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For Immediate Release

(Ullin, IL) October 4, 2021. The Board of Trustees of Shawnee Community College held its regular monthly meeting on the main campus as permitted by Governor Pritzker's Executive Orders 2020Ā07, 2020Ā33, and 2020Ā55. Shawnee Community College, Pulaski County, Illinois, convened a remote, regular meeting on October 4, 2021, at 5:30 PM via teleconference. Several agenda items were addressed during the meeting. Complete board meeting minutes are available for viewing by visiting shawneecc.edu.

Report Presentations

Dr. Taylor, SCC President discussed the upcoming HLC Shared Governance Self-Study. In October 2018, a Higher Learning Commission (HLC) peer review Team performed a mid-cycle review of the College's compliance with HLC accreditation standards. In that review, the College received a "met with concern" rating for its shared governance practices (i.e. Criterion 5B at the time). This action triggered a focused visit from HLC, which was conducted in November 2019. At the conclusion of the 2019 Focused Review, the College received a "met with concern" rating for both [Criteria 2C and 5B](#) and wrote:

*The college will host a focus visit by November 30, 2021 regarding progress towards continued improvements related to the extent to which the Board, Administration, Faculty, and Staff engage in shared governance directed at improving policies, processes, and communication that ultimately rebuilds trust in the governance of the college and improves the campus climate. Additionally, feedback received during the visit indicated that Board members may not be adhering to their own policy: "The Board will select the President who will be the chief executive officer of the College and be directly responsible to the Board for its total administration." in that Board members were reported to have been involved in day-to-day operations of the college through direct meetings and conversations related to the operations of the college with personnel other than the President. **The focus visit report should demonstrate evidence that the college meets, without concerns.***

The College is scheduled to receive a focused-visit from HLC on November 15 and November 16, 2021 to address these concerns. At that time, the HLC Review Team will expect to see evidence the College is employing effective shared governance practices that fully meet Criteria 2C and 5A (note: Criterion 5B, mentioned earlier and throughout the HLC's feedback reports from 2018 and 2019, was changed to 5A when HLC adopted revised Criteria in 2020).

Dr. Taylor also reported the status of the ICCB Adult Education Allocation After the Board approved the FY22 budget last month, ICCB issued final allocations for Adult Education & Literacy Grants. Here's a summary of our allocation:

State Grant: \$113,862
Federal Grant: \$82,943
Performance Grant: \$46,260
Total: \$243,085

The document is in the October Board Book which is posted on the SCC Website.

Technology Upgrade

Dr. April Teske presented the SCC Strategic Plan Board Monitoring report to the Board of Trustees. With the adoption of the College's revised Strategic Plan in June 2021, the Board asked for periodic updates on the College's progress towards achieving the strategic initiatives contained in the plan. Further, the Board's new B1002 Monitoring College Effectiveness policy (which was presented for first read last month) calls for quarterly updates on the Strategic Plan.

The SCC Board Monitoring Report is available in the October Board Book which is posted on the SCC Website.

Ms. Brandy Woods, Director of Business Services & Interim Vice President of Business Services Financial Campus Operations presented to the Board a proposal to Purchase Ellucian Managed Cloud System.

One primary benefit Ms. Woods discussed is business continuity and automatic updates which will eliminate downtime with the ERP system. Due to Covid-19 more courses are being offered online and the elimination of system downtime due to updates or server crashes is more important than ever. Other benefits include data security and disaster recovery. With the managed cloud the College's security will be enhanced because Ellucian uses Amazon Web Services (AWS) as their partner and AWS employs Guard Duty. Guard Duty is the latest technology for artificial intelligence-based security. If there is a disaster a cloud-based recovery plan mitigates against potential damage and helps quickly restore operations when one occurs. Also, this will allow IT staff to spend valuable time on other projects that are currently spent on updates and server maintenance.

The Board of Trustees unanimously approved the purchase of the cloud with Ellucian.

Contract Consideration

After reviewing the terms of the final contract, Brandy Woods was asked to do a cost analysis and cash flow analysis. As can be seen from the cost analysis (Available on website in October Board Book), the indirect margins are razor thin... in that the College is only projected to make approximately \$230K over the term of the contract. (Please understand the ONLY REVENUE SCC receives above cost incurred is the indirect

expense.). The indirect expense is supposed to cover all administrative cost/overhead of operating the program.

As we examined the projections of time spent by College Business Office and Academic support staff on IDOC work (employees not included in the contract) we project the indirect cost will barely cover these costs. Further, according to sources at Lake Land College (the current provider at these facilities) the Vienna facility has a recent history of extensive litigation from both employees and inmates. These observations suggest the indirect cost received is break-even, at best... or may cost the College money, at worst.

The Board of Trustees voted 6 yay 1 nay to not approve the IDOC contract.

Shawnee Community College utilizes the services of Ramona Munsell and Associates (RMA) for grant writing and technical assistance for the two Title IV TRiO funded grants: Educational Talent Search and Student Support Services. Both projects are funded on five-year grant cycles. Staff provide data to RMA who then take the lead on writing the grant and then if funded providing technical support throughout the five-year cycle. RMA receives percentage of the total amount of grant once funded annually.

Student Support Services, with the leadership and grant writing of RMA, was funded in 2020 and is in Year Two of the five-year cycle. Educational Talent Search was just refunded and is on Year One of the five-year cycle.

The payment for RMA can be paid annually or in four installments over the year. If paid in full, a discount is given.

The Board of Trustees unanimously approved the payment to Ramona Munsell & Associates.

Administrative/ Employee Information

The Board of Trustees unanimously approved the Ratification of Part-Time Employees.

The Board of Trustees unanimously approved the development of this Memorandum of Understanding between SCEA & SCC.

Legal Agreements

The Board approve the EEI Proposed Tax Settlement agreement and authorized Attorney Schneider to take the appropriate legal action (i.e. file a petition for declaratory judgment in the Circuit Court for Massac County) to fully execute this agreement on behalf of the College

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