

SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF ILLINOIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 519
Counties of Stephenson, Ogle, Jo Daviess and Carroll

CALL TO ORDER

A special meeting of the Board of Illinois Community College District No. 519 was called to order by Mr. David D. Shockey, Chairperson, at 7:11 p.m. on October 25, 2011 in the main dining room of the Freeport Country Club, 1614 South Park Blvd., Freeport, Illinois in said district.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Mrs. Diane Gallagher, Mr. David Shockey, Mr. Rob Urish, Mr. Doug Block, Mr. Jim Endress, Dr. Steve Jennings, Ms. Whittney Zumdahl, and Ms. Chelsey Kaiser

The following members were absent: None

Also present: Dr. Joe Kanosky, President, and his wife, Mrs. Jennifer Kanosky; Mr. Tim Hood, Vice President, Academic Services, and his wife, Mrs. Valerie Hood; former trustees Mr. Dennis Endress and his wife, Mrs. Carol Endress; Mr. Steve Kroeger and his wife, Mrs. Marlene Kroeger; Mrs. Sally Sharelis and her husband, Dr. Bill Sharelis; Mr. Del Scheider, and his wife, Mrs. Hulone Scheider; Mr. Frank Walker and his wife, Mrs. Gerry Walker; guests of current trustees Mr. Cody Baker, Mrs. Edie Block, Mrs. Deb Endress, and Mr. Greg Zumdahl; Mr. Brad Hart, Big Radio; Mr. Allen Redford, Director of Fine Arts, and the Madrigal Singers; and Ms. Terri Grimes, Board Secretary

WELCOME

Mr. David Shockey, Board Chair, welcomed current and former trustees and their guests and thanked them for attending.

COLLEGE UPDATE

Dr. Kanosky provided an update on the College, highlighting the new Ray and Betty Stamm Health Science Nursing Wing, the National Science Foundation grant the College received for Wind Turbine Technician education, the new greenhouse being erected on campus, Highland West, and the Top Scholars and Honors programs. He also reported that credit hours are expected to be down about 12 percent from last year, and both local tax revenues and State funding are lower than in FY'10. In addition, the State still owes us about \$178,000 from last fiscal year.

Dr. Kanosky also cited other concerns, including the fact that Pell grant funding will remain a primary source for our students, but Congress is proposing to limit this funding to full-time students (12 credit hours or more for financial aid purposes) and to totally eliminate it for anyone

enrolled less than full-time. Dr. Kanosky described this as “drastic” if it is enacted, since many of our students enroll part-time. Another major concern is the State Universities Retirement System (SURS), which has been underfunded by about \$85 billion because the legislature either underfunded or did not fund its share for many years. There are many proposals being discussed to revise the system, however, one of the dangers of trying to change the system is that if the changes are enacted, many people who are near retirement may retire all at once so that they may keep their benefits intact. Dr. Kanosky stated that this could cause a “domino effect” on colleges and universities who may find it difficult to replace employees. In addition, there would be a sudden drain on the resources of SURS, causing the implosion of the pension system. Dr. Kanosky and other administrators are watching this situation closely and keeping employees who are near retirement informed of the situation.

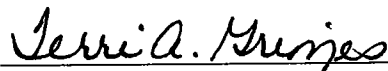
Dr. Kanosky concluded his remarks by stating that the College will celebrate its 50th anniversary on September 6, 2012, the date when the first classes were held. He has asked Mr. Del Scheider, one of the first original Board members, and Mr. Frank Walker, one of the first Highland students, to serve as co-chairs of the 50th anniversary celebration committee. Dr. Kanosky thanked the former trustees for all they did to shape and sustain Highland, and thanked the current trustees who have agreed to sustain and enhance the legacy of the founders of Highland Community College.

Following Dr. Kanosky’s remarks, those in attendance were treated to a performance by Highland’s Madrigal Singers, under the direction of Mr. Allen Redford.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:44 p.m., there being no further business, the Chairperson declared the special meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Terri A. Grimes, Board Secretary
Illinois Community College District No. 519