A Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of McHenry County College was held on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 in the Board Room, Room A217, in Building A on the Campus. Chair Parrish called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. When Ms. Walsh called the roll, the following were present:

Mr. Memmen
Mr. Jenner
Ms. Kisser
Ms. Liddell
Mr. Smith
Ms. Walsh
Mr. Parrish

Ms. Miller was absent.

Dr. Smith was present.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

The agenda was accepted as presented. Mr. Jenner asked whether any discussion would follow agenda item #6, Closed Session; he was informed there would be no discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No one addressed the Board.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Smith stated that a vote on the white paper regarding baccalaureate degrees in community colleges will be taken at the ICCTA meeting on March 14. An explanatory session will be held March 13. Dr. Smith noted that Ms. Liddell, the ICCTA representative, is unable to attend; Ms. Walsh will attend the meeting and has a letter from the Board Chair, authorizing her to vote on behalf of the McHenry County College Board. Ms. Walsh has asked for direction on how she should vote on the Board’s behalf, on whether or not MCC is supportive of moving forward. If the white paper is approved, ICCTA and ICCB will work with the legislature to allow community colleges to offer bachelors’ degrees in applied technology and nursing.
Discussion followed. Ms. Kisser was not opposed to offering such degrees, but was not in favor of doing it any time soon. Dr. Smith clarified that if approved, it is not mandatory that all community colleges must offer these degrees. Mr. Parrish asked what majors the bachelor’s degrees would be offered in, and Dr. Smith responded the white paper focuses on technical areas such as Applied Technology, Nursing, Automotive Technology, Electronics, Hydraulics, and Manufacturing. She added that a need must be articulated in the district; the Board would have to discuss whether to offer such programs. Mr. Jenner stated that he agreed with Ms. Kisser; as long as offering the degrees is optional, he saw no harm. Mr. Smith added there is no down side and stated he was in favor of it. Also in favor were Mr. Parrish, Ms. Liddell, and Mr. Memmen. Ms. Walsh stated that she had her direction.

Further discussion followed about the timing of offering degrees; Dr. Smith stated it would take a couple of years, and noted that the Presidents Council began talking about it in February 2014. Ms. Kisser noted that if some industries are willing to fund the concept, it may increase some funding. Ms. Walsh thanked her fellow Trustees.

CLOSED SESSION

At 6:45 p.m., Mr. Memmen moved to go into Closed Session to discuss matters covered under the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 120/2(c), Exception #1, The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity, and Ms. Kisser seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The roll was called and all were in favor. The motion carried. Closed Session began at 6:50 p.m.

At 10:48 p.m., Mr. Memmen moved to come out of closed session and Ms. Kisser seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor; the motion carried. Closed Session ended at 10:49 p.m.
ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business, Chair Parrish adjourned the meeting at 10:49 p.m.

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Patricia Kriegermeier, Recording Secretary        Molly Walsh, Board Secretary