

**KASKASKIA COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES #501**  
**March 24, 2025 Meeting Minutes**  
**27210 College Road**  
**Centralia, IL 62801**

**ROLL CALL/ATTENDANCE**

Chair Bill Hawley convened a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees (Board) on Monday, March 24, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in the Lifelong Learning Center on the Kaskaskia College (College) main campus.

**APPOINTMENT OF PRO-TEMPORE SECRETARY**

Chair Bill Hawley appointed Linda Stover as Pro-Tempore Secretary in the absence of Laura Wedekemper.

Trustees present at the meeting in person were Jim Beasley, Craig Finke, Bill Hawley, Louis Kalert, Linda Stover, and Student Trustee Connor Wademan. Trustees Bryan Holthaus and Laura Wedekemper were absent.

College staff members attending in person were George Evans, Cary Day, Sharon Elwood, Joy Fitts, Sara Hanks, Chris Holloway, George Kriss, Traci Masau, Julie Obermark, Staci Palm, Karol Potter, Shawn Richards, Jeff Thomas, Nathan Wilkins, and Amy Zanton.

Kevin Noll, Legal Counsel from Robbins Schwartz attended the meeting in person.

Media attending in person was Steven Stilt of WJBD radio.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Hawley led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**RECOGNITION**

President Evans welcomed everyone and introduced new employee Shannon Harris.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Items on the Consent Agenda included

February 24, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes

Ratification and approval of disbursements and payrolls for February 2025 which includes travel reimbursements for board members and College employees if any requested reimbursement exceeds maximum allowable costs, Treasurer Report, Budget Report, Personnel Report, Kaskaskia College Foundation Report, and Kaskaskia College Friends of Fine Arts Report. Administrative Reports include the Executive Services Report, Administrative Services Report, Institutional Support and Technology Services Report, Instructional Services Report, and Student Services Report.

Motion by Jim Beasley to accept the Consent Agenda.

Approved 04/28/25

Roll call:

Jim Beasley	yes	Louis Kalert	yes
Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Connor Wademan	yes

Motion was approved.

### **OLD UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

### **CLOSED SESSION**

A Closed Session was not held.

### **RESOLUTION 25-09**

#### **RESOLUTION FOR AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE A PRE-OWNED TESLA MODEL Y ELECTRIC VEHICLE WITH PURCHASE TO BE RATIFIED AT A SUBSEQUENT BOARD MEETING (100% ICCB REV UP EV COMMUNITY COLLEGE INITIATIVE GRANT FUNDED)**

Motion by Jim Beasley to adopt Resolution 25-09 authorizing the purchase of a pre-owned Tesla Model Y Electric Vehicle at a price not to exceed \$40,000, with ratification of the purchase at a subsequent Board meeting.

Roll call:

Jim Beasley	yes	Louis Kalert	yes
Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Connor Wademan	yes

Motion was approved.

### **RESOLUTION 25-10**

#### **RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF 9-1-1 REALITY PLUS TRAINING STATION SIMULATOR (100% ICCB NON-CREDIT WORKFORCE INITIATIVE GRANT FUNDED)**

Motion by Louis Kalert to adopt Resolution 25-10 approving the purchase of 9-1-1 Reality PLUS Training Station Simulator from Professional Pride, Inc. of Sumner, WA in the amount of \$64,050.00.

Roll call:

Jim Beasley	yes	Louis Kalert	yes
Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Connor Wademan	yes

Motion was approved.

**RESOLUTION 25-11**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF SECURITY CAMERAS FOR THE NEW GYMNASIUM (LIABILITY, PROTECTION, AND SETTLEMENT FUND)**

Motion by Louis Kalert to adopt Resolution 25-11 approving the purchase and installation of security cameras for the new gymnasium from Senergy Enterprise Technologies of Williamsville, IL in the amount of \$64,433.00 and authorizing College administration to finalize the agreement for this purchase.

Roll call:

Jim Beasley	yes	Louis Kalert	yes
Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Connor Wademan	yes

Motion was approved.

**RESOLUTION 25-12**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF ANTIVIRUS SOFTWARE**

Motion by Jim Beasley to adopt Resolution 25-12 approving the purchase of security software from Insight of Chandler, Arizona, in an amount of \$35,315.20 through Fund 12 finances.

Roll call:

Jim Beasley	yes	Louis Kalert	yes
Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Connor Wademan	yes

Motion was approved.

