

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
June 30, 2025

Call to Order: Chair Bob Thompson called the meeting to order at 5:56 p.m., and the following members answered roll call:

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| Brian Duncan | Danelle Burrs |
| Margaret Tyne | Tom Demmer |
| Sam Ramirez | Lisa Wiersema |
| 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
Dean of Information Technology, Kathy Dirks
Director of Research and Planning, Aaron Roe
Director of Facilities, Rich Groleau
Board Assistant, Peggy Eshleman
Head Golf Coach, C.J. Wade
Director of Athletics, Mike Stevenson

Guests: George Howe, Shaw Media
Katie Drew
Rhonda Drew

Consent Agenda: It was moved by Member Duncan and seconded by Member Burrs 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 acknowledged Virginia G. Johnson, former Director of Academic Development, who passed away on May 14, 2025.

Dr. Jon Mandrell recognized Katie Drew, student and member of the Skyhawk golf team, who finished fifth at the NJCAA Division II Nationals and earned First-Team All-American honors. Katie is the first SVCC golfer to receive this recognition and joins only five other athletes in program history to earn All-American status. She shot a hole-in-one last fall and recently shot another.

Kent Sorenson provided an update on the College's fiscal year 2025 financial performance, including a review of year-to-date budget to actual results and an updated forecast of financial projections through FY 2030. He explained that the College will attempt to continue necessary TRIO services to the students should federal funding be lost. A discussion followed on the TRIO grant, and Kent answered the Trustee's questions.

Dr. Hellmich updated the Trustees on the FY 2025 accomplishments throughout the College, including successful faculty negotiations; highly successful pass rates within the police academy; the successful launch of the Sonography Program; and several accomplishments the College hopes to achieve in FY 2026, including completing the Impact Campaign challenge of \$10 million; continuing to work on getting the Public Safety Building on campus; and launching the SVCC Faculty Mentorship program. Dave answered the Trustee's questions.

Reports/Comments
from Board Members
and the SVC
Foundation:

Student Trustee Madison Krum reported a blood drive was held on campus today for which she will have final donor numbers at the July meeting. Madison brought Trustees up-to-date on SGA officers and their collaboration on some new fall events. She hopes everyone can enjoy the Dixon Petunia Festival parade on Sunday, July 6.

Dr. Lori Cortez reported on the following points of pride: the gift of \$25,000 to the *Impact Program* from the Dixon Rotary Club; the 2021-2025 student successes in awarding 247 associate degrees, 446 career-technical certificates, and 129 credentials; and ICCTA's prestigious Gary W. Davis Ethical Leadership Award presented to Dr. Hellmich.

Chair Thompson reported on the annual ICCTA meeting in Bloomington-Normal and was appreciative to all who were present to see Dr. Hellmich receive the Gary W. Davis Ethical Leadership Award. He noted he appreciates that we are a good board who cares about one another.

Board Policy 302.02
Payment of Bills – First
Reading:

It was moved by Member Tyne and seconded by Member Ramirez the Board approve the revisions to 302.02 *Payment of Bills* as presented for a first reading. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.

Board Policy 305.02
Credit Card Use – First
Reading:

It was moved by Member Wiersema and seconded by Member Burrs the Board approve the revisions to 305.02 *Credit Card Use* as presented for a first reading. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.

Board Policy 309.01
Investment – First
Reading:

It was moved by Member Tyne and seconded by Member Duncan the Board approve the revisions to 309.01 *Investment Policy* as presented for a first reading. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.

Board Policy 522.01
*Sauk Ready: Textbook
Program Opt-Out* –
First Reading:

It was moved by Member Duncan and seconded by Member Ramirez the Board approve Board Policy 522.01 *Sauk Ready: Textbook Program Opt-Out* as presented for a first reading. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.

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| Administrative Appointment – Dean of Student Services: | It was moved by Member Wiersema and seconded by Member Burrs the Board approve the appointment of Jennifer Schultz as the Dean of Student Services beginning June 23, 2025, at an annual base salary of \$102,211.20. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried. |
| Faculty Appointment – Communication and Speech: | It was moved by Member Tyne and seconded by Member Wiersema the Board approve the appointment of Kieran Benson as an Assistant Professor I of Communication and Speech beginning August 8, 2025, at an annual base salary of \$49,838.01. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried. |
| Faculty Appointment – Economics: | It was moved by Member Ramirez and seconded by Member Demmer the Board approve the appointment of Dimitra Freehill as an Assistant Professor II of Economics beginning August 8, 2025, at an annual base salary of \$57,513.49. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried. |
| Amendment #2 to the Follett Bookstore Operating Agreement: | It was moved by Member Demmer and seconded by Member Duncan the Board approve Amendment #2 to Bookstore Operating Agreement with Follett Higher Education Group, LLC, as presented, effective April 1, 2025, to implement the Sauk Ready: Textbook Program. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried. |
| Contract Approval – Elevator Recall and Fire Protection: | It was moved by Member Wiersema and seconded by Member Demmer the Board approve the proposal from Complete Electric Contractors (CEC) of Rock Falls, IL in the amount of \$26,900, 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. |
| Naming Rights: | It was moved by Member Tyne and seconded by Member Ramirez the Board approve the naming rights of the West Mall Plaza to be named the Rotary Plaza for a ten-year period. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried. |
| Request to Serve Alcohol: | It was moved by Member Duncan and seconded by Member Wiersema the Board approve serving alcohol on July 17, 2025, as part of the Multi-Chamber Business After Hours event being held on the Sauk Campus. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried. |

Closed Session: It was moved by Member Duncan and seconded by Member Ramirez the Board move into closed session at 7:00 p.m. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.

Closed session concluded at 7:42 p.m.

Closed Session Minutes: It was moved by Member Tyne and seconded by Member Wiersema the Board approve the closed session minutes of May 19, 2025. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.

President's Contract: It was moved by Member Burrs and seconded by Member Ramirez the President's pay be increased 4.0% for FY 2026, which is less than the Board-approved 4.5% average increase for full-time faculty and staff. 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 Demmer and seconded by Member Wiersema the Board adjourn. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Krum advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 744 p.m.

Next meeting: The next regular meeting of the Board will be at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, July 28, 2025, in the Riverview Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Tyne, Secretary