

**SPRINGFIELD TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Springfield Technical Community College
Special Board of Trustees Meeting / Presidential Decision
Monday, May 4, 2026, 5:30 p.m.
Ira H. Rubenzahl Student Learning Commons, B19/Forum**

Minutes of Meeting

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

Unable to Attend: Samalid Hogan, Trustee

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

I. Call Meeting to Order in Open Session

Board Chair Michael Knapik called the meeting to order at 5:31 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 Laurie Martin, 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.

II. Chair's Remarks, Board Chair Knapik

Board Chair Michael Knapik called for a motion to move item "b" on the agenda as the first item followed by item "a". A motion was moved by Trustee William Dávila, seconded by Trustee Bill Johnson, and unanimously approved.

- b. Recognition to Presidential Search Committee Members
Presidential Search Committee Chair, Trustee Dávila acknowledged and praised the work done by each Search Committee Member. He called out the name of each member and those present at the meeting stood up.

With Motion 2026-16, Trustee Dávila called for a motion to move:

That the Springfield Technical Community College Board of Trustees approve the certificates of commendation to the individual members of the STCC Presidential Search Committee, recognizing their invaluable services and contributions to the timely and successful accomplishment of the committee's mandate.

Furthermore, this approval authorizes for this recognition to be memorialized and entered into the permanent records of committee members who are employees or students, via written notification to the Associate Vice President of Administration, John Tudryn, or the Vice President of Student Affairs, Darcey Kemp, as may be applicable.

The motion was moved and seconded by Trustees Caleb Sierra, Jeff Sattler, and unanimously approved via roll call.

a. Overview and Summary of the Presidential Process

Board Chair Knapik provided an overview and summary of the Presidential Search Process which started in October of 2025 with Dr. Cook's announcement of his plan to step down in the summer of 2026. Followed by the selection process of the Search firm, formation of Presidential Search Committee, stakeholder engagement and Presidential Profile development. Concurrently, the Presidential Web Page also in progress launched in December. Application reviews ran from February thru March, 2026 narrowing down applicants to nine semifinalists. Semifinalists were interviewed in late March. Three presidential finalists were announced in April. Each Candidate was brought to campus for a day and a half of interviews with stakeholders, Trustees, and a virtual interview with the Commissioner of Higher Education and a Representative from the Board of Higher Education. Ending with today's voting on a recommendation to the BHE for appointment of the next President.

Dr. Angela Provar, CEO of PaulyGroup and Search Consultant, shared that in preparation for tonight's meeting, Trustees were given access through the PaulyGroup portal to extensive reference reports, survey reports, videos of the DHE/BHE Interviews, and application material.

III. Board Deliberation and Vote

a. Deliberation and selection of STCC's next President

Board Chair Knapik proceeds to inform Board members about the deliberation process and vote. In phase one each Board member will be called in alphabetical order and will have an opportunity to identify his/her top candidate or candidates and talk about strengths. The Chair will go last. Noting also that there is no vote during this phase. At the conclusion the Chair has the discretion to ask for further deliberation or ask for a motion to end deliberation.

At this phase each Trustee was given a chance to deliberate on their top candidates:

Seven Trustees identified Dr. Jennifer Cournoyer as their top candidate
Five of the seven identified Dr. Albert Lewis as their second candidate.

Three Trustees identified Dr. Albert Lewis as their top candidate,
Two of the three identified Dr. Jennifer Cournoyer as their second candidate

After deliberations, Chair Knapik used his discretion to ask for further deliberation and discussion.

One Trustee, who originally identified Dr. Lewis as her top choice, considered identifying Dr. Cournoyer as her top choice.

Chair Knapik then asked Board Liaison, Nanette Flores to go over the roll call vote process.

- i. The list of Board members is called in alphabetical order or around the table.
- ii. The Board liaison registers each Board member's vote in writing.
- iii. A member who is undecided when called may respond "pass." The member will be called on again to vote at the end of the roll call, but before the Chair's name is called.
- iv. When the vote is completed, the Board liaison shall read back each vote to assure an accurate record.
- v. The Chair shall announce the results of the roll call vote.

Upon no further deliberations Chair Knapik moved a vote to end deliberation with Motion 2026-17: *I, Board Chair Michael Knapik, move that the Board of Trustees end its deliberations and proceed with a vote to select its final candidate for appointment as President of Springfield Technical Community College.*

Motion was moved by Trustee Norman Roldan, seconded by Trustee Johnson, and unanimously approved via roll call.

After approval to end deliberation Board Liaison proceeded to call Trustees in alphabetical order to cast their vote for the next President

Tonia Butler Pérez – Dr. Cournoyer
Bill Johnson – Dr. Cournoyer
Laurie Martin – Dr. Cournoyer
Anthony Moore – Dr. Lewis
Norman Roldán – Dr. Cournoyer
Jeffrey Sattler – Dr. Cournoyer
Caleb Sierra – Dr. Lewis
Elizabeth Sposito – Dr. Cournoyer
William Dávila – Dr. Cournoyer
Michael Knapik - Dr. Cournoyer

A majority of Board members selected Dr. Jennifer Cournoyer, with a vote of 8 out of 10.

With Motion 2026-18: *I, Board Chair Michael Knapik, move that Dr. Jennifer Cournoyer be confirmed by unanimous vote by the Board of Trustees as the next President of Springfield Technical Community College.*

Motion was seconded by Trustee Roldán and unanimously approved via roll call:

Tonia Butler Pérez – Dr. Cournoyer
Bill Johnson – Dr. Cournoyer
Laurie Martin – Dr. Cournoyer
*Anthony Moore – Passed
Norman Roldán – Dr. Cournoyer
Jeffrey Sattler – Dr. Cournoyer
Caleb Sierra – Dr. Cournoyer
Elizabeth Sposito – Dr. Cournoyer
*Anthony Moore – Dr. Cournoyer
William Dávila – Dr. Cournoyer
Michael Knapik - Dr. Cournoyer

With Motion 2026-19: I, Board Chair Michael Knapik, move that the Board of Trustees unanimously recommend to the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education the appointment of Dr. Jennifer Cournoyer as the next President of Springfield Technical Community College and that the Board of Trustees authorize its Chairperson to negotiate with Dr. Jennifer Cournoyer over the specific terms and conditions of her appointment as President (i.e., start date, salary, etc.).

Motion was seconded by Trustee Dávila, and unanimously approved via roll call.

IV. Adjournment

At 6:27 p.m., Chair Knapik called for a motion to adjourn the meeting, moved by Trustee Norman Roldan, seconded by Trustee Caleb Sierra and unanimously approved via roll call.



Michael R. Knapik
Chair, STCC Board of Trustees



Dr. William Dávila
Secretary, STCC Board of Trustees