

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

November 18, 2025

**Rend Lake College –Event Center
468 N Ken Gray Parkway
Ina, IL 62846**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman, Larry Manning, called the regular Board of Trustees meeting to order at 6:29pm in the Rend Lake College Event Center.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Tony Wielt, Secretary, called the roll.

Those present were:

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

Those absent were:

N/A

Others present were:

Mrs. Lori Ragland, Dr. Chad Copple, Mr. Henry “Buster” Leeck, Mr. John Gulley, Mrs. Kim Wilkerson, Mrs. Cathy DeJarnette, Mr. Donnie Millenbine, Mrs. Andrea Banach, Mr. Greg Hollmann, Mrs. Jena Jensik, Mr. Kent McKown, Mr. Brett Crocker, Mrs. Mary Huggins, Mr. Joe Ervin, Mr. Corey Phillips, Mrs. Amy Newell, Mrs. Vicke Schulte

**TRUTH IN TAXATION
HEARING**

Mr. John Gulley stated that the purpose of this public hearing is to comply with the Illinois Truth in Taxation Law. A Truth in Taxation notice was posted on October 15, 2025 on a page accessible through a direct link from Rend Lake College’s homepage and

has been accessible for over 30 consecutive days. Truth in taxation notices were published in the manner described in the Truth in Taxation law in the Washington County News, Marion Republican, Mt. Vernon Sentinel, Wayne County Press, McLeansboro Gazette, Franklin County Gazette, Weekly-Press, and Carmi Hometown Register, being newspapers of general circulation published in each county in which any part of the district is located.

Mr. Gulley stated that this increase is necessary for the district's tax rate to keep pace with recent increases in the district's equalized assessed value. Rend Lake College is required by the Illinois Community College Board to levy no less than 95% of our maximum tax rate in order to remain eligible for equalization funding. No one contacted Mr. Gulley prior to the meeting desiring to appear and present testimony. Mr. Gulley opened the floor for public comment. No one came forward to speak.

With no public comments, Chairman Larry Manning asked for a motion to close the public hearing; Mr. Coy motioned; seconded by Mr. Dorris. On a roll call vote, all voted yes. Student Trustee voted yes.

GENERAL INFORMATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Wednesday-Thursday, November 19 & 20, 2025
11am-1pm both days
Thanksgiving Meal for Students, Staff, and Faculty
PDA – Student Center
2. Monday, December 1, 2025; 6:30pm-9pm
Winter Concert
Theater
3. Thursday, December 4, 2025; 6pm-9pm
RLC Foundation 46th Annual Dinner
Event Center
4. Tuesday, December 9, 2025; 6:30pm
RLC Board of Trustees Meeting
Event Center

5. Saturday-Thursday, December 6-11, 2025
Fall 2025 Semester Exams
All Campuses
6. Friday, December 12, 2025; 11am-1pm
RLC Christmas Party (office closed during party)
Event Center
7. Monday, January 12, 2026
First Day of Spring 2026 Classes
All Campuses
8. Thursday, February 5, 2026; 12pm
RLC Foundation Board of Director's Meeting
Student Center – PDA
9. Tuesday, February 10, 2026; 3pm-4:30pm
RLC Foundation High Tea
Event Center

MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Manning asked for a motion to move into Executive Session pursuant to Section 2(c)(1)(9)(11)(21). Mr. Meinert made a motion; seconded by Mr. Daniels. On a roll call vote, all voted yes. Student Trustee voted yes. The Board went into executive session at 6:35 PM.

RESUME OPEN MEETING

Chairman Manning asked for a motion to reopen the public meeting; Mr. Dorris motioned; seconded by Mr. Meinert. On a roll call vote, all voted yes. Student Trustee voted yes. At 7:12 PM, Chairman Manning reconvened the open session of tonight's meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Ragland recommended approving the Consent Agenda, which included the following items:

1. October 14, 2025 Executive Session*;
2. October 14, 2025 Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes*;
3. November 08, 2025 Annual Board Retreat Meeting with edit to remove Jeff Jones from attendance*;
4. Approval of Revisions to Rend Lake College *Policy* 3.1110 – Computation of Hourly Rate of Pay for Part – Time Employees (Second Reading)*;

5. Approval of Revisions to Rend Lake College *Policy*
5.1215 – Travel Reimbursement (Second
Reading)*;

Mr. Coy made a motion to approve the Consent
Agenda as recommend; seconded by Mr. Aiken.
On a roll call vote, all present voted yes. Student
Trustee voted yes. Those items marked with an
asterisk (*) are a part of these minutes.

NEW BUSINESS

REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF
REVISED COLLEGE
MISSION STATEMENT
AND MISSION DOCCUMENT

Mrs. Ragland recommended to review and accept the
revised college mission Statement and mission
document, as provided.

As recommended, Mr. Meinert made a motion to
review and accept the revised college mission
Statement and mission document, as provided. This
motion was seconded by Mr. Dorris. On a roll call
vote, all voted yes. Student Trustee voted yes.

RATIFY AWARD
OF STUDENT CENTER
EFFICEINCY PROJECT

Mrs. Ragland recommended to ratify the award for the
Student Center efficiency project for the base bid
amount of \$318,400.

As recommended, Mr.Coy made a motion to ratify the
award for the Student Center efficiency project for the
base bid amount of \$318,400. This motion was
seconded by Mr. Meinert. On a roll call vote, all voted
yes except Mr. Dorris who abstained. Student Trustee
voted yes.

RESOLUTION TO
ADOPT 2025 TAX
LEVY (PAYABLE 2026)

Mrs. Ragland recommended to adopt the 2025 Tax
Levy (Payable 2026). The proposed tax levy will be
filed in accord with the Truth in Taxation compliance
laws.