**APPROVAL OF TRUCK DRIVING INSTRUCTION AGREEMENT**

Motion Jim Beasley to approve the truck driving instruction agreement with Rock Gate Capital LLC, dba 160 Driving Academy of Cook County, Illinois.

Roll call:

Jim Beasley	yes	Louis Kalert	yes
Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Connor Wademan	yes

Motion was approved.

**APPROVAL OF BASIC WELDING CERTIFICATE**

Motion by Louis Kalert to approve the Basic Welding Certificate as a reasonable and moderate extension of the current Introductory Welder Level I Certificate effective Summer 2025 Semester.

Roll call:

Jim Beasley	yes	Louis Kalert	yes
Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Connor Wademan	yes

Motion was approved.

**APPROVAL OF CORRECTIONAL PROFESSIONALS CERTIFICATE**

Motion by Jim Beasley to approve the new Correctional Professionals Certificate, effective Summer 2025 Semester.

Roll call:

Jim Beasley	yes	Louis Kalert	yes
Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Connor Wademan	yes

Motion was approved.

**APPROVAL OF CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULING CERTIFICATE**

Motion by Jim Beasley to approve the Construction Scheduling Certificate as a reasonable and moderate extension of the Construction Project Management Associate in Applied Science degree, effective Summer 2025 Semester.

Roll call:

Jim Beasley	yes	Louis Kalert	yes
Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Connor Wademan	yes

Motion was approved.

**APPROVAL OF CONSTRUCTION ESTIMATING CERTIFICATE**

Motion by Louis Kalert to approve the Construction Estimating Certificate as a reasonable and moderate extension of the Construction Project Management Associate in Applied Science degree, effective Summer 2025 Semester.

Roll call:

Jim Beasley	yes	Louis Kalert	yes
Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Connor Wademan	yes

Motion was approved.

**APPROVAL OF RETIREMENT OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

Motion by Louis Kalert to accept the retirement of Don Bade as Assistant Director of Public Safety effective May 16, 2025.

Roll call:

Jim Beasley	yes	Louis Kalert	yes
Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Connor Wademan	yes

Motion was approved.

**APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT OF CONTROLLER (REPLACEMENT POSITION)**

Motion by Louis Kalert to approve the employment of Tara Peters as the Controller with a tentative effective date of April 14, 2025, at a salary of \$85,000 with eligibility for fringe benefits.

Roll call:

Jim Beasley	yes	Louis Kalert	yes
Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Connor Wademan	yes

Motion was approved.

**APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT OF POLICE OFFICER (REPLACEMENT POSITION)**

Motion by Jim Beasley to approve the employment of Garland Simmons as a full-time Police Officer in a 40-hour/week position, with compensation at \$22.71 per hour and a start date mutually agreed upon as soon as possible but after April 14, 2025.

Roll call:

Jim Beasley	yes	Louis Kalert	yes
Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Connor Wademan	yes

Motion was approved.

**APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT OF MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST (REPLACEMENT POSITION)**

Motion by Louis Kalert to approve the employment of Gregory Schwartz for the position of Maintenance Specialist at a rate of \$30.17 per hour with a tentative start date of April 14, 2025, pending reference and background checks. This position is a Carpenters union position and eligible for fringe benefits.

Roll call:

Jim Beasley	yes	Louis Kalert	yes
Craig Finke	yes	Linda Stover	yes
Bill Hawley	yes	Connor Wademan	yes

Motion was approved.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- A. Approval of Repairs to Nashville Education Center
- B. Approval of Employment of Instructional Services Precision Agriculture Facilitator
- C. Approval of Restructure of Human Resources Department

**TRUSTEE AND PRESIDENT’S COMMENTS AND REPORTS**

**STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT**

Student Trustee Connor Wademan presented an oral report to the Board which summarized the following:

- On March 7, 2025, Student Trustee Wademan attended his last ICCTA Student Advisory Committee meeting. Final details for Lobby Day in Springfield on April 9, 2025, were

provided. The two candidates running for Kaskaskia College Student Trustee attended the meeting with Student Trustee Wademan.

- On March 7, 2025, Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) concluded testing for competitive events.
- In honor of Women's History Month, the College will be hosting a play night featuring *A Doll's House* on Wednesday, March 26, 2025.
- FBLA will represent the College at the State Leadership Conference on March 29-30, 2025.
  - Students participating in live presentation events will begin their presentations on Saturday.
  - The conference will include various workshops and networking opportunities.
- A Student Huddle is planned for April 2, 2025. The Student Huddle held in February had a successful turnout.

