

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 17, 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
Danelle Burrs	Student Trustee Ronnie Young-Hughes

Excused: Lisa Wiersema

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
Vice President of Business Services, Kent Sorenson
Director of Facilities, Rich Groleau
Human Resources Director Megan Kuhn
Board Assistant, Myndi Fletcher
Dean of Business, Career and Technical Education, Dr. Emily Zimmerman
Dean of Health Professions, Pam Eubanks
Dean of Transfer Programs and Academic Support Services, Patrice Hess
Assistant Professor I, History and Humanities, Riley Gober
Assistant Professor I, Education, Allison Neubauer
Assistant Professor I, Nursing, Cara Widolff
Professor II, Psychology, Amy Jakobsen
Assistant Professor I, CEO and Agriculture, Emily Brooks

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

President's Report: Dr. Mandrell spoke of today being the first day of classes and how tomorrow will be our second first day. He also spoke of the excitement and nervousness throughout campus as the new year begins.

Vice President, Sasha Logan, introduced Dean of Health Professions, Pam Eubanks, who presented the new nursing instructor, Cara Widolff and spoke of the various classes Cara will be teaching. Pam also spoke of new Rad Tech instructor Carissa Welsh, who could not make the meeting, but will be our

Clinical Coordinator. Pam noted that Carissa has jumped right in this summer and is doing well.

Dr. Patrice Hess introduced new faculty member Riley Gober, Assistant Professor I, History and Humanities, and Allison Neubauer, Assistant Professor I, Education; both individuals were formally with the TRIO program as advisors.

Dr. Emily Zimmerman introduced Emily Brooks, Assistant Professor I, CEO and Agriculture. Emily is originally from Prophetstown and is excited to be back in the area and working with our Agriculture program. Dr. Zimmerman also spoke of Dr. Colin Corbett, our new Economics instructor, who could not make the meeting. Dr. Corbett previously taught for Bradley University and is excited to be joining SVCC.

Dr. Amy Jakobsen, Professor II, Psychology, is continuing the faculty peer mentoring program and she spoke of her new role as the facilitator. Dr. Jakobsen noted that she is excited to continue the program as she enjoys helping our new faculty, as well as keeping in touch with the current faculty.

Dr. Mandrell asked Dr. Lori Cortez to speak of her recent educational experience at Harvard Institute of Higher Education. Dr. Cortez was selected for the program along with 54 other educational leaders from around the world. The institute aims to broaden leadership skills to meet the challenges of today's rapidly changing higher education environment. Dr. Cortez spoke of some of the challenges she learned of and ways to overcome obstacles. She spoke of our Impact program and continuing the campaign to enhance donations. She also spoke of bringing influential visitors to campus and gaining ideas from their insight.

Dr. Mandrell introduced Aaron Schupbach-Roe to provide an update on the ReUp Education Partnership. SVCC began the partnership one year ago, which helps to re-engage individuals in our service area who have some college experience, but have not yet earned a credential. At SVCC, we currently have 68 total learners who have re-enrolled in classes as part of the initiative.

Dr. Mandrell and Kent Sorenson presented an overview of the Fiscal Year 2027 Tentative Budget. The presentation provided the Board with a summary of projected revenues and expenditures, key budget assumptions, and the College's overall financial outlook for the fiscal year. Dr. Mandrell spoke of SVCC being in a great financial position during a challenging time when other colleges are struggling. Kent spoke of a major part of this balanced budget being our investment in the Impact program.

Kent mentioned that each year he engages each area in zero-based budgeting to strategically look at their needs and make the best decisions to achieve a balanced budget

Reports/Comments from Board Trustees and the SVC Foundation:

Student Trustee Ronnie Young-Hughes provided an update on the start of the new school semester. She spoke of how she heard throughout the halls “Happy First Day”. She also spoke of the new instructors, the new leaders, and the new students. The caricatures were a big hit once again this semester. SGA is hosting a new Meet-and-Greet as well as having music from Alex Fischbach, who will perform at the Rotary Plaza on August 19, 2026.

Foundation Report: Dr. Lori Cortez reported on the Points of Pride. The Impact Program is welcoming in 232 students and expanding access to education and investing in the future of the Sauk Valley area. Dr. Cortez also mentioned that Community Education celebrated its largest Welding for Veterans and Active Military class to date with 20 students enrolled, which was funded through the ICCB Non-Credit Strategies and Work Grant. The newly revamped New Student Orientation sessions welcomed 533 incoming students as they begin their journey into college life. Dr. Cortez also spoke on the partnership with ReUp, which supports returning students. The collaboration has welcomed back 45 students in the spring and 39 in the summer for a combined total of 1,242 credit hours enrolled. Dr. Cortez also spoke on the recent August 6, 2026 Impact fundraiser in Amboy and mentioned that the community is nearly fully funded.

ICCTA Report: Board Chair Thompson reported ICCTA had an executive retreat earlier this month. Senator Chesney was at the retreat and talked of support of baccalaureate programs at community colleges. Board Chair Thompson also reminded everyone of the ACCT conference in Chicago from October 21-24, 2026.

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

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

Faculty Appointment - Economics

It was moved by Trustee Tyne and seconded by Trustee Young-Hughes the Board approve the appointment of Colin Corbett as Economics Faculty effective August 3, 2026, at an annual base salary of \$78,244.10. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Young-Hughes advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Trustee Duncan and seconded by Trustee Ramirez the Board approve the Fiscal Year 2027 Tentative Budget for public

Fiscal Year 2027 Tentative Budget and Notice of Public Hearing inspection and authorize publication of the attached Notice of Public Hearing for September 21, 2026. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Young-Hughes advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.

Cooperative Procurement Approval – Compact Wheel Loader Replacement It was moved by Trustee Ramirez and seconded by Trustee Duncan the Board approve the purchase of a Bobcat L65 Compact Wheel Loader and related equipment in the amount of \$78,620.04, utilizing Sourcewell Contract No. 020223-CEC, to be funded through restricted use bond proceeds. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Young-Hughes advisory vote: aye. Motion carried.

Closed Session Minutes: It was moved by Member Duncan and seconded by Member Ramirez the Board approve the closed session minutes of July 27, 2026. In a roll call vote, all voted aye. Student Trustee Young-Hughes advisory vote: aye. Motion carried

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

Next meeting: Meeting adjourned at 7:00p.m.
The next regular meeting of the Board will be at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, September 21, 2026, in the Hellmich Riverview Conference Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Tyne, Secretary