

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
EASTERN IOWA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT  
January 13, 2021**

The Board of Trustees of the Eastern Iowa Community College District (Merged Area IX) met in Special Session on January 13, 2021, via Zoom. President Robert Gallagher called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following directors present: Kendra Beck, Dr. Joseph D'Souza, Lori Freudenberg, Michelle Garvin, Mike Gauss, Denise Hollonbeck, Milton Shaw, Bill Vetter. Absent: none.

Chancellor Don Doucette presented an update on the planning for expansion of career and technical education programming throughout the Eastern Iowa Community College District service area, focusing on career academies in partnership with area high schools, expanded facilities and increased opportunities for education and training to prepare area residents for the regional workforce. He noted that several area high schools have signed Chapter 28E agreements committing to students and funding for the career academies that would be located at expanded facilities on current campuses and new facilities in other parts of the service area. The facilities would be funded by approval of a bond referendum by area voters in a special election on March 2, 2021. The bonds would raise \$40,000,000 for the purpose without increasing property taxes levied over the past decade on Eastern Iowa residents.

The Board was asked to approve Chapter 28E agreements with these school districts providing for the establishment of career academies and committing funding and students to the academies for the next 10 years: Bellevue, Calamus Wheatland, Camanche, Central DeWitt, Clinton, Durant, Easton Valley, Louisa-Muscatine, Maquoketa, Northeast, West Liberty and Wilton Schools; as well as a Memorandum of Understanding with the Muscatine Schools, in anticipation of a Chapter 28E agreement within the next few weeks.

Director Shaw moved, seconded by Director Freudenberg, to approve the Chapter 28E agreements and Memorandum of Understanding. Ayes: all. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The Board was asked to adopt a resolution ordering a Special Election on the issuance of \$40,000,000 General Obligation School Bonds with the following proposition to be placed on the March 2, 2021, Special Election ballot:

*Shall the Eastern Iowa Community College District (Merged Area IX) in the counties of Cedar, Clinton, Dubuque, Jackson, Johnson, Louisa, Muscatine and Scott, State of Iowa, be authorized to construct, erect, remodel, repair, renovate, furnish, and equip Career and Technical Education facilities buildings at various locations throughout the Merged Area; to improve CTE programming at those sites; and issue its school bonds in an amount not exceeding \$40,000,000 for such purposes?*

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**Director Hollonbeck moved, seconded by Director Beck, to adopt the resolution as stated. Ayes: all. Nays: none. Motion carried.**

**The Board was asked to adopt a resolution to retain Speer Financial, Inc. as municipal advisor for the bond issuance.**

**Director D'Souza moved, seconded by Director Garvin, to adopt the resolution to retain Speer Financial, Inc. as municipal advisor. Ayes: all. Nays: none. Motion carried.**

**Chancellor Doucette thanked the Board for their support of the bond referendum and the projects it will fund, and thanked the staff members who have been involved in the development of the career academies, high school partnerships, and facilities plans. President Gallagher thanked the staff members on behalf of the Board.**

**President Gallagher adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.**

**Approved:**

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**Honey H. Bedell, Board Secretary**

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**Board President**