

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 21, 2009**

**Board of Trustees Meeting**

The Board of Trustees of Illinois Eastern Community Colleges District No. 529 reorganized for the next two years, at the regular meeting, Tuesday, April 21, at Wabash Valley College, Mt. Carmel.

Following adoption of a resolution certifying the election returns of April 7, the oath of office was administered to trustees G. Andrew Fischer, Mt. Carmel; Marilyn J. Wolfe, Albion; and Michael K. Correll, Robinson, and they were seated for new six year terms, expiring in 2015.

The oath of office was also administered to Carter Wilkinson, who was seated for a one year term as student member of the Board of Trustees. A student at Wabash Valley College, he succeeds Terra Ochs.

A resolution was adopted expressing appreciation and commendation to Larry Rost, Fairfield, for his service as a member of the Board of Trustees from 2001 to 2009. He was appointed as a trustee in 2001 to fill a vacancy and was later elected to a full term.

G. Andrew Fischer was re-elected Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Marilyn Wolfe was re-elected Vice-Chairman, and Walter Koertge was re-elected Secretary Pro Tempore.

Harry Hillis was re-appointed Board Secretary and District Ethics Officer.

All of the officers were elected unanimously.

A resolution was adopted listing the dates, times and locations of regular monthly meetings for calendar year 2009. The meetings will continue to be held on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m., except for the December meeting, which will be held on the second Tuesday. Meeting location will rotate between the four colleges, as follows:

Tuesday, May 19, 2009, 7 p.m., Frontier Community College

Tuesday, June 16, 2009, 7 p.m., Lincoln Trail College

Tuesday, July 21, 2009, 7 p.m., Olney Central College

Tuesday, August 18, 2009, 7 p.m., Wabash Valley College

Tuesday, September 15, 2009, 7 p.m., Frontier Community College

Tuesday, October 20, 2009, 7 p.m., Lincoln Trail College

Tuesday, November 17, 2009, 7 p.m. Olney Central College

Tuesday, December 8, 2009, 7 p.m. Wabash Valley College

The IECC Tuition Waiver Policy was revised to include a tuition waiver for workers who have lost their jobs due to economic conditions.

This tuition waiver would be a pilot program for the upcoming 2009-2010 academic year. To qualify, the student would have to be a resident, meet all requirements for admission and enrollment, have

worked full-time at least two of the last three years, be receiving unemployment benefits or exhausted unemployment benefits within the last twelve months, and enroll for at least six semester hours. The waiver is for tuition only and is offered only if financial aid sources do not cover tuition costs.

The IECC Vacation Leave Policy was also revised. Full-time clerical, technical and maintenance employees (hourly) receive ten vacation days after completing one year of employment. After seven years of employment with the District, these employees are entitled to an additional five vacation days for a total of fifteen vacation days per year. Under current policy, these hourly employees are allowed to accumulate up to twenty vacation days. Under the revised policy, these hourly employees would be able to accumulate twenty five vacation days.

Allocation of activity fees for LTC, OCC and WVC were approved for the 2009-2010 academic year. There are no changes from this past year's fee allocations.

The bid schedule for the 2009-2010 fiscal year was approved. The bid schedule allows the District to plan, consolidate, and effectively manage the purchase of large dollar items. Rather than purchasing these items intermittently throughout the year, better pricing is received if the District groups items together and purchases them at designated times.

A combined and revised Nursing Student Handbook was approved for the IECC Nursing Program. The District operates a Practical Nursing Certificate (PN) and an Associate Degree Nursing Program (ADN). Currently, Handbooks have been approved by the Board for each of these programs. Tuesday's action combines these two programs into one handbook that will meet the requirements for both curricula and add a number of changes.

The District currently uses Oracle as the data base for the Banner system. Oracle is owned by SUNGARD Higher Education (SGHE) which is offering to the District a multi-year extension option for the existing contract. The current fee, without the renewal option, will be \$21,003. The trustees approved a motion to accept a six year extension, under which annual fees will be reduced to \$20,204 and future increases would be capped at a 6% annual increase. Future fees will be \$21,454, \$22,741, \$24,106, \$25,552, and \$27,085. The six year extension option provides a savings to the District of \$20,876.

An increase in building valuation insurance coverage was approved. The District, in recent years, had to begin depreciating all of its real estate holdings based upon new Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) rules. This depreciation requirement led to the realization that the District needed to prepare an updated valuation of District holdings to guarantee that District building valuations were based upon current replacement costs for insurance purposes.

