



Item #F-2
August 16, 2022

MINUTES – BOARD MEETING
June 29, 2022

Submitted for: Action.

Summary: Minutes of the June 29, 2022, meeting of the Illinois Board of Higher Education held via telephone and video conference as permitted by Public Act 101-0640 enacted June 12, 2020.

Action Requested: That the Illinois Board of Higher Education approve the minutes of the June 29, 2022, Board meeting.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

MINUTES – BOARD MEETING
June 29, 2022

A meeting of the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) was called to order at 1:00 p.m. via telephone and video conference as permitted by Public Act 101-0640 enacted June 12, 2020. Chair John Atkinson determined that a fully in-person meeting is not practical nor prudent due to the disaster.

The following Board members were present: John Atkinson, Chair, Jennifer Delaney, Andrea Evans, Jennifer Garrison, Veronica Herrero, Kenneth Shaw, Samiha Syed, and Eric Zarnikow.

The following Board members were absent: Cody Castle, Derek Douglas, Teresa Garate, Veronica Gloria, and Clarence Wyatt.

Others present: Ms. Ginger Ostro, Illinois Board of Higher Education; Dr. Gloria Gibson, Northeastern Illinois University; Dr. Austin Lane, Southern Illinois University; Dr. Cheryl Green, Governors State University; Dr. Terri Kinzy, Illinois State University; Dr. Dan Mahony, Southern Illinois University; Dr. Brian Durham, Illinois Community College Board; Mr. Dominic Dorsey, Disabilities Advisory Committee; Mr. Jeremy Oberfeld, Proprietary Advisory Committee; Dr. Shawn Schumacher, Faculty Advisory Council; Mr. Dave Tretter, Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities; Dr. Stephanie Bernoteit, Illinois Board of Higher Education; Dr. Eric Lichtenberger, Illinois Board of Higher Education; Mr. Joe Sanders, Illinois Board of Higher Education; Dr. Arthur Sutton, Illinois Board of Higher Education; and Ms. Jaimee Ray, Illinois Board of Higher Education.

The meeting was conducted by video conference as allowed by Public Act 101-0640 and roll call votes were recorded for each matter acted upon. The audio of the meeting was recorded and may be requested on the IBHE website.

A. Call to Order/Roll Call

- **Call Meeting to Order, John Atkinson**

Chair John Atkinson called the meeting to order. Legal Counsel Joe Sanders took roll call. A quorum was present.

- **Welcome and Remarks by Chair John Atkinson**

Chair John Atkinson stated that the Governor signed an historic budget which increased funding to higher education for the fourth straight year. The Monetary Award Program (MAP) is now at an all-time high of \$601 million and Chair Atkinson acknowledged the work of Board Member Eric Zarnikow of the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) in championing MAP as another tool that will help close equity gaps in Illinois. He added that a five percent increase in appropriation for the public universities and community colleges demonstrates that the Governor

and leadership of the State share a commitment in the value of higher education to create *A Thriving Illinois*.

Chair Atkinson remarked that in June the Governor signed IBHE's omnibus bill into law. This incorporates changes to implement *A Thriving Illinois*. He added that Jaimee Ray, our legislative liaison, will provide more details on this legislation and an update on other important higher education legislation that was enacted this year.

He reported on the work of the Commission on Equitable Public University Funding. Chair Atkinson serves as one of the four appointed co-chairs along with Deputy Governor for Education Martin Torres, Senate Majority Leader Kimberly Lightford, and Representative Carol Ammons.

Chair Atkinson reported that Legal Counsel Joe Sanders has accepted a position with the federal government and thanked him for his work here at IBHE.

Whereupon Board Member Pranav Kothari entered the meeting.

- **Remarks, Ginger Ostro, Executive Director**

Executive Director Ginger Ostro also thanked Mr. Sanders for his expertise and wished him luck in his new endeavor. She welcomed new staff members, Ashley Musser Lewis, Melissa Van, and Gloria Gibson.

Ms. Ostro asked Ms. Jaimee Ray to share more on the omnibus bill and to highlight other legislation.