### **PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS**

- President Evans shared that the restraining order that was delaying the construction of emergency communication towers in Clinton County has been removed. The College will soon receive information on when the construction of the emergency communication tower on the main campus grounds will start. Last week, the College met with an acquisition specialist representing all major cell phone carriers. He anticipates that Verizon will be the carrier the College approaches for utilizing that tower for cellular service.
- The Spring enrollment report was exceptionally positive, reflecting the dedication of the College's administrators, staff, and faculty. The average Spring enrollment over the past five years has seen a significant increase which can be attributed to the hard work of these individuals. President Evans emphasized that there is no new initiative, program, or retention strategy beyond the ongoing commitment to the philosophy that every individual matters and that each student is cared for on a personal level.
- President Evans acknowledged Coach Brian Hancock and his team for their remarkable achievement in defeating the No. 4 team in the nation during the regional tournament and securing an additional victory afterward. Unfortunately, the team lost the championship game.
- Students will be participating in a Lobby Day for students on April 9, 2025. The Community College Caucus and Lobby Day are scheduled for May 7, 2025. The legislative agenda encompasses three key principles that have been jointly agreed upon by the Illinois Community Colleges Trustees Association (ICCTA), the Illinois Council of Community College Presidents (ICCCP), and the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB). These principles include the pursuit of the Community College Baccalaureate (CCB), reforms in dual credit that provide greater weight and leverage to the community college system, particularly regarding the right of first refusal for dual credit courses; and the initiative to grant legal authority for the community college system to implement a common course numbering system, enabling all community colleges to offer courses with standardized course names and learning objectives that facilitate transferability.
- President Evans extended congratulations to the Kaskaskia College staff and George Kriss for his hard work with the College being recognized as one of the 2025 Best Places to

Work by *The St. Louis Business Journal*. Formal recognition will be forthcoming. The award is determined by data collected from employee feedback on a survey conducted by *The St. Louis Business Journal*.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Jim Beasley to adjourn. All members voted yes by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

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Chair, Board of Trustees  
Kaskaskia College

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Secretary, Board of Trustees  
Kaskaskia College

**RESOLUTION 25-09**

**RESOLUTION FOR AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE A PRE-OWNED TESLA MODEL Y ELECTRIC VEHICLE WITH PURCHASE TO BE RATIFIED AT A SUBSEQUENT BOARD MEETING (100% ICCB REV UP EV COMMUNITY COLLEGE INITIATIVE GRANT FUNDED)**

**WHEREAS**, the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) Rev Up EV Community College Initiative Grant provides funding for the purchase of instructional equipment for the College’s Hybrid & Electric Vehicle Technology Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the EV Auto Technology enrollment has tripled since the inception of the Rev Up EV Community College Grant Initiative; and,

**WHEREAS**, the purchase of an electric vehicle will offer new electric vehicle technology to build upon the existing training for students in the Automotive Technology Program; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Tesla electric vehicle takes special training to diagnose and work on specialized motors and software and how they affect the car’s performance; and,

**WHEREAS**, the purchase of used equipment does not require the bidding process pursuant to the Illinois Public Community College Act (110 ILCS 805/3/27.2 (i); and,

**WHEREAS**, the estimated cost for the purchase of a Tesla Model Y electric vehicle will exceed \$25,000 and does require Board approval; and,

**WHEREAS**, it is difficult for vendors to hold Tesla Model Y electric vehicles in stock for Board approval after a vehicle has been located at a vendor.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF KASKASKIA COLLEGE, COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT #501, that the Board authorizes the purchase of a pre-owned Tesla Model Y Electric Vehicle at a price not to exceed \$40,000, with ratification of the purchase at a subsequent Board meeting.”**

Dated this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March 2025

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Chair, Board of Trustees  
Kaskaskia College

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Secretary, Board of Trustees  
Kaskaskia College

## RESOLUTION 25-10

### **RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF 9-1-1 REALITY PLUS TRAINING STATION SIMULATOR (100% ICCB NONCREDIT WORKFORCE INITIATIVE GRANT FUNDED)**

**WHEREAS**, the College has received an Illinois Community College Board Noncredit Workforce Initiative Grant, which includes funding for a 9-1-1 Reality PLUS Training Station Simulator to be used for instructional purposes in the Workforce Development and Community Education Department; and

**WHEREAS**, the Workforce Development and Community Education Department currently trains for careers throughout the region where employers express a need for employees as a result of labor shortages; and,

