



**Joint Meeting of the Boards of Directors of Central Rivers AEA, Hawkeye Community College, Iowa Valley Community College District, and North Iowa Area Community College  
Monday, April 17, 2023 - 4:30 p.m. via Zoom.**

Hawkeye Community College President Todd Holcomb welcomed everyone to the meeting. He noted this is an opportunity to get together to reacquaint the three community colleges and Central Rivers AEA and to learn more about each other.

**Central Rivers Area Education Agency**

Attendees: Chief Administrator Sam Miller; Board Members Dennis Craun, Kathy Enslin, Maureen Hanson, Nicole Lovik-Blaser, Dr. Debra Rich, Dr. Tony Reid, and Dr. Mary Stevens; and Board Secretary Lori Thomas.

Updates:

Chief Administrator Sam Miller shared an update on the Regional Planning Partnership (RPP) work. Rod Ball, Director of Special Programs leads this partnership between the AEA and the community colleges. Sam also shared that he is retiring this year and Joel Pedersen of Cardinal CSD has been selected as the new chief.

*As Submitted by Lori Thomas, Central Rivers AEA Executive Assistant/Board Secretary.*

**Iowa Valley Community College District**

Introductions:

IVCCD President Dr. Kristie Fisher introduced IVCCD's Board members in attendance: Directors Deb Jones, Joanna Hofer, Clark Lawler, and Paul Pohlson. Also in attendance was Board Secretary Barbara Jennings.

Updates:

Dr. Kristie Fisher shared a review of construction projects funded predominantly by the \$32 million Bond Issue passed by voters in November 2019. The projects included improvements to the Iowa Valley Grinnell Gunsmithing lab as well as major interior and exterior improvements the Marshalltown campus including the Conference Center, library and esports arena. Improvements at the Ellsworth campus include renovated locker rooms, student activity space and new residence hall.

*As Submitted by Barbara Jennings, Iowa Valley Community College District Board Secretary.*

## **North Iowa Area Community College**

### Introductions:

NIACC President Dr. Steve Schulz introduced the NIACC Board members in attendance: Board President David Steffens, Jr., Director Debra Hill, Director John Rowe, Director Nicki Prantner, Director Cathy Rottinghaus, Also in attendance was Assistant to the President Abby Donald.

### Updates:

Dr. Schulz shared that NIACC was an Aspen Top 25 Finalist and received National Science Foundation and Title III Student Support grants. In the 2021 Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation profile, provided by the Iowa Department of Education, NIACC ranked in the top three in the following categories: credit awards rate, noncredit penetration rate, total penetration rate, graduation rate, transfer rate, and success rate. Dr. Schulz also shared a review of recent construction projects in the gymnasium, cafeteria, and the career center in Charles City.

*As submitted by Abby Donald, North Iowa Area Community College Assistant to the President*

## **Hawkeye Community College**

### Introductions:

Trustees Jay Nardini (via Zoom), Louis Beck, JoDee Knox (via Zoom), Casey McLaughlin (via Zoom), President Todd Holcomb; Board Secretary/Assistant to the President Annette Staples.

### Updates:

Dr. Holcomb shared that the Grundy Hall renovation is nearing completion, and will be ready for students in the fall. The Dental Clinic portion of the renovation has already been completed. Ten new chairs were added which will allow for more enrollment in the dental programs. The construction is nearing completion for the Automation and Robotics Center which is located at the Techworks campus, downtown Waterloo. The center will provide students with Industry 4.0 training that will address the integration of technology with manufacturing. A special election took place on March 7 where voters were asked to approve the renewal of a \$35 million bond referendum. A 60% supermajority was needed for passage. The vote passed with a 75.2% approval rate. The funds will be used for a skilled trades and apprentice center, an expanded law enforcement training center, and a STEM Learning Center. Hawkeye will also be undergoing a First Impression Courtyard Renovation project. This project will begin this fall and take about 12 months to complete. The plan includes new concrete, trees and flowers as well as several designated areas throughout the courtyard including a hammock area, gathering space, and new Brock Student Center patio. The new Vocal and Music programs at Hawkeye are off to a great start and students have already participated in several performances. The Marketing department has begun work towards developing a new College Website. Hawkeye is adding several new programs into its athletic program including Women's Softball, Women's Golf, and Men's and Women's Wrestling.

*As Submitted by Annette Staples, Hawkeye Community College Board Secretary/Assistant to the President.*

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Next year's joint Board meeting will be hosted by Hawkeye on April 8, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.