

**SPRINGFIELD TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Board of Trustee Meeting  
Thursday, February 19, 2026 at 6:00 PM  
Ira H. Rubenzahl Student Learning Commons, B19/Forum**

**Minutes of Meeting Approved (\*with amendments)**

Present: Michael Knapik, Chair & Trustee  
Elizabeth Oleksak-Sposito, Vice Chair & Trustee  
Dr. William Dávila, Secretary  
Caleb Sierra, Student Trustee  
Laurie Martin '90, Alumni  
Tonia Butler Pérez, Trustee  
Bill Johnson, Trustee  
Anthony Moore, '15 Trustee  
Norman Roldan, Trustee  
Jeffrey Sattler, Trustee

Unable to Attend: Samalid Hogan, Trustee

Also Present: Dr. Angela Provart, President of the Pauly Group & Presidential Search  
Consultant; Dr. John Cook, President; and Nanette Flores

**I. Call to Order & Roll Call**

Board Chair Michael Knapik called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

The following Trustees were present at roll call: Trustee Chair Michael Knapik, Trustee Elizabeth Oleksak-Sposito, Trustee Dr. William Dávila, Trustee Caleb Sierra, Trustee Tonia Butler Pérez, Trustee Bill Johnson, Trustee Anthony Moore, Trustee Norman Roldan, and Trustee Jeff Sattler. Ten Trustees present at roll call constituting a quorum.

Trustee Tonia Butler Pérez announced that she is recording the meeting. No previous notice was provided to the Board.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

- a. **Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, held on November 17, 2025**  
Trustee Norm Roldan moved to approve the minutes from the Board of Trustees meeting held on November 17, 2025, seconded by Trustee Davila, and unanimously approved via roll call.

In regards to minutes, Chair Knapik discussed adjournment of the October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Board Meeting, and the filing that this action was done in violation of the Open Meeting Law. The Board was made aware of the 10/20 adjournment issue during its November 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. The minutes from the

November 17<sup>th</sup> meeting, just approved, reflect that commentary and remedy. Legal Counsel has been notified of the complaint.

**b. Board of Trustees Meeting, held on February 5, 2026**

Trustee Laurie Martin moved to approve the minutes from the Board of Trustees meeting held on February 5, 2026, seconded by Trustee Norm Roldan, and approved via roll call with nine yes, and one abstained.

**III. Committee Reports**

**a. Committee on Ways and Means, held on November 13, 2025**

Committee Chair Laurie Martin referred to the Committee on Ways and Means report included in the packet to inform Trustees of the November 6, 2025 Investment Subcommittee report, the FY2025 4<sup>th</sup> quarter Trust Fund report, and the usual financial update and outlook.

Trustee Martin called for a motion to approve the Committee on Ways and Means meeting report. Motion was moved by Trustee Norm Roldan, seconded by Trustee Betty Oleksak-Sposito and unanimously approved via roll call.

**b. Committee on Facilities and Capital Improvement Meeting, held on January 12, 2026**

Committee Chair Jeff Sattler referred to the Committee on Facilities and Capital Improvements meeting report included in the packet to inform Trustees of the in-depth discussions with Staff from the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) about the School of Health relocation and information on the BRIGHT Act. Upon conclusion of the meeting, Committee members, Administrators and guests went for a tour of Building 25

Trustee Sattler called for a motion to approve the Committee on Facilities and Capital Improvements meeting report. Motion was moved by Trustee Norm Roldan, seconded by Trustee Bill Johnson and unanimously approved via roll call.

**c. Committee on Internal and External Relations, held on February 2, 2026**

Committee Chair William Dávila referred to the Committee on Internal and External Relations meeting report - highlighting a presentation on ADA/Title II Web Accessibility and compliance. Information also shared about spring semester enrollment and modality.

Trustee Dávila called for a motion to approve the Committee on Internal and External relations meeting report. Motion was moved by Trustee Bill Johnson, seconded by Trustee Betty Sposito, and unanimously approved via roll call.

**IV. Federal Outlook**

Trustees Norman Roldan and Tonia Butler Pérez discussed their attendance at this year's ACCT National Legislative Summit, in Washington DC. Nearly 1,200 community college leaders (Trustees

and presidents) in attendance. Topics included Workforce Pell, taxing of federal financial aid, and of the changes to the federal student loan programs. On the second day, they had the chance to meet with Congressman Neal.

