

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

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

A special meeting of the Board of Illinois Community College District No. 519 with the Higher Learning Commission Accreditation Peer Review Team was called to order by Mr. Jim Endress, Chairperson, at 8:04 a.m. on October 26, 2021, in the Robert J. Rimington Board Room (room H-228) in the Highland Community College Student/Conference Center, 2998 West Pearl City Road, Freeport, Illinois in said district.

The following members were physically present: Mr. Jim Endress, Ms. Pennie Groezinger, Mr. Shawn Boldt, Mr. James Rhyne Jr., Ms. Sarah Kuhlemeier, Mr. Craig Knaack, and Ms. Hailey Johnson

The following members attended virtually: Mr. Doug Block

The following members were absent: None

Also physically present: Dr. Daniel Corr, Higher Learning Commission Accreditation Peer Reviewer; Dr. Marico Cobett Bryant Howe, Higher Learning Commission Accreditation Peer Reviewer; Mr. Pete Fink, Director of ITS; and Ms. Terri Grimes, Board Secretary

Also attending virtually: Dr. Jan Snyder, Higher Learning Commission Accreditation Peer Reviewer; Mr. Roger McMillian, Higher Learning Commission Accreditation Peer Reviewer; and, Dr. Patricia Grandieu-Diawara, Higher Learning Commission Accreditation Peer Reviewer

Mr. Endress stated that an in-person meeting or a meeting conducted under the Open Meetings Act is not practical or prudent because of a disaster, which in this case is the pandemic. He asked if trustees who were attending virtually were able to hear.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Ms. Groezinger moved and Ms. Kuhlemeier seconded the motion to approve the agenda, as presented. The roll call on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Endress, Groezinger, Boldt, Rhyne, Kuhlemeier, Knaack, Block, Johnson
NAYS:	None

Whereupon the Chairperson declared the motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

## **INTRODUCTIONS**

Trustees and the Higher Learning Commission Accreditation Review Team members provided introductions. Dr. Snyder congratulated Mr. Endress on receiving an award last evening.

## **OPENING COMMENTS**

Dr. Snyder reported that a lot of the work has been done by the Accreditation Review Team over the last several weeks. The team has had the Assurance Argument for around a month, and no additional information was requested prior to the visit. The report was well written, and Dr. Snyder commended the College on the initial work with the Assurance Argument, noting that the prework was done well. She stated that the assistance the team had from the President, Vice Presidents, and Ms. Rhonda Perry has been wonderful, from initial meetings to setting up the agenda to providing a safe environment for Dr. Corr and Dr. Bryant Howe as they visit campus. Dr. Snyder expressed appreciation for all that was done to make the visit easy and seamless, and she noted that the meetings yesterday went very well with a number of good conversations with faculty and staff.

## **GENERAL DISCUSSION**

Trustees responded to questions from the peer reviewers, including why trustees chose to run for the Board; how trustees deal with policy; how they see their responsibilities in the overall, everyday operations of the College; how the Board interacts and communicates with the President; if they feel they have adequate training with regards to their seat on the Board; trustees' interaction with students; how students are feeling about their student experience at Highland; where the College is today with regard to finances and what trustees see the financial picture looking like in five to 10 years; trustees' knowledge of the Strategic Enrollment Management plan; if trustees see more diversity on campus in the future; how the Board sees shared governance at Highland; and, if the strategic planning process had begun.

Dr. Snyder noted that there will be a recommendation in their final report on committee structure. The turnaround time for the report is to have a draft by the middle of next week. The first part of the following week the report would go to Dr. Steph Brzuzy, Highland's HLC Staff Liaison, with a draft to the College to correct errors following that. Once the process is complete, the report will be finalized and sent to the Higher Learning Commission for approval.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business

## **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.


**ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Groezinger moved and Mr. Boldt seconded the motion to adjourn the special meeting. The roll call on the motion was as follows:

AYES: Groezinger, Boldt, Rhyne, Kuhlemeier, Knaack, Block, Endress, Johnson  
NAYS: None

At 9:28 a.m., there being no further business, the Chairperson declared the motion carried and the special meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted,



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