning, Aaron Roe  
Board Assistant, Peggy Eshleman  
Dean of Transfer Programs and Academic Support Services, Dr. Patrice Hess  
Dean of Business, Career and Technical Education, Sasha Logan  
Professor of Mathematics, Andreas Soemadi  
Assistant Professor of Agriculture, Kevin Larsen  
Director of Community Education and Alumni Engagement, Brenda Helms  
Assistant Men's Basketball Coach, Russ Damhoff

Guests: Grant Burrs  
Delaney Reed  
Dr. David Spangler  
Dr. Luke Koester

Chair Thompson asked for a motion to move the closed session ahead of the action items. It was moved by Member Tyne and seconded by Member Ramirez to move the closed session for tonight's meeting ahead of the action items. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.

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

President's Report: Dr. David Hellmich pointed out the button on the Trustee webpage that will enable individuals to email the trustees. He acknowledged George Howe, who passed away on November 13, 2025. George was a friend of the College who regularly attended SVCC's monthly board meetings and was a valued participant in the Sauk Valley Community Leadership Program. Dr. Hellmich and Trustee Ramirez provided "George" stories.

Dr. Jon Mandrell introduced Professor Andreas Soemadi, who was featured on WHBF-TV News in the Quad Cities for his innovative work combining mathematics and art. Using mathematical code, Professor Soemadi creates visually stunning pieces that have been showcased in festivals, galleries, and art centers, and he previewed some of his work for the Trustees.

Dr. Mandrell introduced Dr. Luke Koester, Dr. David Spangler, and Delaney Reed from Agri-King and spoke of the partnership between Agri-King and the College. Each guest explained their roles and how they relate to the greenhouse.

Kent Sorenson provided a review of FY25, explaining revenues, expenditures, and operating funds along with budget projections and the 2025 tax levy information.

Reports/Comments from  
Board Members and the  
SVC Foundation:

Student Trustee Madison Krum reported on the following recent activities: the fall blood drive, hypnotist Brian Imbus, the SGA meeting complete with food tasting, Friendsgiving, and the SGA officers' attendance at the APCA conference in Chicago this past weekend. She previewed several upcoming spring semester events.

Foundation Report: Dr. Lori Cortez reported on the Points of Pride: the success of the Sonography program, the College's application for the 2027 Aspen Prize, the Amboy Clippers Impact Campaign, and SVCC alumnus Delaney Reed, who works locally as a Research Technician for Agri-King in Fulton.

Lori provided information on the food pantry that the SVC Foundation provides on campus as a free service for our students. On average, the Foundation spends about \$500 monthly stocking the pantry. This past month saw an uptick in usage, but because of our partnerships, there was no uptick in expenses. Lori explained the pantry helps cover emergency expenses for students, and after tracking retention rates, it was found these students have a higher graduation rate than the rest of our student body.

ICCTA Report: Chair Bob Thompson reported he attended the ICCTA Regional meeting at Rock Valley College on November 6 with Dave, Jon, and Aaron and enjoyed their career education program tour showing where they overhaul 737 airliners.

Trustee Margaret Tyne shared her experience at the ACCT national conference in New Orleans that she and Chair Thompson attended in October; she thanked the College for allowing her to attend. Some key community college points were open admittance policy for all, dual enrollment programs, an HLC-endorsed baccalaureate degree, and an interesting breakout session on artificial intelligence.

Chair Thompson added that next year's annual ACCT meeting is in Chicago, and he would like to see all trustees attend if possible.

Closed Session:	It was moved by Member Duncan and seconded by Member Ramirez the Board move into closed session at 7:24 p.m.
	Closed session concluded at 7:48 p.m.
Board Policy <i>102.01 Board Philosophy /Mission /Vision</i> – Second Reading:	It was moved by Member Ramirez and seconded by Member Duncan the Board approve revisions to <i>102.01 Board Philosophy / Mission / Vision</i> as presented for a second reading. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
Board Policy <i>304.01 Disposition of Equipment</i> – First Reading:	It was moved by Member Tyne and seconded by Member Burrs the Board approve the revisions to <i>304.01 Disposition of Equipment</i> as presented for a first reading. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
Faculty Retirement – Communication:	It was moved by Member Tyne and seconded by Member Wiersema the Board approve, with appreciation, the retirement of Dr. Patricia Fulfs as Professor of Communication effective July 31, 2026. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
Director of Athletics Retirement:	It was moved by Member Duncan and seconded by Member Wiersema the Board approve the retirement of Michael Stevenson as Director of Athletics, effective November 24, 2025. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
Approval of the Estimated Tax Levy for Tax Year 2025 in Compliance with Truth in Taxation Law:	It was moved by Member Ramirez and seconded by Member Duncan the Board approve the estimated tax levy for tax year 2025 as noted below, provide notice for and hold a public hearing, and defer final approval of the tax levy for tax year 2025 until the December Board meeting. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
Replacement of Flooring in Room 1K04:	It was moved by Member Tyne and seconded by Member Duncan the Board approve the quote from Brothers Flooring in the amount of \$25,421.19 for the 1K04 carpet replacement project. This project will be funded using restricted-use bond proceeds. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried
Consortium/Cooperative Procurement – Furniture for Rooms 1K04 and 3K02:	It was moved by Member Duncan and seconded by Member Ramirez the Board approve the procurement of furniture for Rooms 1K04 and 3K02 from SBM Business Equipment Center of Sterling in the amount of \$99,524.83, to be funded from restricted-use bond proceeds. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.

Security Vehicle Replacement:	It was moved by Member Burrs and seconded by Member Ramirez the Board approve the disposal of the College's current security vehicle and approve the purchase agreement from Ken Nelson Auto Group of Dixon in the total amount of \$12,790.00 for the replacement of the College's security vehicle. The purchase will be funded through restricted-use bond proceeds. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
Contract Approval – 2024 Brickwork South Project:	It was moved by Member Duncan and seconded by Member Tyne the Board accept the bid from NICAM Construction of Freeport with a bid amount of \$37,500 for the 2024 Brickwork South to be paid from restricted-use funding bond proceeds. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
Contract Approval – Panopto:	It was moved by Member Wiersema and seconded by Member Ramirez the Board approve the contract for Panopto for \$37,380, over three years. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
Contract Approval – Professional Services	It was moved by Member Burrs and seconded by Member Tyne the Board approve the professional services contract for the Illinois Small Business Development Center at Sauk Valley Community College. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
Semi-Annual Post-Counsel Review of Closed Session Minutes:	It was moved by Member Duncan and seconded by Member Ramirez the Board accept the semi-annual post-counsel review of closed session minutes as presented. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
Approval of Closed Session Minutes of October 20, 2025:	It was moved by Member Ramirez and seconded by Member Wiersema the Board approve the closed session minutes of October 20, 2025. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
Adjournment:	Since the scheduled business was completed, it was moved by Member Duncan and seconded by Member Ramirez the Board adjourn. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.
	Meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.
Next meeting:	The next regular meeting of the Board will be at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, December 15, 2025, in the Riverview Conference Room.
	Respectfully submitted,

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Margaret Tyne, Secretary