



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
INDIAN HILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

January 12, 2026

The regular Board of Trustees meeting for Indian Hills Community College was held on January 12, 2026, in the Perkins Conference Room on the Main Campus, Indian Hills Community College, Ottumwa, Iowa. Board President Mr. Richard J. Gaumer called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present: Mr. Richard J. Gaumer, Mr. Riley Sheetz, and Ms. Lori Yates.

Zoom/Phone: Mr. Kevin Crall, Ms. Beth Danowsky, Ms. Christine Estle, Ms. Katie Nichols, and Mr. Alan Wilson.

Members absent: Mr. Michael Matthes.

Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Mr. Sheetz and seconded by Ms. Yates to approve the board agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the December 8, 2025, Regular Board meeting were reviewed.

Motion

It was moved by Ms. Yates and seconded by Mr. Sheetz to approve the minutes from the December 8, 2025, Regular Board meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Monthly Claims

Board member Mr. Richard J. Gaumer reviewed bills for the month of December on behalf of the board and reported that all questions were answered by appropriate staff members.

Motion

It was moved by Mr. Gaumer and seconded by Mr. Sheetz to approve the monthly claims for December. The motion carried unanimously.

FY26 Financial Report

Ms. Taren Ferguson, Vice President & Chief Financial Officer, presented the Financial Report. **Revenue** was higher by \$1,150,217. **Tuition & Fees** were slightly higher due to increased course fees by \$40,000. **State Support** was higher by \$131,209 due to SGA. IHCC received money from the Employee Retention Credit (ERC) for keeping staff employed during COVID. The Employee Retention Credit (ERC) filed in late 2023. Only two other community colleges in Iowa have received these funds with an additional college completing an application. **Other Income** was down \$918,885 due to last year having the

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\$825,000 GAP pay transfer in the first quarter, timing on receiving Department of Labor administration reimbursement (\$79,000), and lower interest income (\$96,000).

Expenses were higher by \$917,591. **Salaries & Fringe** were up by \$436,370, which is on track with the projected 3% increase. **Services** increased by \$366,600 due to the fee associated with a third party filing the ERC credit. Utilities increased by (\$67,000), there was timing on international student insurance payments (\$60,000), and an increase for Information Technology subscription renewals (\$122,000). **Supplies** increased \$122,879 due to testing supplies for nursing (\$70,000) and software/licensure increases for DualEnroll, Touchnet, and other subscriptions.

Fund 2 – Levy accounts are performing as anticipated. IHCC has a plan to spend down the equipment replacement levy in the next quarter.

Motion

It was moved by Mr. Sheetz and seconded by Ms. Nichols to approve the FY26 Financial Report. The motion carried unanimously.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Directors of Indian Hills Community College hereby accepts the Beck Memorial Trust and the IHCC Foundation:

- \$50,988 annual distribution for the college to aid in its educational and charitable purposes.

Motion

It was moved by Ms. Danowsky and seconded by Ms. Estle to approve the \$50,988 annual distribution for the college to aid in its educational and charitable purposes.

A roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Richard J. Gaumer	Yes
Ms. Beth Danowsky	Yes
Mr. Alan Wilson	Yes
Mr. Kevin Crall	Yes
Ms. Christine Estle	Yes
Ms. Katie Nichols	Yes
Mr. Riley Sheetz	Yes
Ms. Lori Yates	Yes

Members absent: Mr. Michael Matthes

The motion carried unanimously.

- \$1,094,210 from the Foundation for support of athletics and GO Bond projects.

Motion

It was moved by Ms. Danowsky and seconded by Mr. Sheetz to approve the \$1,094,210 from the IHCC Foundation for the support of athletics and GO Bond projects.

A roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Richard J. Gaumer	Yes
Ms. Beth Danowsky	Yes
Mr. Alan Wilson	Yes
Mr. Kevin Crall	Yes

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Ms. Christine Estle	Yes
Ms. Katie Nichols	Yes
Mr. Riley Sheetz	Yes
Ms. Lori Yates	Yes

Members absent: Mr. Michael Matthes

The motion carried unanimously.

Community Colleges for Iowa Report

Mr. Kevin Crall presented the Community Colleges for Iowa report. He reported that he is also representing Community Colleges for Iowa on the Iowa Association of School Boards (IASB). Dr. Barckow, CEO of IASB, will be doing visits to community colleges and Dr. Barchow, Mr. Crall, and Dr. Thompson have been exchanging emails about visiting IHCC on March 30, 2026.