Ms. Ray stated that the IBHE omnibus bill was signed into law. She then highlighted student protection measures included in the bill. The first one requires schools that are no longer receiving federal funds under the advance payment method to disclose this to current and prospective students and parents. She explained that this means they must make disbursements to students from their own institutional funds and reimbursed payment requests must be submitted for those funds to the U.S. Department of Education. It is a sign of potential institutional fiscal risks and making this transparent to students and potential students is important. The bill also allows for a five-year operating permit for private business and vocational schools for those with accreditation by a body recognized by Council for Higher Education Accreditation. Ms. Ray stated that the last component of the bill is to permit the Board to consider economic need in reviewing private university programs for approval. This reflects a strategy within the growth goal of the strategic plan to conduct annual supply and demand analysis to identify areas of need. This will ensure that the higher education system is working in concert efficiently and aligned with the state's economic development goals. She noted that the public universities already need to meet this threshold.

Ms. Ray reported that a different bill, Public Act 102-1045, requires a public institution of higher education to designate a benefits navigator who has a detailed understanding of eligibility requirements for public benefits. She noted that it will help students know what resources and supports are available to them in both the school and their community. This bill takes effect January 2023.

Ms. Ray discussed Public Act 102-1047 which is known as the children's saving program. This was established in 2019 to start each baby born or adopted in Illinois with a \$50 college savings deposit in the Treasurer's 529 fund.

Ms. Ray stated that the last bill she wanted to highlight is Public Act 102-998 which prohibits institutions of higher education from withholding official or unofficial transcripts based on a debt owed to the institution. This was a recommendation under sustainability within the strategic plan.

B. Resolution and Recognition – Action Item

1. Consideration and Approval of Resolution Honoring Board Member Max Coffey

Chair Atkinson read a Resolution honoring Board Member Max Coffey.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Kenneth Shaw and seconded by Mr. Eric Zarnikowi, unanimously approved the Resolution honoring Board Member Max Coffey. The roll call vote was:

Yeas: Atkinson, Delaney, Evans, Garrison, Herrero, Kothari, Shaw, Syed, Zarnikow

Nays: none

C. Reports and Updates

- **Advisory Committee Report – Disability Advisory Committee (Mr. Dominic Dorsey)**

Mr. Dominic Dorsey provided a brief overview of the work of the Disability Advisory Committee (DAC). He stated they have contributed to the Board strategic plan initiatives based on issues of committee members identified in the categories of affordability, accessibility, equity and attainment for disability service providers and students at Illinois college and universities.

He shared some of their primary insights including updated disability codes and diagnostic data collection; increasing the base number of staff in offices that serve students with disabilities; a policy to address digital accessibility on college campuses; an online repository for updates from the committee which can be accessed by disability services practitioners at other colleges and universities in the state; and official materials for the purpose of issuing announcements on updated best practices, resolutions, and statements.

- **Advisory Committee Report – Faculty Advisory Council (FAC) Equity Working Group (Dr. Julie Clemens, Illinois Central College and Dr. Paul Bialek, Trinity International University)**

Dr. Julie Clemens stated that their paper addresses three key areas of opportunity focusing on racial equity: diverse faculty hiring, recruitment, and retention; faculty development; and student support and resources. Dr. Paul Bialek said that a key factor in the effort to increase academic success for Black and LatinX students is having Black and LatinX faculty. He shared their ideas to address this issue. They conducted a survey to all higher education institutions asking how they use faculty evaluations, and they were surprised how many used those without any concern of bias.

Dr. Clemens discussed faculty development. She expressed that in order to advance equity across entire institutions, training programs must be transferable and sustainable into the classroom

and supported through funding and integration into operational institutional plans. She added that the need for student groups, the concept of student, friendly colleges, and a need for race and ethnic studies are part of their working paper.

She spoke about student-friendly colleges and how we can make changes to make our colleges student-ready rather than the student college-ready. She added that having goals and intended outcomes with accountability of these goals will attain success.

Dr. Clemens stated that the success of any individual student depends on the nature and quality of the full range interactions the student has across an institution when the faculty and staff are more aware of the diverse range of circumstances. She noted that they will be better prepared to maximize the likelihood of success for all students.

D. Presentation

- **Fiscal Year 2023 Higher Education Budget Overview (Ms. Ginger Ostro)**

Ms. Ginger Ostro stated that the Fiscal Year 2023 budget is historic as it is the largest increase in over 20 years. This includes a \$122 million increase in the Monetary Award Program bringing the total to \$601 million. This is a significant step towards the Board's goal. Ms. Ostro shared that the support we have received for implementing *A Thriving Illinois* is unprecedented.

Ms. Ostro highlighted some of the grant programs that will be voted on today. Beginning with equity to ensure that students have the support they need to be successful, she discussed the Illinois Tutoring Initiative and the Homelessness grant. Ms. Ostro spoke about having diverse talent in higher education to ensure equitable student outcomes and said there will be an increase of \$525,000 for a total of \$2 million for the Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois program. This will allow more awards for more students and an increase in the award amount.

