



**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SOUTHWESTERN ILLINOIS COLLEGE  
DISTRICT NO. 522  
Seibert Conference Room  
Belleville Campus  
February 15, 2010**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees of Southwestern Illinois College, District No. 522, was held Monday, February 15, 2010 in the Seibert Conference Room of the Belleville Campus, 2500 Carlyle Avenue, Belleville, Illinois. Chairman Nick Mance called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. and declared the purpose of the special meeting was discussion of finance and the FY10 and FY11 Budgets; expense reduction plans; personnel and collective bargaining.

**ROLL CALL**

Trustees present:

Kenneth R. Joseph  
Nick Mance  
Robert G. Morton  
Richard Roehrkasse  
Philip L. Smith  
Eugene Verdu  
Sam Wolf (via conference call)  
David Hobbs, Student Trustee

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

Chairman Mance turned the meeting over to College President Dr. Costello who read the following statement:

“Good evening. As we are all well aware...and as reported in a national Associated Press story released just today:

*‘The nation’s publicly funded schools are falling under severe financial stress, as states - like Illinois - slash education funding...a situation projected to get much worse as states run out of stimulus dollars.’*

In our own backyard, our state's unpredictable funding of Illinois Community Colleges is **THE** primary source of our concern because it is the **ONLY** revenue source we can't directly control.

Sharing that concern with you - our valued college trustees - we have been working on potential options for your dutiful consideration for the past several months...and, following a long holiday weekend of work to fine-tune those options, we are pleased to be able to share them with you tonight.

Before we get started, I want to reassure each trustee that we value your invitation to have this dialogue...we trust that, as other trustees and administrators have done before us, we will move forward in the best interests of this venerable institution...and we will all be better for the collaborative experience.

Thank you...one and all...and let's get started."

Administration presented two documents entitled "Administration Financial Research Memorandum A" and "Administration Financial Research Memorandum B" dated February 15, 2010 in response to questions posed by the Board of Trustees in documents given to College President Dr. Costello on February 8, 2010. Vice President Friederich began the meeting and acted as moderator. The vice presidents presented their own section/s and read the questions and administration's response.

Losses in state funding will severely impact Southwestern; the state's funding of Illinois community colleges is the primary source of concern. Administration presented mid-year expenditure reductions of \$2,807,708 which are being enacted now. This represents a reduction of 4.5% in the FY10 budgeted expenditures of \$62,129,328. The detailed identification of these reductions by department was included as Attachment A-1a.

Administration also identified by department and type of expenditure reductions of \$4,964,759 for the FY11 budget. This represents 8% of the original FY10 budgeted expenditures of \$62,129,328. These reductions were included in Attachment A-1b.

The meeting was recessed at 6:47 p.m. and reconvened at 7:03 p.m.

Mr. Roehrkasse questioned if the \$2.8M budget reductions for FY10 and the \$4.9M budget reductions for FY11 were in place could be used to offset a tuition increase. Mr. Baitman stated we cannot raise tuition or increase enrollment enough to offset the loss of state funding.

Chairman Mance questioned Mr. Hilgenbrink about securing a working cash bond. February 8, 2010 is the last date to get on this year's levy. June 1 is the date of this year's levy and you have to back up 60 days before that date. Mr. Mance stated it would have to be done by March 31, 2010.

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

Dr. Costello thanked Vice President Friederich and the entire staff for preparing the documents for this special meeting. A special thank you was extended to Dr. Thaxton's assistants Jamie

Windler and Lynn Blomberg for spending most of the President's Day holiday weekend assembling the documents reviewed this evening.

Trustee Roehrkaske inquired as to the next step. Chairman Mance stated he wanted some time to digest the information and to also give the trustees some time to read the documents and prepare any questions. He suggested March 1 as a target date and offered the Board would try to make a decision on the catalog by February 25.

Mr. Roehrkaske questioned administration where the reductions in expenses were. He asked how he was to answer questions from his constituents. Deferring expenses is not the answer.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Joseph moved, seconded by Mr. Smith, to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 p.m. The motion carried.

Approved: **03-17-10**

Respectfully submitted,

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Nick J. Mance  
Chairman of the Board of Trustees

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Beverly J. Fiss  
Secretary to the Board of Trustees