

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
LINCOLN LAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ILLINOIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT #526**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Lincoln Land Community College, Illinois Community College District #526 was held on Wednesday, February 25, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. in the Robert H. Stephens Room with Chair Rosenthal presiding.

I. Preliminary Matters

A. Roll Call

Members present were Dr. Davis, Ms. Blimling, Mr. Elmore, Ms. Enz, Mr. Gates, Mr. Holaway, and Mr. Rosenthal. Mr. Fulgenzi was absent.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Adoption of Agenda of the February 25, 2026 Meeting

MOTION NO. 02-25-26-1:

Mr. Holaway moved to adopt the agenda of the February 25, 2026 meeting. Seconded by Ms. Enz.

Chair Rosenthal called a voice vote, all members voted aye. PASSED

D. Introductions and Recognitions - None

E. Hearing of Citizens – None

II. Consent Agenda

MOTION NO. 02-25-26-2:

Mr. Gates moved to:

- approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 21, 2026;
- ratify disbursements of the bi-monthly checks, E-commerce refunds, ACH, and Wire transactions issued during January 2026 and ratify the January 31, 2026 Treasurer's Report;
- ratify out of state travel;
- approve out of state travel;
- approve a purchase order for Modular Installations & Design for Millennium center furniture installation at the total cost of \$132,360;
- approve a purchase order for six Advanced PLC training systems at a total cost of \$88,710 in accordance with the terms, conditions, and specifications of Invitation to Bid #FY2026-08;
- approve a purchase order for the robotic training system at a total cost of \$49,072 in accordance with the terms, conditions, and specifications of Invitation to Bid #FY2026-07;
- approve the relocation of the existing Spacesaver Mobile Storage System and the purchase and installation of a new Spacesaver Mobile System for the library, in the amount of \$235,267.77;
- ratify the clinical site agreement with Riley Dental and approve the internship affiliation agreement with Legacy Pointe Eatery;
- approve 2025 MSA Amendment #4 for a one-year extension of the 2025 Master Service Agreement with O'Shea Builders through December 31, 2026;
- approve the Combined Base Bid in the amount of \$188,744 from Ron Furman's Commercial Sweeping & Paving and to establish a project contingency in the amount of \$18,875 for an aggregate amount of \$207,619 to complete the FY26 Parking Lot & Sidewalk Improvements at LLCC's Main Campus and Litchfield Campus;
- accept the proposal from Martin Engineering Company in the amount of \$223,650 to provide design services for the Litchfield Truck Driver Training Expansion project;
- modify the existing agreement with Demonica Kemper Architects in the amount of \$33,380 to provide furniture layout and selection services for the Phase A1 Renovations of Millennium Center Master Plan Implementation Project at the Main Campus and
- approve the Base Bid in the amount of \$275,200 from American Asbestos Abatement, LLC dba Midwest Service Group and to establish a project contingency in the amount of \$27,500 for an aggregate amount of \$302,700 to complete abatement on the first floor of Sangamon Hall for the Master Plan Implementation – Phase A2 Asbestos Abatement of Sangamon Hall Project at LLCC's Main Campus.

Mr. Elmore seconded.

Chair Rosenthal called a voice vote, all members voted aye. PASSED

III. Action Agenda

A. Policies

1. Revisions to Board Policy 5.19 – Student Financial Obligations

These revisions include changes to the policy to align with current practices.

