

**Heartland Region
Board of Control
Richland Community College
March 20, 2025**

Present:

Damian Jones – Argenta Oreana
Sacha Young – Central A&M
Emily Weidner – Cerro Gordo
Dr. Gray – Decatur Public Schools
Michael Tresnak – DeLand Weldon
Adam Ibbotson – Maroa Forsyth
Shane Gordon – Meridian
Travis Roundcount – Mt Zion
Jonathan Field– Sangamon Valley
Cheryl Warner – Warrensburg Latham
Bret Hitchings – Heartland Director

Absent:

None

Meeting called to Order by Travis Roundcount at 9:04 a.m.

Jonathan Field moved to approve the minutes of the February meeting as presented. Sasha Young seconded the motion. Voice Vote: All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Finance Report

Adam Ibbotson moved to approve the February purchases provided by the Regional Office. Jonathan Field seconded the motion. Roll call vote: 10 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent

Closed Session

None

Personnel

Damian Jones moved to approve employment recommendations as presented. Michael Tresnak seconded the motion. Roll call vote: 10 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent.

Director's Report

Bret confirmed that Enrollment Forms have been received for the 2025 – 2026 school year. Interest in the majority of HTA programs has increased once again.

Bret stated HTA would benefit from having an employee dedicated to the Work Based Learning Opportunities for students. Many HTA programs have been modified to allow first year students in the classroom/lab settings, and second year students participating in work-based learning such as internships and job shadowing with industry partners. Having

a Work Based Learning Coordinator would allow for the expansion of these work-based opportunities for second year Tech students. It would also open up classrooms for more first year students to enroll.

Bret provided an update on the Cosmetology Program for FY 26. Student enrollment request do show an interest in the new option for esthetics. DPS says they will be sending over enrollment request for the Barbering option. There have been a few requests for the Nail Tech component as well.

HTA will be hosting their Orientation/Open House event on May 6, requiring parents and students to meet with the instructor of their HTA program. It will also serve as an opportunity to complete the RCC registration process for Dual Credit students.

Bret confirmed the Association of Illinois Rural and Small Schools (AIRSS) visit to the HTA/RCC campus on April 7 from 10:30 to 1:00.

Other Business

Shane Gordon moved to approve the HTA 2025 – 2026 School Calendar as presented. Adam Ibbotson seconded the motion. Roll call vote: 10 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent.

Elizabeth Shriver, Business Office Manager with the ROE, presented information about fiscal services the ROE provides for the EFE and HTA. The ROE is requesting an increase of the amount that Heartland pays each year for these services. In addition to the services provided, it was noted that the amount has not increased from the initial amount set about 15 years ago. The ROE request is for a \$10,000 increase for FY 26, bringing the total for fiscal agent services to \$55,000. The next two years would see an increase of \$15,000 each year with the amount stabilizing at \$85,000 per year after that.

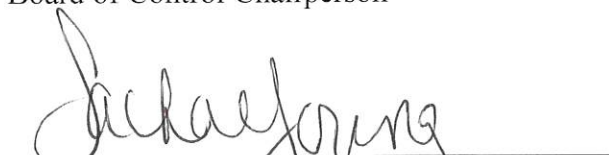
Next meeting will take place on April 17, 2025, at the Macon/Piatt Regional Office of Education #390, 3433 Rupp Parkways, Decatur, Illinois.

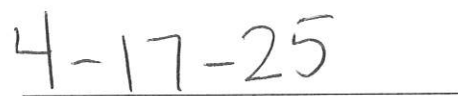
Adam Ibbotson moved to adjourn the meeting. Emily Weidner seconded the motion. Voice vote, all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:37.


Board of Control Chairperson


Date Approved


Board of Control Secretary Signature


Date Approved


Board of Control Recording Secretary Signature


Date Approved