#### **V. President’s Perspective – Dr. John B. Cook, President**

Dr. Cook encouraged Trustees to read the article included in the packet on the topic of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Citing from the article: “The next 1000 days will determine whether we (colleges & universities) help shape this new era (AI) or are merely shaped by it.”

##### **a. Spring Semester Enrollment**

We remain vigilant on enrollment. As of registration day #65, Sp26 enrollment was at 5,451, compared to 5,172 in Sp25, full and part-time students. Compared to 6,150 Fa25 enrollment, the spring numbers are lower, yet reiterated that historically enrollment in spring tends to be lower, and there is always a bit of this “melt” which is why a focus on retention is essential. Also discussed modality by Schools. Indicative of how students are opting to take online courses when they can. Although the slide was missed in the packet, Dr. Cook discussed staff advising caseloads in relation to enrollment.

##### **b. Capital Project Update/Scibelli Hall (Building 2): School of Health & Patient Simulation**

In regards to the SHPS relocation, the groundbreaking date is TBD. DCAMM and Architects are negotiating GMP (Guaranteed Max Price).

##### **c. FY2027 Budget Development/Process**

Discussed today at Ways and Means, was the FY2027 budget development process. We are expecting a final balanced budget in May. With fees legislatively capped, fees will be raised. The multi-year scenario analysis based on status quo carried out five years, assuming enrollment at 115,400 credits illustrates how the projected net income eventually falls into loss when adding a 3% annual inflation increase to overall expenses.

##### **d. Addition of Bereavement to Student Policy/Procedures (Shared Governance)**

Trustees were informed of the latest Shared Governance effort. Approved via consensus by the Shared Governance Council and moved forward as an operational policy by President Cook, bereavement has been added to augment existing Student Policies/Procedures. The Memos shared with all employees provides details.

##### **e. Accreditation: NECHE “5<sup>th</sup> Year” Progress Report**

There is a group working on the 5<sup>th</sup> year NECHE progress report. We are expecting a draft in the following weeks which will be shared across the college for feedback. Noting also that the report does not need endorsement from Trustees – it meant to be an update provided by the college to NECHE on progress. The report will be shared with Trustees most likely by June. A visiting team is expected on campus in September/Fall.

To conclude, Dr. Cook announced that STCC is one of ten finalist institutions competing for a 2026 Bellwether Award. STCC is showcasing its Health Science degree.

**VI. Presidential Search Update – Trustee Dávila, and Angela Provart, Pauly Group Consultant (joining virtually)**

Trustee Dávila and Angela Provart, provided an update on the Presidential Search Process. At this time the Search Committee are viewing applicants. We are expecting additional applications from the National advertising. Applications are being screened as received and categorized as qualified at the top tier, followed by qualified to be considered, and a few that do not qualified are kept at the bottom. Deadline for applications is February 23, at 11:59pm. The Search Committee is expecting to interview semi-finalists in March. We are also figuring out dates in April for three to four final candidates on campus. Timeline can also be accessed through [Presidential Search Web page](#) under timeline.

**VII. Concluding Remark – Chair Knapik**

To conclude, Chair Knapik acknowledged receipt of a communication by the Chapter President of MCCC in December concerning a vote of no confidence in the President, the Cabinet, as well as the STCC Board of Trustees. The Chair has had an opportunity to speak individually with each Board member regarding this communication, and the Chair also noted that the President provided a comprehensive response to the union, and that has been shared with Trustees as well. Legal Counsel has been notified and the Chair shared that he will have no further comment beyond those at this meeting, and no further action from the Board is expected.

\*Trustee Tonia Butler Pérez requested clarification. Restating no further comments on the matter Chair Knapik called for a motion to adjourn.

**VIII. Date of Next Meeting: Monday, March 30, 2026**

**IX. Motion to Adjourn / Adjournment**

At 7:12 p.m., Chair Knapik called for a motion to adjourn the meeting, moved by Trustee Bill Johnson, seconded by Trustee William Dávila and unanimously approved via roll call.

  
Michael R. Knapik  
Chair, STCC Board of Trustees

  
Dr. William Dávila  
Secretary, STCC Board of Trustees