Policy Statement:

Students shall discharge all financial and other obligations to the District prior to registering for ~~any LLCC classes. the next semester.~~ These obligations include but are not limited to ~~overdue library book fines, tuition, student fees, bookstore charges, and childcare center fees.~~

- Tuition and student fees
- Bookstore charges
- Library fines
- Childcare center fees

~~This restriction shall remain in place until the indebtedness is paid in full or the student enters into an approved payment plan.~~

~~In accordance with Illinois Public Act 103-0054, Lincoln Land Community College will not withhold transcripts from students with a balance owed if the transcript is requested for the following reasons:~~

- Job application
- Transfer to another institution of higher learning
- Application for State, Federal, or institutional financial aid
- Enlistment in the United States Armed Forces or the Illinois National Guard
- Pursuit of other postsecondary opportunities

~~Diplomas and certificates will be withheld while financial obligations remain unresolved. They will be released upon full payment.~~

~~Student indebtedness after three billing cycles, regardless of the amount, may be turned over to a third-party collection agency.~~

This was presented for a first reading. No action is required at this meeting. With Board concurrence, we will return this policy to you for action at the regularly scheduled March 2026 meeting of the Board.

B. Academic Services Division Items

1. Sabbatical Leave Recommendation for 2026-2027

Two (2) faculty members submitted a sabbatical leave request for the academic year 2026-2027. The Sabbatical Leave Committee, comprised of tenured faculty members, reviewed the requests, and forwarded their review.

The following sabbatical leave requests for the fall and spring semesters of the 2026-2027 Academic Year are submitted for your approval.

Dr. Alison Stachera, Professor of English, requests a sabbatical leave for Fall 2026 semester to create a draft Open Educational Resource (OER) for EGL 101 as the foundation for a departmentwide, first-year composition textbook. During the sabbatical,

she plans to research, collaborate with faculty, write, and design a pilot OER, integrate accessibility features, and prepare the text for Spring 2027 classroom testing. The project aims to improve affordability, accessibility, and curricular consistency across high enrollment composition courses at LLCC.

Dr. Colin Suchland, Professor of Sociology, requests a sabbatical leave for the spring 2027 semester to develop his skills in sociological ethnography and documentary filmmaking to integrate project-based, microdocumentary assignments into sociology courses at LLCC. During the sabbatical, he plans to complete online filmmaking and editing courses, produce two short documentaries (including one featuring a local community), and create an online filmmaking guide for LLCC students to support the incorporation of filmmaking in other courses. The project is designed to enhance student learning and to support innovative pedagogy-based, micro-documentary assignments into sociology courses at LLCC.

MOTION NO. 02-25-26-3:

Ms. Enz moved to approve the sabbatical leaves for Dr. Alison Stachera for Fall Semester 2026 and for Dr. Colin Suchland For Spring Semester 2027. Mr. Gates seconded.

Upon roll call vote, those members voting aye were Dr. Davis, Mr. Elmore, Ms. Enz, Mr. Gates, Mr. Holaway, Ms. Blimling (advisory), and Mr. Rosenthal. PASSED

C. Student Services Division Items – None

D. Administrative Services Division Items - None

E. Information Technology Items - None

F. Executive Division Items – None

IV. Information Items

A. Staff Reports

1. Academic Services – None

2. Student Services – None

3. Administrative Services

a. Position Vacancies and Hires

The item has been updated.

b. Construction Progress Update

c. Monthly Financial Report

4. Information Technology - None

5. Advancement Office – None
6. Executive Division
 - a. Review of Agenda Master Calendar

B. President's Report

Campus Visit Day was held on February 16th with nearly 200 guests, including 91 prospective students. They took tours, visited with faculty and staff to learn about programs and services, heard from a student panel, and attended breakout sessions.

LLCC's Ron Riggle and Ryan O'Malley were inducted into the Springfield Sports Hall of Fame earlier this month. Ron was recognized for his impact as both a player and coach here at Lincoln Land, including earning Region 24 Coach of the Year honors four times, and winning the NJCAA national championships in 1994 and 2000. And Ryan was recognized for his time in the major leagues, including his debut for the Cubs in which he pitched eight scoreless innings, and for helping lead the Loggers to the 2000 NJCAA World Series championship.

We served as hosts for this month's Chamber on Tap event. We welcomed a good crowd at the Workforce Careers Center. Chamber members had the opportunity to tour our Workforce labs, and to learn more about our workforce and health care programs as well as workshops available through LLCC's Professional Development Institute. In fact, as door prizes, we offered a free individual professional development class and discounted customized training for a business.

