The Board of Trustees of the Eastern Iowa Community College District (Merged Area IX) met in Regular Session on March 11, 2013, in the Ellis Vetter Room at 306 West River Drive, Davenport, Iowa. President Robert Gallagher called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following directors present: Kendra Beck, Kim Clausen, Dr. Joseph D’Souza, Michelle Garvin, Denise Hollonbeck, Bill Phelan, Milton Shaw. Absent: Mary Lou Engler.

The Board conducted a public hearing on the 2013-2014 Budget Estimate. No one appeared to speak for or against the budget estimate, and President Gallagher closed the public hearing at 7:02 p.m.

The Board conducted a public hearing on the MCC Gaekle Hall HVAC project. No one appeared to speak for or against the project, and President Gallagher closed the public hearing at 7:03 p.m.

Minutes from the February 18, 2013, Regular Board meeting had been mailed to the Board members for their review. Director Phelan moved, seconded by Director D’Souza, to approve the minutes as submitted. Ayes: all. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Under Completion of the Agenda, Chancellor Doucette asked the Board to remove from the agenda under Item 10. Contractual Agreements the Educational Services Agreement with Black Hawk College, as it had been previously approved.

Director Phelan presented an IACCT update. He recommended a new book by ACCT director Noah Brown, “First in the World: Community Colleges and America’s Future.” He shared a summary of the most recent IACCT Board meeting and noted that cooperation between the IACCT Board and the Iowa Association of Community College Presidents continues to grow. IACCT is considering changing its conference schedule from an annual summer conference to alternating years between a summer conference at a college and a March conference in Des Moines during the legislative session. Board members were open to this idea, and also suggested that IACCT consider doing both each year – a summer conference and a legislative day.

Staff reports focused on new and revised programs. Chancellor Doucette noted that new degree programs are in development and some longstanding programs are undergoing substantial revision. He asked Bob Allbee, president of Muscatine Community College, to talk about the new engineering technology program and Ruth Sueverkruebbe, district director of nursing, to describe the changes proposed for the nursing program. Mr. Allbee gave an overview of the development process, noting that the overall goal is to build the best engineering technology program in the nation, one that will serve as a model for community colleges nationwide. Ms. Sueverkruebbe
talked about the current nursing curriculum, which has practical nursing and registered nursing sharing the same first year curriculum. The new program will change to two separate programs, with LPNs having their own first-year curriculum and registered nurses beginning the ADN program earlier in their coursework. Admissions criteria for the ADN program will be strengthened. She noted that EICC is working with the RN to BSN Task Force to create seamless transition opportunities for associate degree nurses to continue their education toward a bachelor’s degree.

A list of personnel items was presented for Board approval. Director Shaw moved, seconded by Director D’Souza, to approve the personnel list as submitted. Ayes: all. Nays: none. Motion carried.

A Supplemental Early Retirement Program was presented to the Board. An updated and slightly revised version was distributed for consideration. The program provides an incentive for eligible employees who elect early retirement in fiscal years 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016. Chancellor Doucette explained the rationale behind developing the supplemental program and also discussed the proposed changes to the Board Policy on early retirement. He noted that fiscal constraints continue to challenge EICC, that it is important to be able to allocate resources efficiently and effectively, and that creating policies that truly incentivize early retirement and allow for advance planning for transition are critical.

Director Clausen moved, seconded by Director Garvin, to adopt the Supplemental Early Retirement Program as revised. Ayes: all. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Mark Kapfer, executive director of economic development, presented two Chapter 260E preliminary agreements: Genesis Systems Group, LLC in the amount of $150,000; and Mid-American Glass, Inc. in the amount of $95,000.

Director Phelan moved, seconded by Director Shaw, to approve the two Chapter 260E preliminary agreements. Ayes: all. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The Board was asked to approve several contractual agreements: Muscatine Schools for automotive technology; Mississippi Bend AEA for ACCESS program; Davenport and North Scott Schools for the student-built home program; Pearson VUE for the GED testing center; and Trinity Health System for clinical programming for phlebotomy students.

Director Beck moved, seconded by Director Hollonbeck, to approve the contractual agreements. Ayes: all. Nays: none. Motion carried.
Bob Allbee, president of Muscatine Community College, presented bids received for the Gaekle Hall HVAC project. He recommended that the Board award the project contract to Boche Plumbing of Muscatine, with the low bid of $455,000.

Director Shaw moved, seconded by Director D’Souza, to award the contract to Boche Plumbing. Ayes: all. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The Board was asked to approve River Service Company Change Order #5, in the amount of $4,857.86, on the CCC Maquoketa Advanced Technology Center. This should be the final change order on the project and, because it brings the total cost of the project above the $366,000 ACE grant funding, Maquoketa Schools has agreed to reimburse EICC for this expense.

Director Phelan moved, seconded by Director Clausen, to approve the change order. Ayes: all. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The Board was asked to adopt the FY2013-2014 budget estimate as recommended. The budget had been published in the Quad City Times and a public hearing conducted earlier in the meeting.

Director Clausen moved, seconded by Director D’Souza, to adopt the FY2013-2014 budget. Ayes: all. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The Board conducted a second reading of proposed Board Policy No. 627 – Definition of Credit Hour and was asked to adopt the new policy.

Director Garvin moved, seconded by Director Shaw, to adopt Board Policy No. 627 – Definition of Credit Hour. Ayes: all. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The Board conducted a first reading of proposed changes to Board Policy No. 429 – Early Retirement. No action was taken.

A revised academic calendar for 2013-2014 and a new calendar for 2014-2015 were presented to the Board for their consideration. Chancellor Doucette noted that both calendars have the spring semester starting after the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

Director Hollonbeck moved, seconded by Director Shaw, to approve both academic calendars. Ayes: all. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Financial reports for the month ending February 28, 2013, were presented. It was recommended that receipt of the reports be acknowledged and the reports placed on file.
Director Beck moved, seconded by Director D’Souza, to acknowledge receipt of the reports and to place them on file. Ayes: all. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Copies of the bills had been mailed to the Board members for their review. Board members were asked to approve payment of the bills as submitted.

Director D’Souza moved, seconded by Director Garvin, to approve payment of the bills as submitted. Ayes: all. Nays: none. Motion carried.

During Trustee Comments, Director Phelan shared information about the summer 2013 IACCT conference in Burlington and encouraged trustees to attend.

During Chancellor’s Comments, Chancellor Doucette reported that revenue is still below budget for the year and that the district continues to seek solutions to that challenge. The strategic planning process will continue with a retreat on April 4. He asked Mr. Allbee to talk about the Muscatine China Initiative, and Mr. Allbee shared information about a corporate grant that will provide a month-long study abroad opportunity each of the next two summers for students from MCC and Muscatine High School.

The next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on April 15, 2013, at Clinton Community College, 1000 Lincoln Boulevard, Clinton, Iowa.

President Gallagher adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Approved:

Honey H. Bedell, Board Secretary

Board President