Mr. Crall reported that this legislative session funding will be lower than in the past. Education is a priority in Iowa, including public education and post-secondary education and this will be a focal point.

Dr. Thompson reported that the governor would like to see significant changes to 260 programs. He met with Senator Mike Klimesh, Senate Majority Leader, Mr. Dan Gehlbach, Iowa House Education Appropriations Subcommittee, and Mr. Gary Moore, House Appropriations Committee. Community colleges have significant support for 260 programming within the house, and they feel that 260s are an essential part of what community colleges do for workforce training and the program has been successful and widely respected by business and industry. But there will be some challenges during this legislative session.

Personnel Report

Dr. Matt Thompson, President, presented the Personnel Report. He stated that IHCC has 375 full-time employees and eleven open positions. The turnover rate is at 17.6%. He asked if there were any questions.

Motion

It was moved by Mr. Sheetz and seconded by Ms. Nichols to approve the Personnel Report. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Mr. Gaumer stated that he wanted to have a conversation about the cancellation of Sports Shooting and the purchase of 60 acres from the Boy Scouts and sits north of IHCC.

Cancellation of Sports Shooting-Ms. Kelsi Weeks, Athletic Director, reported that in October 2025 the difficult decision was made to discontinue Sports Shooting from a financial standpoint for athletics. When coaches leave IHCC, the sport is evaluated. When Mr. Stalzer took a new job Ms. Ferguson, Dr. Thompson, and Ms. Weeks looked at Sports Shooting from a financial perspective and tried to determine if the program was bringing value to IHCC in a way that made sense financially. The final decision was that it didn't make sense to continue to offer Sports Shooting when it wasn't thriving or driving enrollment. Students were not coming to Indian Hills because of Sports Shooting, they were coming to IHCC to enter a program and joining Sports Shooting, so the college was not gaining enrollment. The season will finish in March and at this time the college will fulfill all scholarship obligations, and the program will be closed.

Sixty acres of property-Mr. Gaumer reported that board members briefly discussed this property at the Board Retreat, and he would like to discuss it further. The Boy Scouts own

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approximately sixty acres north of IHCC and it is adjacent to IHCC. The Boy Scouts office called Dr. Thompson and stated that they would like to sell the property to IHCC for \$300,000 and IHCC proposed \$240,000. Mr. Gaumer asked board members if they thought it would be good for students to purchase the land.

Dr. Thompson stated that if IHCC owned the property trails could be cut but there are no further plans.

- It could be a safety issue if someone buys the property for hunting and we have students on campus.
- Owning the property would protect the neighborhood.
- After purchasing the property there are no additional costs.
- Won't pay taxes.
- Covered under current insurance.

Board member consensus was to buy the sixty acres.

President of the College

A. Facilities Report

Dr. Matt Thompson, President, presented the facilities report. He stated that the Wellness Center has had approximately half the concrete poured and the general segment and gymnasium will be poured between January 14th and January 21st. May 2026 is the target date for completion. If weather is decent in February board members will be taken on a tour of the facility.

Upcoming projects:

- There will be an introductory meeting with ISG Architecture firm to do a major roofing project over Arts and Sciences, the SUCCESS Center, Wapello Hall, and Keokuk/Mahaska Hall.
- The current CNA Lab is too small and needs to be expanded for testing. ISG will walk through this area and give ideas and estimated costs.
- The Bennett Building has been chopped up multiple times, the entry way isn't inviting for students, and there are HVAC issues. IHCC would like some interior changes, lay flooring, and replace the HVAC. This will be a great improvement to that building. Dr. Thompson also stated that he would like to move the Testing Center into the Bennett, so students can complete all paperwork and testing in one area.
- The ATC parking lot and upper Hellyer parking lot will have a substantial renovation.

Dr. Thompson, Ms. Ferguson, and Mr. Lamb will meet and prioritize projects.

Dr. Thompson stated that the PTK Dinner and Awards will be hosted on Monday, March 2, 2026, and Day on The Hill is Tuesday, March 3, 2026. Seating is limited so please let Dr. Thompson know if you would like to attend.

Centerville graduation is Wednesday, May 13, 2026
Ottumwa graduation is Thursday, May 14, 2026.

Adjournment

Board member Ms. Yates moved that the meeting be adjourned. Hearing no objections, Mr. Gaumer adjourned the meeting at 5:02 p.m.

K Nichols

BOARD PRESIDENT

Shelle Ham

BOARD SECRETARY

*no
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