Ms. Ostro discussed the growth goal and the focus on supporting programs that meet the state's talent and economic needs. The Illinois Behavioral Health Workforce Education Center is a new joint initiative of the Department of Human Services (DHS) and the IBHE with funds being provided to us by the division of mental health within DHS. The Southern Illinois University School of Medicine and the University of Illinois Chicago will serve as the backbone for this new consortium. In addition, IBHE received increases to two long-standing programs, the nursing school grant and the nurse educator grant. Ms. Ostro discussed the Creating Pathways and Access for Student Success grant and the Illinois Cooperative Work Study program.

Ms. Ostro stated the next component of the strategic plan is to keep Illinois high school graduates in Illinois for college. The Common Application will make applying to Illinois public universities easier. Additionally, with this data, IBHE will be able to follow students from application through completion.

She reported on the incredible work to build the Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity. It brings together all public institutions and private institutions that wish to participate in an effort to smooth the path to upskilling for members of the early childhood workforce. This is being supported by federal funds through DHS and includes grants to institutions for student support, such as mentors, coaches and tutors.

Ms. Ostro discussed the teacher pipeline and the Grow Your Own grant. She said the initiative focuses on increasing the pipeline for diverse teachers and hard to staff schools with large populations of low-income students by recruiting parents and community leaders to become teachers. In addition to the state funding, IBHE received approximately \$1 million in federal funds for Grow Your Own that will be used to set up a program to recruit and support historically disadvantaged males to become teachers.

Ms. Ostro said IBHE is thrilled with the 2023 budget and the investments in achieving the goals of *A Thriving Illinois*. She added that she is grateful for the agency partnerships in projects that jointly advance the higher education strategic agenda along with the goals. She thanked the Board for their leadership in championing the budget and the strategies and programs that will help the higher education system achieve equity, sustainability, and growth.

E. Public Comment

Mr. Dave Tretter from the Federation of Illinois Independent Colleges and Universities spoke regarding the Capital Investment Program for Independent Colleges. He stated that this grant is part of the Rebuild Illinois capital program and will bring a great deal in economic activity. He said this is important to the communities where these institutions are located but mostly important to the students attending those institutions. Mr. Tretter thanked Ms. Ostro, Mr. Sanders and the IBHE staff for the work on this grant and looks forward to working with the Board as this grant goes forward.

F. Action Items

1. Consideration and Approval of Fiscal Year 2023 Grant Allocations

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Mr. Pranav Kothari and seconded by Ms. Veronica Herrero hereby authorizes the Executive Director to implement the fiscal year 2023 budget as specified in this Board item. The roll call vote was:

Yeas: Atkinson, Delaney, Evans, Garrison, Herrero, Kothari, Shaw, Syed, Zarnikow

Nays: none

The Board additionally authorizes the Executive Director to:

- 1. Enter into intergovernmental and grant agreements necessary to facilitate implementation of the fiscal year 2023 budget;*
- 2. Continue and amend fiscal year 2022 intergovernmental agreements, as necessary, to execute the fiscal year 2023 budget;*
- 3. Award the fiscal year 2023 grants as outlined in this Board item; and*
- 4. Issue requests for proposals and enter into agreements stemming from those proposals as outlined in this Board item.*

2. Consideration and Approval of Regulations – Capital Investment Grant Program for Independent Colleges

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Mr. Eric Zarnikow and seconded by Dr. Andrea Evans hereby authorizes the Executive Director to engage in rulemaking pursuant to the Private Colleges and Universities Capital Distribution Formula Act. 30 ILCS 769/25-7. The Executive Director is authorized 1) to make appropriate changes recommended by JCAR staff in their pre-draft technical review; 2) to publish proposed rules for the Capital Investment Grant Program for

Independent Colleges, attached to this Item as Exhibit A, in the Illinois Register for a 45-day first notice period, where interested persons or agencies may provide comments; and 3) to submit the proposed rules to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR) for review. 2 Ill. Admin. Code 5050.100. The roll call vote was:

Yeas: Atkinson, Delaney, Evans, Garrison, Herrero, Kothari, Shaw, Syed, Zarnikow

Nays: none

Consideration and Approval of New Units of Instruction at Public Community Colleges (Dr. Stephanie Bernoteit)

