REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Monday, September 14, 2026 at 4:30 p.m.
335 Messenger Road, Keokuk - Keokuk Campus, Room 314

Meeting Minutes

1.0 Routine Items

1.1 Call to Order, Roll Call, and Pledge of Allegiance

Board Chair Lanny Hillyard called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. Roll call indicated Trustees Heland, Nabulsi, Fife-LaFrenz, Hillyard, and Howard were present in the room. Also present were President Michael Ash, Treasurer Cory Gall, Secretary Darcy Burdette, and SCC staff members Laurie Hempen, Chuck Chrisman, Jennifer Sabourin, and Amanda Estey, and Kari Bevans. Val Giannettino joined via Zoom.

1.2 Adoption of Formal Agenda

Trustee Fife-LaFrenz moved to approve the formal agenda. Trustee Heland seconded. Motion carried.

1.3 Communications (Limited to Five (5) Minutes per Individual)

1.3.1 Audience

None

1.3.2 Administration

Executive Director Val Giannettino reported the Foundation Office is preparing for Great Tastes scheduled for November 6, 2026. There are still tickets and tables available for purchase.

1.3.3 Board

None.

1.4 Community Colleges for Iowa Trustee Board Report

Trustee Hillyard reported that the IACCT Board meeting was held August 27, 2026. Trustee Nabulsi attended on his behalf. Trustee Nabulsi reported that the meeting discussion included AI presentation, property tax, and the new Community Colleges for Iowa website. The next meeting is December 1, 2026.

2.0 Action Items

2.1 Approval of Consent Agenda

1. **Approval of Minutes**
   - **August 10, 2026, Regular Board Meeting Minutes**
2. **Presentation of Bills of Account**
3. **Resignations, Terminations and Mutually Agreed to Contract Adjustments**

Name	Title	Date of Hire	Last day of Employment	Reason
John Bybee	Professor - Art	08/17/2000	08/10/2027	Accepted Early Retirement.

4. **Employment Contracts**

Name	Title	Contract Period	Salary
Ashton Eyler (Replacement)	Assistant Men's and Women's Wrestling Coach / Resident Advisor – (0.8 FTE)	08/07/2026 – 06/30/2027	$16,137.93 ($18,000.00 annual)
William Steemer (Replacement)	Student Activities & Rec. Center Assistant / Creative Content Coordinator – (0.7 FTE)	08/12/2026 – 06/30/2027	$22,126.44 ($25,000.00 annual)

Trustee Howard moved approval of the Consent Agenda items. Trustee Fife-LaFrenz seconded. Motion to approve the Consent Agenda carried on a 5-0 roll call vote.

2.2 Resolution Accepting the 300 Building Renovation Project

Vice President Cory Gall reported that the work completed by S.G. Construction Company under the July 14, 2025, contract for the 300 Building Renovation Project has been reviewed and found to be complete in accordance with the project plans and specifications. He noted that the total final construction cost was $1,096.502.62. Vice President Gall recommended Board approval of the Final Acceptance of the 300 Building Renovation Project.

Trustee Nabulsi moved to approve the Final Acceptance of 300 Building Renovation Project as presented. Trustee Fife-LaFrenz seconded. Motion carried on 5-0 roll call vote.

3.0 Accountability

3.1 President's Report

President Ash referred Trustees to his report and provided several College updates. He reported that SCC is moving forward with ReUp to assist with re-engaging former students who left the College before completing their educational goals. He also provided an update on continued exploration of a potential aviation program and the College's work to determine program feasibility and funding opportunities.

President Ash shared updates on improvements at the Keokuk campus including plans for new trees and flooring. He also reported on a recent visit from U.S. Representative Mariannette Miller-Meeks to the West Burlington Campus FEMA Saferoom. President Ash noted there have been continued discussions with local economic development regarding a prospective company considering locating in Lee County and SCC's involvement with local and state economic development partners.

3.2 FY 2026 Year-End Financial Reports

Vice President Gall presented the FY2026 Year-End Financial Reports. He reported that the fiscal-year books are closed and undergoing audit with no significant changes anticipated. Tuition and student-fee revenues increased from the prior year as a result of rate increases and modest enrollment growth. The General Fund ended with a surplus. He noted that salaries and related costs increased approximately $1 million over FY2025 and continue to be a significant factor in General Fund financial planning. The Restricted General Fund ended the year with a

surplus, including approximately $1 million in Employer Retention Tax Credit (ERTC) funds that are budgeted to be spent in FY2027.

Vice President Gall also explained that depreciation expense was included in the Plant Fund financial statements this year at the auditors' request. Depreciation is a non-cash expense. Without depreciation, the Plant Fund would have ended with a surplus. Trustees held discussion and asked questions.

3.3 Monthly Financial Report
Vice President Gall referred Trustees to the August 2026 financial statements in their board packets. He noted that it is too early to identify meaningful financial trends with only two months of the fiscal year completed. Vice President Gall did draw attention to the new Auxiliary Fund, which includes residence hall operations. The fund currently shows a deficit due primarily to approximately $2 million in capital outlay for the initial purchase of the residence halls. Additional information and analysis will be provided as the fiscal year progresses.

3.4 Facilities Update
Vice President Gall provided a brief facilities update. He reported that the scheduled track resurfacing project has been postponed due to anticipated rain. Once work begins, the project is expected to progress relatively quickly. Painting has begun in the 600 Building and occupancy is anticipated in approximately one month. Work on the Boardroom and Executive Suite is expected to begin after that phase is completed.

3.5 World Changing – Changing our Thinking (20 minutes)
Ryan Roberts, Director of Government Relations, Community Colleges for Iowa planned to join via Zoom to lead a discussion with Trustees about Workforce Changes – 260E, Career Training, and Physical Expansion Program. He experienced travel delays and was unable to join. Trustees agreed to invite him to present for a future meeting.

3.6 Institutional Review
Vice President Chuck Chrisman presented the Academic Year Enrollment Report, noting continued positive enrollment trends. Overall headcount has increased approximately 24 percent since Academic Year 2022, with growth among both regular college and high school students. Credit hours have also continued to increase, growing approximately 26 percent over the five-year period. Chrisman highlighted particularly strong growth in high school enrollment and credit hours as well as continued growth in Arts & Sciences. He noted a slight decline in the most recent overall headcount, primarily due to summer enrollment, while fall and spring enrollment increased.

Trustees discussed continued growth in concurrent enrollment and SCC's efforts to strengthen partnerships with area K–12 schools, students, and parents.

4.0 Future Meetings
Board Chair Hillyard reviewed the list of future meetings.

5.0 Adjournment
There was consensus that the meeting be adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

These minutes have been approved by the Board of Trustees and this is certified to be a true copy.

Darcy Burdette

Darcy Burdette, Board Secretary