



Texas Southmost College District

Board of Trustees

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Lily F. Tercero, Ph.D.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

September 25, 2014

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session on September 25, 2014, at 5:30 p.m., in the Gorgas Board Room at Texas Southmost College. Board members present were Francisco G. Rendon, Chair; Trey Mendez, Vice Chair; Art Rendon, Dr. Reynaldo García, Adela G. Garza and Ramon Champion Hinojosa. Absent was Ed Rivera, Secretary. Also present was Dr. Lily F. Tercero, President of Texas Southmost College.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rendon at 5:34 p.m.

2. Speakers to Agenda Items and Public Discussion

Mr. Robert Uresti, TSC student gave his thanks to Dr. Tercero and the Board of Trustees.

3. Mission Statement

Chairman Rendon read the existing mission for Texas Southmost College District as follows:

“Transforming our communities through innovative learning opportunities”

4. Introduction of the TSC Faculty Senate and Officers

Chairman Rendon called on Dr. Tercero to present the item. Dr. Tercero reported that TSC Faculty members have been proactively working on establishing a faculty association. She introduced the faculty leaders who have been involved in this important initiative. She informed the Board that the faculty members are currently working on finalizing their process and will soon be electing officers.

The faculty leaders are as follows: Dorothy Boven, Celia Flores-Feist, Thomas Welther, Julie Larson, Alma Ortiz-Knopp, Murad Abusalim, Consuelo Villalon, Alberto Herrera, Steven Benton, Roberto Cortina, and Beatriz Castillo.

Dr. Tercero thanked them for their hard work and commitment to the College.

5. President's Report

Chairman Rendon called on Dr. Tercero to give the report. Dr. Tercero reported on the new hires of faculty and staff members: Martha Bustamante, Adjunct Instructor, Social Work; Diana Cortez-Castro, Adjunct Instructor, Child Care and Development; Iris de Leon, Administrative Assistant, Purchasing; Ismael Haun, Administrative Assistant, Human Resources; Jaime Lopez, Adjunct Continuing Education Instructor, Reading; Erika Maldonado, Adjunct Instructor, Child Care and Development; Michelle Oliva, Adjunct Instructor, Child Care and Development; Victor Rodriguez, Instructor, Automotive Technology; Noemi Vasquez, Administrative Assistant, Licensed Vocational Nursing Program; James Wieloch, Adjunct Continuing Education Instructor, Mathematics. She also stated that staff completed the entire employment process for the grants position and an employment offer was made; however, the candidate withdrew.

She reported that TSC's preliminary enrollment figure for fall 2014 is 3,893, a 6 percent increase compared to last fall. This includes 3,180 on-campus students (a 5.4 percent increase compared to last fall) and 713 dual credit/early college high school students (an 8.9 percent increase compared to last fall).

Dr. Tercero reported that TSC participated in the SpaceX community event held at the Brownsville Sports Complex. She asked Ms. Melinda Rodriguez, Director of Marketing and Community Relations, to present photos of the faculty, staff, and students who participated in this community event.

She concluded by noting that Human Resources will be working on a Job Fair in October in preparation of the spring semester.

6. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

Consideration and Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 21, 2014 and Special Meeting of August 28, 2014

A motion was made by Mr. Mendez to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 21, 2014 and Special Meeting of August 28, 2014 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hinojosa and carried unanimously.

7. Update on the Process of select a Financial Advisor

Chairman Rendon called on Mr. Chet Lewis, Vice President of Finance and Administration to present the item. Mr. Lewis stated that at the last Board meeting, staff was directed to move forward on the selection of a new financial advisor. Staff have been working on the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and have started the advertisement process. He stated that the bid opening will be held on October 7, 2014. He recommended that a special meeting be held on October 13, 2014, so that the Board may consider the selection of a Financial Advisor. The Board agreed to have a Special Meeting on October 13, 2014. *Exhibit "A"*

8. Discussion on the process regarding the selection of a firm to provide Professional Planning & Design Services for the TSC Campus Master Plan

Chairman Rendon called on Mr. Lewis to present the item. Mr. Lewis stated that at the last Board meeting, a question arose regarding the process to be used in the selection of a firm to provide services for the development of the TSC Campus Mater Plan. He reported that according to the Board's attorney, these presentations need to be conducted in an open meeting format. Additionally, in response to the Board's request for more specific information, Mr. Lewis stated that the Board can discuss and select a set of questions at this meeting, which will be sent to each of the firms, each Board member can provide questions to staff, which will be sent to each of the firms, or the Board can hold a workshop at a later date to further discuss this item. The Board agreed to hold a workshop on Monday, September 29, 2014.

9. Construction Project Update

Chairman Rendon called on Mr. Lewis to present the item. Mr. Lewis said that the asbestos abatement and demolition project for the Village at Fort Brown buildings have been demolished and almost complete in leveling the ground. He also updated the Board on the relocation of the TSC Nursing and Allied Health Labs. *Exhibit "B"*

10. Executive Session as provided by Government Code, Chapter 551.071.

The Board convened in Executive Session at 6:15 p.m.

The Board reconvened in Regular Session at 6:45 p.m.

11. Consideration and possible action on matters discussed in Executive Session

**Consultation with Attorney on
Pending or Contemplated Litigation, Section
551.071, Texas Government Code.**

No action was taken.

12. Proposed Meeting Dates

Monday, September 29, 2014
Special Board Meeting
Monday, October 13, 2014
Special Board Meeting
Thursday, October 16, 2014
Regular Board Meeting

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Rendon at 6:47 p.m.



Mr. Francisco G. Rendon
Chairman, Board of Trustees



Mr. Ed Rivera
Secretary, Board of Trustees

NOTE: The tape of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting held on September 25, 2014, is on file at the District Office of the Texas Southmost College District. The master tape is on file at TSC Media Services. These minutes were taken and transcribed by Max E. Roca, Senior Administrative Assistant. Videotaping of the Board of Trustees' meetings began on April 11, 1996. They are aired on Channel KBSD in cooperation with the Brownsville Independent School District.