As recommended, Mr. Aiken made a motion to adopt the 2025 Tax Levy (Payable 2026). The proposed tax levy will be filed in accord with the Truth in Taxation compliance laws. This motion was seconded by Mr. Meinert. On a roll call vote, all voted yes. Student Trustee voted yes.

APPROVAL OF
2026-2027, 2027-2028,
2028-2029 ACADEMIC
CALANDERS

Mrs. Ragland recommended to approve the 2026-2027, 2027-2028 and 2028-2029 Academic Calendars as presented, with edits to page 34, 2027 summer semester, to observe Juneteenth on Thursday June 17, 2027.

As recommended, Mr. Dorris made a motion to approve the 2026-2027, 2027-2028 and 2028-2029 Academic Calendars as presented, with edits to page 34, 2027 summer semester, to observe Juneteenth on Thursday June 17, 2027. This motion was seconded by Mr. Meinert. On a roll call vote, all voted yes. Student Trustee voted yes.

PERSONNEL
RETIREMENT RESIGNATION
PROFESSOR -
ENGLISH LITERATURE

Mrs. Ragland recommended to ratify with regret the acceptance of the retirement resignation of Ms. Peggy Davis, English Literature Professor, effective December 31, 2025.

As recommended, Mr. Meinert made a motion to ratify with regret the acceptance of the retirement resignation of Ms. Peggy Davis, English Literature Professor, effective December 31, 2025. This motion was seconded by Mr. Aiken. On a roll call vote, all voted yes. Student Trustee voted yes.

RATIFY THE
APPOINTMENT OF
RETENTION AND
CAREER SERVICES

SPECIALIST

Mrs. Ragland recommended to ratify the appointment of Ms. Misty Bradley as Retention and Career Services Specialist on a full-time, 50-week, non-tenure track contract at an annual salary of \$37,000 prorated for the remainder of the fiscal year, effective November 3, 2025.

As recommended, Mr. Dorris made a motion to ratify the appointment of Ms. Misty Bradley as Retention and Career Services Specialist on a full-time, 50-week, non-tenure track contract at an annual salary of \$37,000 prorated for the remainder of the fiscal year, effective November 3, 2025. This motion was seconded by Mr. Wielt. On a roll call vote, all voted yes. Student Trustee voted yes.

RATIFY THE APPOINTMENT OF COMPETENCY BASED EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Mrs. Ragland recommended to ratify the appointment of Mr. Matt Jackson as Competency-Based Education (CBE) Director on a full-time, 50-week, non-tenure track contract at an annual salary of \$65,000 prorated for the remainder of the fiscal year, effective November 1, 2025.

As recommended, Dr. Asbery made a motion to ratify the appointment of Mr. Matt Jackson as Competency-Based Education (CBE) Director on a full-time, 50-week, non-tenure track contract at an annual salary of \$65,000 prorated for the remainder of the fiscal year, effective November 1, 2025. This motion was seconded by Mr. Aiken. On a roll call vote, all voted yes. Student Trustee voted yes.

APPOINTMENT OF COORDINATOR RECREATIONAL CENTER WITH ASSISTANT MEN'S BASKETBALL COACHING AND REVISIONS TO JOB DESCRIPTION

(TO BE PROVIDED)

Mrs. Ragland recommended to appoint Mr. Nicholas “Nick” Boone as Coordinator of the Recreational Center with Assistant Men’s Basketball Coaching on a full-time, 50-week, non-tenure track contract at an annual salary of \$43,000 prorated for the remainder of the fiscal year and revise job description, effective November 19, 2025.

As recommended, Mr. Meinert made a motion to appoint Mr. Nicholas “Nick” Boone as Coordinator of the Recreational Center with Assistant Men’s Basketball Coaching on a full-time, 50-week, non-tenure track contract at an annual salary of \$43,000 prorated for the remainder of the fiscal year and revise job description, effective November 19, 2025. This motion was seconded by Mr. Wielt. On a roll call vote, all voted yes. Student Trustee voted yes.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

RATIFICATION OF THE
PAYMENT OF COLLEGE
EXPENSES INCLUDING
TRAVEL EXPENSE
REIMBURSEMENTS

Mrs. Ragland recommended to ratify the payment of college expenses.

As recommended, Dr. Asbery made a motion to ratify the payment of college expenses. This motion was seconded by Mr. Meinert. On a roll call vote, all voted yes. Student Trustee voted yes.

REPORTS

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Academic Council President, Mr. Joe Ervin stated there were no updated courses and discussed the future of their committees and subcommittees.

ICCTA REPRESENTATIVE

No Report

RLC FOUNDATION

Executive Director of Administrative Services, Mrs. Cathy DeJarnette, announced the Annual Foundation Dinner will be December 4th. The Board of Directors voted via email to transfer an asset (the stand alone athletic wall) to the college that was built in 2007. Its removal was necessary with the expansion of the gymnasium and Banterra Complex. The pieces from

the wall will be included within the gymnasium. A Ribbon Cutting and Open House of the facility will be held in February.

ACCREDITATION

No Report

OBSOLETE EQUIPMENT

Dean of Facilities and Campus Operations, Mr. Donnie Millenbine stated they have sold \$431 worth of obsolete equipment on govdeals.com with more items to be listed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

President Lori Ragland thanked the trustees for attending the Board of Trustees retreat and thanked Mrs. Mary Huggins for organizing the retreat. President Ragland informed the group she will be taking a group from RLC to an ICCCA conference to attend meetings with colleagues.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, at 7:30pm all Trustees present voted aye in favor of adjourning.

The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Daniels and seconded by Mr. Meinert

Chairman

Secretary