

**ILLINOIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
NO. 521
MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES RETREAT**

November 08, 2025

**Four Seasons St. Louis
Mississippi Room
999 N 2nd St.
St. Louis, MO 63102**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Manning called the Board of Trustees Retreat meeting to order at 8:33 AM in the Four Seasons St. Louis, Mississippi Room.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Tony Wielt, Secretary, called the roll.

Those present were:

Mr. Larry Manning
Mr. John D. Aiken
Mr. Joe Coy
Mr. Brian Dorris
Mr. Tony Wielt
Mr. Ron Daniels
Mr. Henry Meinert (Student Trustee)

Those absent were:

Dr. David Asbery

Others present were:

Mrs. Lori Ragland, Mr. Chad Copple, Mrs. Cathy DeJarnette, Mrs. Amy Epplin; Mr. John Gulley, Mr. Henry "Buster" Leeck, Mr. Donnie Millenbine, Mrs. Kim Wilkerson

A COPY OF ALL HANDOUTS AND SLIDES ARE AVAILABLE IN THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

REND LAKE COLLEGE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 08, 2025 BOARD RETREAT MEETING

**MOTION FOR
EXECUTIVE SESSION**

N/A

RESUME OPEN MEETING

N/A

INSTITUTIONAL UPDATES

**CTE AND STUDENT SUPPORT
& GRANTS**

Mrs. Kim Wilkerson, Vice President of CTE and Student Support, gave a presentation covering her areas of responsibility.

**ACADEMIC & STUDENT
SERVICES**

Mr. Henry "Buster" Leeck, Vice President of Academic & Student Services, highlighted for the board his areas of responsibility.

**FACILITIES MANAGEMENT
& CAMPUS OPERATIONS**

Mr. Donnie Millenbine, Dean of Facilities Management & Campus Operations, gave an update on several projects currently being worked on as well as upcoming projects.

**FINANCIALS & BUSINESS
OFFICE**

Mr. John Gulley, Vice President of Finance & Auxiliary Services, gave an update on the college's financial standing and overviewed other areas of his responsibility.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Mrs. Cathy DeJarnette, Executive Director of Administrative Services, gave an update on Human Resources, the RLC Foundation, and Event Scheduling.

INSTITUTIONAL UPDATES

INSITUTIONAL RESEARCH

Mrs. Amy Epplin, Dean of Institutional Research, updated the board on her areas of responsibility.

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INSTITUTIONAL OUTREACH

Mr. Chad Copple, Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness, provided an update on his areas of responsibility. Chad Copple discussed the Higher Learning Commission's revised Criteria for Accreditation, which had become effective Sept. 1, 2025. He noted that considering those changes and the heightened emphasis on mission, a small group was assembled to review RLC's existing mission documents and suggest revisions to ensure we maintain alignment with the revised criteria. The group's suggested revisions were presented to the board. Chad noted that the revised mission is also what the college uses to establish its main strategic focuses as part of the strategic planning process. He explained that the proposed mission revisions had recently been presented to President's Cabinet, which then reviewed the existing strategic focuses and suggested revisions to those as well. These also were presented to the board.

PRESIDENT'S UPDATES

President Lori Ragland provided a comprehensive overview of salaries at Illinois Public Community Colleges across the state, including the ICCB FY2025 salary report, along with additional information she had collected from other local community colleges. She also shared Rend Lake College's Workforce Training Vision and explained what micro-credentials are and are not. Additionally, she shared that Rend Lake College had once again been named as one of the Top 200 U.S. Community Colleges and we would be applying for the 2027 Aspen Price for Community College Excellence.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, Mr. Coy made a motion at 2:40 PM to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Daniels. All trustees present voiced aye in favor of adjourning.

Chairman

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Secretary