

Rock Valley College

Community College District No. 511
3301 North Mulford Road, Rockford, IL 61114

REORGANIZATION MEETING

Immediately following the Final Meeting of the Present Board
April 28, 2026

MINUTES

Call to Order by Chairperson of Retiring Board

The Reorganization meeting of the Board of Trustees of Community College District No. 511, Winnebago, Boone, DeKalb, McHenry, Ogle, and Stephenson Counties, Illinois, convened in the Performing Arts Room (PAR), Room 0214, in the Educational Resource Center (ERC) on the main campus on Tuesday, April 28, 2026. Board Chair Paul Gorski called the meeting to order at 6:48 p.m.

Roll Call

The following members of the Board of Trustees were present at roll call:

Mr. Paul Gorski	Mr. Robert (Bob) Trojan
Ms. Gloria Cardenas Cudia	Mr. John Nelson
Dr. Jenna Goldsmith	Ms. Crystal Soltow
Ms. Kristen Simpson- by phone	Mr. Isiah Blake, Student Trustee

Also in Attendance: Dr. Howard Spearman, President; Ellen Olson, Vice President of Finance/Chief Financial Officer; Heather Snider, Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness and Communications; Dr. Terrica Huntley, Vice President of Human Resources; Dr. Hansen Stewart, Vice President of Career Technical Education and Workforce Development; Dr. Patrick Peyer, Vice President of Student Affairs; Mr. Rick Jenks, Vice President of Operations; Ms. Ann Kerwitz, Assistant to the President; Ms. Carly Diciolla, Assistant to the President; Ms. Tracy Luethje, Executive Assistant to the Chief Operations Officer; Attorney Joe Perkoski, Robbins Schwartz.

Board Member Attendance by Means Other than Physical Presence

Trustee Nelson made a motion, seconded by Trustee Cudia, to allow Trustee Kristen Simpson to participate in the meeting via teleconference. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote. Trustee Simpson entered the meeting via telephone.

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Certification of Audit and Board Minutes and Policies by Secretary

Board Secretary Jenna Goldsmith certified that the audit, minutes, and policies of the Board of Trustees are true and kept in conformity with the Board of Trustees Bylaws.

Adjournment of Retiring Board, sine die

A motion was made by Trustee Cudia, seconded by Trustee Nelson, to adjourn the meeting of the Retiring Board, sine die. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Convening of the New Board by the Ranking Hold-Over Officer from Retiring Board Who Shall Serve as Temporary Chairperson

As the ranking hold-over officer from the retiring board, Board Chair Paul Gorski, serving as Temporary Chairperson, convened the new Board of Trustees.

Election of Chairperson of the Board

Temporary Chairperson Paul Gorski called for nominations for the position of Board Chair.

A motion was made by Trustee Nelson, seconded by Trustee Goldsmith, to nominate Mr. Paul Gorski as Board Chair. There were no other nominations or discussion. Mr. Paul Gorski accepted the nomination. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

Election of Vice Chairperson

A motion was made by Board Chair Gorski, seconded by Trustee Nelson, to nominate Ms. Kristen Simpson as Vice Chairperson. Trustee Cudia nominated Mr. Bob Trojan for Vice Chairperson. This motion was not seconded. Board Chair Gorski advanced the nomination of Ms. Kristen Simpson for Vice Chairperson. Ms. Kristen Simpson accepted the nomination. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

Election of Secretary

A motion was made by Board Chair Gorski, seconded by Trustee Nelson, to nominate Dr. Jenna Goldsmith as Secretary. Dr. Jenna Goldsmith accepted the nomination. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

Appointment of Treasurer

A motion was made by Trustee Trojan, seconded by Trustee Soltow, to nominate Ms. Ellen Olson, vice president of finance/chief financial officer, as College Treasurer. Ms. Ellen Olson accepted the nomination. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

Appointment of Attorney

A motion was made by Board Chair Gorski, seconded by Trustee Nelson, to approve the appointment of Mr. Joseph Perkoski of Robbins Schwartz as College Attorney. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

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Appointment of Auditor(s)

A motion was made by Trustee Nelson, seconded by Trustee Cudia, to approve the appointment of Sikich, LLP as the College's auditing firm. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

Appointment of Bank Depository(s)

A motion was made by Trustee Nelson, seconded by Student Trustee Blake, to approve the appointment of UMB Bank as the College's primary bank depository. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

Adoption of Policies of the Board

A motion was made by Trustee Trojan, seconded by Student Trustee Blake, to adopt the Policies of the Board of Trustees dated April 8, 2014, and individually updated as necessary as contained in the Board Policy Manual. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by majority roll call vote.

Appointment of Board of Trustees Liaison to RVC Foundation

Board Chair Gorski appointed Trustee Trojan to continue as representative to the RVC Foundation. Trustee Trojan accepted the appointment of Board Liaison to the RVC Foundation. A motion was made by Board Chair Gorski, seconded by Trustee Nelson, to appoint Trustee Trojan as RVC Foundation Liaison. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

Appointment of Representative of Finance Topics at the Committee of the Whole

Board Chair Gorski appointed Trustee Cudia to continue as representative of Finance topics at the Committee of the Whole meetings. Trustee Cudia accepted the appointment of Finance representative for the Committee of the Whole. A motion was made by Trustee Cudia, seconded by Board Chair Gorski, to appoint Trustee Cudia as the representative of Finance topics at the Committee of the Whole meetings. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

Appointment of Representative of Operations Topics at the Committee of the Whole

Board Chair Gorski appointed Trustee Trojan to continue as representative of Operations topics at the Committee of the Whole meetings. Trustee Trojan accepted the appointment of Operations representative for the Committee of the Whole. A motion was made by Trustee Nelson, seconded by Trustee Cudia, to appoint Trustee Trojan as the representative of Operations topics at the Committee of the Whole meetings. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

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Appointment of Representative of Teaching, Learning, and Communications Topics at the Committee of the Whole

Board Chair Gorski appointed Trustee Goldsmith to continue serving as the representative of Teaching, Learning, and Communications topics at the Committee of the Whole meetings. Trustee Goldsmith accepted the appointment of Teaching, Learning, and Communications representative for the Committee of the Whole. A motion was made by Board Chair Gorski, seconded by Trustee Trojan, to appoint Trustee Goldsmith as representative of Teaching, Learning, and Communications topics to the Committee of the Whole meetings. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

Appointment of Representative to Illinois Community College Trustees Association (ICCTA)

Board Chair Gorski appointed Trustee Nelson to continue as primary representative for the Illinois Community College Trustees Association (ICCTA). Trustee Nelson accepted the appointment of ICCTA representative. A motion was made by Trustee Trojan, seconded by Trustee Soltow, to appoint Trustee Nelson as representative for ICCTA. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

Setting the Schedule of Regular Meetings for the Next Fiscal Year

A motion was made by Trustee Nelson, seconded by Trustee Cudia, to approve the meeting schedule for the 2026-2027 fiscal year. Discussion ensued regarding the changes to the meeting schedule that will take place in October, November, and December 2026. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

Adjourn Reorganization Meeting

At 6:51 p.m., Trustee Trojan made a motion, seconded by Trustee Nelson, to adjourn the Reorganization Meeting. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

Submitted by Carly A. Diciolla



Dr. Jenna Goldsmith, Secretary



Paul Gorski, Board Chair