Our Professional Development Institute is also offering courses at our Outreach Centers this spring — covering a range of topics from Excel, AI, and drone technology to navigating generational differences and building strong teams.

A Summer Internship and Job Fair was held for our students February 4th. It was an opportunity for students to network and learn more about opportunities this summer. 25 employers participated in the event – both private employers and representatives from the public sector, including the State of Illinois.

We hosted the State University Transfer Fair for our current students last week on February 18th. The Private Illinois Colleges and Universities Transfer Fair will be held on March 25th. At these events, students can explore transfer opportunities for completing a bachelor's degree and get information on next steps from these institutions.

We hosted the regional Academic Challenge today. Approximately 160 students from 9 area high schools competed. They competed as individuals and as teams – testing in their choice of two subjects from biology, chemistry, computer science, engineering graphics, English, mathematics, and physics. Two \$500 LLCC Foundation scholarships were awarded at the event.

Also today, our Workforce Institute hosted info sessions for prospective students in auto tech, commercial electrical and industrial technology, construction, diesel, hospitality and culinary, HVAC, and welding. We provided participants an in-depth look at career pathways and the real-world training available in these high-demand fields.

LLCC-Jacksonville will be offering an industrial technology certificate beginning this fall. We are partnering with Jacksonville High School to offer classes in this program as College Now – so that students can earn both high school and college credit at the same time.

Last week, LLCC-Taylorville hosted South Fork and Morrisonville eighth graders for a morning filled with career exploration, student panel Q&A, and general information about college.

We hosted a College Now information session on campus earlier this week with families from Glenwood, Rochester, Auburn, Athens, and Sacred Heart-Griffin. Another session was also held in Williamsville last night.

Some other recent events:

We hosted a series of events for African American History Month. This year's theme was "A Century Strong: Black History Lives On."

We celebrated Homecoming with three days of activities the week of February 9th. This year's royals — Addy Blimling and Chloe Cummings — were announced during the homecoming games.

Our annual Lincoln Lecture was held on February 12th. Timothy Good, who worked for the National Park Service for more than 30 years, spoke on "Mr. Lincoln on the Road – Traveling the Original Route 66."

The Paul Simon Essay contest is currently open for students through 3 p.m. on March 20th. It is a statewide contest that provides an opportunity to win a \$1,000 scholarship by writing an essay in fewer than 500 words on the topic "How My Community College Changed My Life." A local LLCC winner will be selected to advance to the statewide competition.

The Trutter Museum & Murray Gallery will feature the exhibit "Underfoot" with paintings by Kevin Veara from March 2nd to April 10th. Known for his vivid depictions of birds and the native environments they inhabit, the artist celebrates the intricate life of the Sangamon River ecosystem.

Bistro Verde is wrapping up to-go service tomorrow. Then, March 25th to April 30th, Bistro will offer the full-service, dine-in restaurant experience on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 11 to 1.

C. Report from Faculty Senate

Justin Cobb, Secretary, reported that the Faculty Senate reviewed preparations for the upcoming election and discussed forming ad hoc committees to examine the prevalence of academic dishonesty and the grade appeal process. The Senate is also developing a policy to address the use of AI in the classroom.

D. Report from Faculty Association

Chris McDonald reported that he is working with Jason Dockter regarding a staffing concern and a question about class evaluations. He noted that the upcoming digital compliance (ADA) deadline is creating added pressure for faculty. He also shared

highlights from the 25th Midwest Model United Nations conference in St. Louis, where a group of eight students represented Hungary and Poland. The Poland delegation received an honorable mention, and one student was individually recognized as well.

E. Report from Classified Staff – None

F. Report from Professional Staff - None

G. Report from Facilities Services Council - None

H. Chairman’s Report - None

I. Secretary’s Report

Ms. Enz reminded everyone that the next ICCTA meeting will be held at Moraine Valley Community College March 20 -21.