**WHEREAS**, there are no other products available for purchase that would duplicate the high-stress and fast-paced environment public safety telecommunicators work in; and,

**WHEREAS**, the proposed 9-1-1 Reality Plus Training Station Simulator will primarily assist the Workforce Development and Community Education Department in training future public safety telecommunicators for the region; and

**WHEREAS**, the 9-1-1 Reality PLUS Simulator will also assist in training future public safety telecommunicators to be National Emergency Communications Certification (NECC) Certified; and,

**WHEREAS**, the marketing, outreach, and recruitment will be conducted to enroll students in other available program options; and

**WHEREAS**, Kaskaskia College has heard across higher education and employment platforms that there is a need to deploy shorter, skills-based training that would allow companies to improve and promote employee growth; and,

**WHEREAS**, Professional Pride, Inc. has provided a price proposal for the 9-1-1 Reality PLUS Training Station Simulator and, as indicated in the price proposal, the total price, including shipping and installation, is \$64,050.00; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to the sole source letter provided by Professional Pride, Inc., pursuant to the Illinois Public Community College Act (110 ILCS 805/3-27.1), this purchase is exempt from the bidding requirement.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF KASKASKIA COLLEGE, COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT #501, that the Board approves the purchase of 9-1-1 Reality PLUS Training Station Simulator from Professional Pride, Inc. of Sumner, WA in the amount of \$64,050.00.**

Dated 24th day of March 2025

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Chair, Board of Trustees  
Kaskaskia College

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Secretary, Board of Trustees  
Kaskaskia College

**RESOLUTION 25-11**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF SECURITY CAMERAS FOR THE NEW GYMNASIUM (LIABILITY, PROTECTION, AND SETTLEMENT FUND)**

**WHEREAS**, the Kaskaskia College new gymnasium will require the installation of a comprehensive security camera system to ensure the safety and security of all individuals utilizing the facility. Cameras not only monitor activities but also serve to deter potential incidents, enhance overall security infrastructure and provide a safe environment for our students, faculty, staff and visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, Kaskaskia College has recently utilized Senergy Enterprise Technologies, who is a channel partner with our current security camera manufacturer; and

**WHEREAS**, the College is quite pleased with the quality of work Senergy Enterprise Technologies has performed to date with enhancing our current security camera system; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposal from Senergy Enterprise Technologies will expire due to price increases on April 1, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, the College will use funds allocated to Public Safety from the three-year capital plan to place the down payment of the proposal and lock in pricing for the security camera proposal and will budget for the balance in the fiscal year 2026 budget; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Illinois Public Community College Act (110 ILCS 805/3-27.1) this purchase is exempt from the formal bidding process.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of Kaskaskia College, Community College District #501, that the Board approves the purchase and installation of security cameras for the new gymnasium from Senergy Enterprise Technologies of Williamsville, IL in the amount of \$64,433.00 and authorizes College administration to finalize the agreement for this purchase.**

Dated this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March 2025

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Chair, Board of Trustees  
Kaskaskia College

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Secretary, Board of Trustees  
Kaskaskia College

**RESOLUTION 25-12**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF ANTIVIRUS SOFTWARE**

**WHEREAS**, Kaskaskia currently uses ThreatDown, formerly Malwarebytes, products; and

**WHEREAS**, Kaskaskia College is committed to maintaining a secure and reliable technological environment for students, faculty, and staff; and

**WHEREAS**, the college has identified the need for enhanced protection against malware, ransomware, and other cybersecurity threats in order to safeguard critical data and network infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, ThreatDown provides industry-leading anti-malware and endpoint protection solutions that will significantly improve the college’s ability to detect, prevent, and respond to cyber threats; and

**WHEREAS**, the college is continuing to meet the institutional goals of improving infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, the college's IT department has reviewed and recommended Malwarebytes as a cost-effective and robust solution to meet the college's security needs;

<b>Antivirus Solution</b>	<b>One Year Term</b>
ThreatDown (Malwarebytes)	\$35,315.20

And,

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Illinois Public Community College Act (110 ILCS 805/3-27.1), this purchase is exempt from the formal bidding process.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF KASKASKIA COLLEGE, COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT #501, that the Board approve the purchase of security software from Insight of Chandler, Arizona, in an amount of \$35,315.20 through Fund 12 finances.”**

Dated this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March 2025

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Chair, Board of Trustees  
Kaskaskia College

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Secretary, Board of Trustees  
Kaskaskia College