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Jennifer Delaney and seconded by Mr. Eric Zarnikow hereby grants authority to the Black Hawk College to offer the Associate of Applied Science in Occupational Therapy Assistant subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted. The roll call vote was:

Yeas: Atkinson, Delaney, Evans, Garrison, Herrero, Kothari, Shaw, Syed, Zarnikow

Nays: none

And, hereby grants authority to the Illinois Valley Community College to offer the Associate of Applied Science in Dental Hygiene subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

And, hereby grants authority to the Lincoln Land Community College to offer the Associate of Applied Science in Diagnostic Medical Sonography subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

And, hereby grants authority to the Southwestern Illinois College to offer the Associate of Applied Science in Agriculture Business Management subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

3. Consideration and Approval of New Operating and/or Degree Granting Authority for Independent Institutions (Dr. Stephanie Bernoteit)

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Mr. Pranav Kothari and seconded by Dr. Kenneth Shaw hereby grants to Darul Qasim College authorization to Operate in the West Suburban Region subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted. The roll call vote was:

Yeas: Atkinson, Delaney, Evans, Garrison, Herrero, Kothari, Shaw, Syed, Zarnikow

Nays: none

4. Consideration and Approval of New Units of Instruction, Public Service, and Research at Public Universities (Dr. Stephanie Bernoteit)

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Ms. Veronica Herrero and seconded by Dr. Jennifer Garrison hereby grants to Southern Illinois University Edwardsville authorization to

grant the Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity Engineering in the Southwestern Region, subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted. The roll call vote was:
Yeas: Atkinson, Delaney, Evans, Garrison, Herrero, Kothari, Shaw, Syed, Zarnikow
Nays: none

And, hereby grants to University of Illinois Chicago authorization to grant the Master of Physiology for Therapeutic Development in the Chicago Region, subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

And, hereby grants to University of Illinois Chicago authorization to grant the Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis, Disability and Diversity in Urban Society in the Chicago Region, subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

And, hereby grants to University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign authorization to grant the Bachelor of Science in Neural Engineering in the Prairie Region, subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

G. Consent Agenda Action Items

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Ms. Veronica Herrero and seconded by Dr. Andrea Evans unanimously approved Items No G-1 and G-2. The roll call vote was:
Yeas: Atkinson, Delaney, Evans, Garrison, Herrero, Kothari, Shaw, Syed, Zarnikow
Nays: none

1. Consideration and Approval of Non-Instructional Capital Projects for Fiscal Year 2023 – Illinois State University

The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby approves the Public University Non-Instructional Capital Projects included in this item.

2. Consideration and Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – March 15, 2022

The Illinois Board of Higher Education unanimously approved the Minutes of the Board Meeting of March 15, 2022.

H. Executive Session

- **Executive Session for the Purpose of Discussing Matters Pursuant to 2(c)(21) of the Open Meetings Act**

Chair Atkinson asked that the Board go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing issues pursuant to 2(c)(21) of the Open Meetings Act.

Ms. Veronica Herrero made the motion to move the Illinois Board of Higher Education into executive session. Dr. Jennifer Garrison seconded the motion. The roll call vote was:
Yeas: Atkinson, Delaney, Evans, Garrison, Herrero, Kothari, Shaw, Syed, Zarnikow

Nays: none

The Board moved into executive session at 2:40 p.m.

Reconvene in Open Session at 2:50 p.m.

J. Action Item

1. Consideration and Approval of Semi-Annual Review of Minutes of All Closed Meetings

On motion by Dr. Andrea Evans and seconded by Dr. Kenneth Shaw Herrero resolved that the Illinois Board of Higher Education finds that (a) the need for confidentiality still exists for the minutes of the closed session of the Board Meeting held on January 13, 2021, and that such minutes remain confidential and (b) approved the December 2021 executive session minutes, and that such minutes can be made public. The roll call vote was:

Yeas: Atkinson, Delaney, Evans, Garrison, Herrero, Kothari, Shaw, Syed, Zarnikow

Nays: none

J. Other Business

The next Board meeting will be held Tuesday, August 16, 2022. Additional details about the meeting location and agenda will be posted on the IBHE website.

J. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion made by Ms. Veronica Herrero and seconded by Mr. Pranav Kothari unanimously voted the meeting adjourned at approximately 3:00 p.m. The roll call vote was:

Yeas: Atkinson, Delaney, Evans, Garrison, Herrero, Kothari, Shaw, Syed, Zarnikow

Nays: none

Respectfully submitted by Tracy Rembusch, Secretary to the Board.