J. Foundation Report

Ms. Sanders invited board members to attend the annual Gala fundraiser to be held on April 25, 2026.

K. Other Board Members’ Reports

Ms. Blimling provided an update on various student activities taking place at both LLCC – Jacksonville and the main campus.

Dr. Davis attended the National Legislative Summit hosted by the Association of Community College Trustees in Washington, DC, where discussions focused on federal funding and Pell Grants. During the visit, she met with Representatives Mary Miller and Nikki Budzinski, as well as staff members from Senate offices.

V. Strategic Discussion

A. Sabbatical Presentation

Jennifer O’Malley, Professor, Biology will provide a brief presentation on the results of her sabbatical project. Her project included creating instructional videos, images, and supplemental content that enhance Anatomy and Physiology instruction.

VI. Executive Session

MOTION NO. 02-25-26-4:

Dr. Davis moved to hold an executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters, faculty tenure and continuing employment and pending/imminent legal matters. Mr. Gates seconded.

Upon roll call vote, those members voting aye were Dr. Davis, Mr. Elmore, Ms. Enz, Mr. Gates, Mr. Holaway, Ms. Blimling (advisory), and Mr. Rosenthal. PASSED

MOTION NO. 02-25-26-5:

Trustee Gates moved to return to open session at 7:06 p.m. seconded by Trustee Davis.

All members voted aye. PASSED

VII. Actions from Executive Session

MOTION NO. 02-25-26-6:

Trustee Davis moved to approve all personnel matters seconded by Trustee Enz.

Upon roll call vote, those members voting aye were Dr. Davis, Mr. Elmore, Ms. Enz, Mr. Gates, Mr. Holaway, Ms. Blimling (advisory), and Mr. Rosenthal. PASSED

MOTION NO. 02-25-26-7:

Trustee Davis moved to grant tenure (continuing status) for the 2026-2027 Academic Year to Marlana Constant, Daniel Fleming, Kody Letterle, and Michael Readenour and to re-employ Pierce Bergschneider, Jay Brown, Casey Busboom, Kelly Clark, Brooke Greenwood, Stephanie Heaton-Clinard, Mallory Henton, Raven Hinton, Carrie Horton, Rashida Kadiani, Kristin King-Whiteside, and Matthew Wiediger for the 2026-2027 Academic Year. Seconded by Trustee Enz.

Upon roll call vote, those members voting aye were. Dr. Davis, Mr. Elmore, Ms. Enz, Mr. Gates, Ms. Blimling (advisory), Mr. Holaway, and Mr. Rosenthal. PASSED

MOTION NO. 02-25-26-8:

Trustee Davis moved to approve the listing of 131 full-time faculty positions for the 2026-2027 academic year. Seconded by Trustee Enz.

Upon roll call vote, those members voting aye were. Dr. Davis, Mr. Elmore, Ms. Enz, Mr. Gates, Ms. Blimling (advisory), Mr. Holaway, and Mr. Rosenthal. PASSED

MOTION NO. 02-25-26-9:

Trustee Gates moved to approve a 3-year Employment Agreement with Dr. Curtis E. Oldfield with the understanding that such approval will be ratified at the March 25, 2026, Board meeting, and to make a copy of the Agreement available for public review. Seconded by Trustee Davis.

Upon roll call vote, those members voting aye were Dr. Davis, Ms. Enz, Mr. Gates, Mr. Holaway, Ms. Blimling (advisory), and Mr. Rosenthal. Mr. Elmore voted nay. PASSED

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Chair Rosenthal

Secretary Enz

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, LLCC Board of Trustees

FROM: Charlotte J. Warren
President

SUBJECT: Personnel Matters

DATE: February 25, 2026

We recommend the following personnel actions:

Diana Couch, Director Athletics, resignation effective 3/20/2026

Tricia Kujawa, Asst. Vice President IRE, retirement effective 3/31/2026