The District's insurance carrier was contacted and the carrier hired American Appraisal, at no cost to the District, to appraise all IECC buildings valued at \$1 million or more. The report indicated that the value of the buildings had increased by an average of 56% since the time of initial construction.

American Appraisal did not make an appraisal of buildings having an initial construction value of less than \$1 million.

To get an appraised value for all of the buildings owned by the District, both those that had a value in excess of \$1 million at time of construction and those that had a value of less than \$1 million at the time of construction, the average increase of 56% was applied to all buildings the District owns to come up with an updated replacement cost. Currently, the value of all IECC buildings is stated to be \$47,777,412 on insurance coverage. An updated appraisal, with an insured value at 90% replacement cost would increase the valuation for all buildings to \$74,275,783. In the event of a loss, these new values more accurately reflect replacement cost and should prevent the District from being underinsured. The current annual insurance premium is \$78,273. To insure at the increased level, the District premium will be \$99,160, an increase of \$20,887.

A new agreement was approved between Wabash Valley College and the Wabash Valley YMCA for joint operation of the pool on the WVC campus. The college and YMCA have jointly operated the pool since the early 1980s. Under the new agreement, the parties agree that the college will operate and maintain the pool and that YMCA members will have access to the pool and the fitness center. For this benefit to its members, the YMCA will pay the college \$1,000 a month. The agreement will become effective April 22, 2009 and terminate June 30, 2010 and will then be renewed annually.

The District has been working with Marathon Oil Company and the LTC Foundation to establish a wetlands area on the Lincoln Trail College campus. When the initial conveyance was sought, a question arose concerning the ownership of the land involved. These questions have been resolved and the trustees approved a deed that will convey approximately 27.65 acres of land on the LTC campus to the LTC Foundation.

A Petition for Annexation of Lincoln Trail College to the City of Robinson was approved. The major incentive for annexation for the District is the City's agreement to maintain the District's existing lift station. When the College was built, a lift station was installed and has been under the operation and maintenance of the College District since that time. The City of Robinson wants to take over the operation and maintenance of that lift station and to do so requires annexation of the College to the City. This annexation will cause no additional costs to the District, but will allow the City of Robinson to operate their disposal system in a more efficient manner. To annex to the City, the College must be contiguous to the City and the College is not contiguous. However, both Lincoln Trail College Foundation and the Lincoln Trail College Booster Club have filed petitions for annexation to the City. It is the District's understanding that the City wishes to accept these two petitions which would then make the College property contiguous to the City and would allow the IECC petition to be accepted by the City of Robinson.

The trustees accepted a National League of Nursing Accrediting Commission Report, granting IECC's Associate Degree Nursing Program continuing accreditation until the Fall of 2016. The report states that NLNAC's deliberations centered on the District's Self-Study Report, the College Catalog, the Site Visitor's Report, and the recommendation for accreditation proposed by the Program Evaluators and the Evaluation Review Panel. The NLNAC recognized that the District's Nursing Program was measured against the highest national standards in nursing education and it passed successfully.

The bid of Newton Tractor Sales, Newton, Illinois, \$9,950, was accepted for a new Land Pride AFM4216 mower for Lincoln Trail College.

The bid of Ford Square, Mt. Vernon, Illinois, \$17,728.35, was accepted for a new three-quarter ton Ford F250 pickup truck. The truck will be used to pull the trailer that was purchased by the Community Based Job Training grant, to haul the training panels to the mine sites.

Rodney Raney was employed as Dean of Instruction at Olney Central College.

George Hess was employed as Program Director, Emergency Preparedness and Industrial Quality Management at Frontier Community College.

The employment status of Kimberly Venters was changed from Clerk/Receptionist to Administrative Assistant at Frontier Community College.

Stephanie Durham was employed as temporary, full-time contractual Office Assistant at Wabash Valley College.

Retirement plans were announced for one administrator and two faculty members.

Nancy Buttry will retire January 1, 2010, as Associate Dean of Nursing and Allied Health at Olney Central College.

David Cunningham will retire August 5 as Psychology Instructor.

Judith Puckett will retire June 1 as English Instructor.

Affiliation Agreements for the LTC Pharmacy Technician Program were approved with CVS Pharmacy and Walgreen Pharmacy, both located in Vincennes, Indiana.

Enrollment district-wide is up 4% over this same time one year ago.

All members of the Board of Trustees were present at the April meeting.

Next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be Tuesday, May 19, at 7 p.m. at Frontier Community College, Fairfield.