



TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE DISTRICT

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT BROWNSVILLE and TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE

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## Texas Southmost College District

### Board of Trustees

*Chester Gonzalez*  
Chair

*Rosemary Breedlove*  
Vice Chair

*Eduardo A. Campirano*  
Secretary

*Roman "Dino" Esparza*

*David G. Oliveira*

*Roberto Robles, M.D.*

*Dolly Zimmerman*

### UTB/TSC President

*Juliet V. Garcia, Ph.D*

## Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

February 1, 2007

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session on February 1, 2007 at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room of Gorgas Hall, Texas Southmost College. Board members present were Mr. Chester Gonzalez, Chair, Ms. Rosemary Breedlove, Vice Chair, Mr. Eduardo A. Campirano, Secretary, Ms. Dolly Zimmerman, Mr. David Oliveira, Dr. Roberto Robles, and Mr. Roman "Dino" Esparza. Also present was Dr. Juliet V. García, President of The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College.

### Regular Meeting

#### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gonzalez at 5:30 p.m.

#### 1 Executive Session

As provided by Government Code,  
Chapter 551.072

#### Real Estate

**Contract** and Resolution for  
Purchase of Fort Brown Villas I,  
Unit 1020, Brownsville, Texas  
**Contract** and Resolution for  
Purchase of Fort Brown Villas I,  
Unit 5009, Brownsville, Texas  
**Contract** and Resolution for  
Purchase of Fort Brown Villas II,  
Unit 1-C, Brownsville, Texas  
**Contract** and Resolution for  
Purchase of Fort Brown Villas II,  
Unit 2-F, Brownsville, Texas

**Construction and Resolution for  
Purchase of Fort Brown Villas II,  
Unit 3-E, Brownsville, Texas**

**The Board convened in Executive Session at 6:10 p.m.**

**The Board reconvened in Regular Session at 6:52 p.m.**

**2 Consideration and Possible Action on Matters Discussed in Executive Session**

**Consideration and Possible Action on  
Contract and Resolution for Purchase of  
Fort Brown Villas I, Unit 1020, Brownsville, Texas**

**A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to approve the Contract and Resolution for the Purchase of Fort Brown Villas I, Unit 1020, Brownsville, Texas, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robles and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "A"***

**Consideration and Possible Action on  
Contract and Resolution for Purchase of  
Fort Brown Villas I, Unit 5009, Brownsville, Texas**

**A motion was made by Dr. Robles to approve the Contract and Resolution for the Purchase of Fort Brown Villas I, Unit 5009, Brownsville, Texas, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "B"***

**Consideration and Possible Action on  
Contract and Resolution for Purchase of  
Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 1-C, Brownsville, Texas**

**A motion was made by Ms. Zimmerman to approve the Contract and Resolution for the Purchase of Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 1-C, Brownsville, Texas, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Breedlove and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "C"***

**Consideration and Possible Action on  
Contract and Resolution for Purchase of  
Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 2-F, Brownsville, Texas**

**A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to approve the Contract and Resolution for the Purchase of Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 2-F, Brownsville, Texas, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Breedlove and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "D"***

**Consideration and Possible Action on  
Contract and Resolution for Purchase of  
Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 3-E, Brownsville, Texas**

**A motion was made by Ms. Zimmerman to approve the Contract and Resolution for the Purchase of Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 3-E, Brownsville, Texas, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robles and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "E"***

**3 Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

**Consideration and Possible Action on  
Minutes of Regular Meeting November 30, 2006,  
and Regular Meeting December 11, 2006**

**A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to approve the minutes of the Regular Meetings of November 30, 2006 and December 11, 2006, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "F"***

**4 Speakers to Agenda Items and Public Discussion**

There were no speakers.

**5 Board Briefing**

**Arecibo Remote Command Center**

Dr. Peter Gawenda, Acting Dean of College of Science and Mathematics, introduced Dr. Frederick Jenet, Professor of the Physics and Astronomy Department. Dr. Jenet reported that UTB/TSC received a \$600,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to establish a remote command center in the Science and Engineering Technology Building. This remote command center controls the world's largest single-dish radio telescope located in Puerto Rico's Arecibo Observatory, and Dr. Jenet explained that it makes it possible for students to learn about radio pulsars without having to travel to Puerto Rico. Dr. Jenet also narrated a 3D animation of a proposed research facility to accompany the remote command center. He explained that the funding sources to construct the facility have not yet been identified.

**6 Business Affairs Partnership Committee Report****Consideration and Possible Action on  
Acceptance of TSC Annual Financial Report  
and Audit for Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2006**

Dr. David Pearson, Vice President for Partnership Affairs, explained that the Trustees have directed the District to be audited annually by an independent firm. He reported that the annual financial report for Fiscal Year 2006 was reviewed and audited for the third consecutive year by Long Chilton, LLP. Dr. Pearson reported that the District received an unqualified opinion. There were also no findings in the audit and no management letter.

Ms. Melba Sanchez, District Comptroller, acknowledged Ms. Nancy Saldaña, Assistant District Comptroller, for acting as District Comptroller for over eight months and playing a key role during the audit preparation.

**A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to accept the TSC Annual Financial Report and Audit for Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2006, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robles and carried unanimously. Exhibit "G"**

**Consideration and Possible Action on  
Granting Certain Tax Exemptions to  
Certain Historic Sites under the 2007 Heritage Plan**

Mr. Campirano explained that the Brownsville Heritage Council is asking for the District's support to provide tax exemptions to certain historic sites under the 2007 Heritage Plan. He stated that the total dollar amount of tax forgone would be \$7,480.33, which is \$2,618.74 more than last year due to property evaluation increases. He also stated that there were 56 exemptions in 2006 and there are 54 exemptions for 2007.

**A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to adopt the Resolution Granting Certain Tax Exemptions to Certain Historic Sites under the 2007 Heritage Plan, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Breedlove and carried unanimously. Exhibit "H"**

**7 First Quarter Financial and Investment Reports**

The First Quarter Financial and Investment Reports for TSC were presented by Ms. Sanchez. The report was for informational purposes only and required no action.  
*Exhibit "I"*

## 8 Bond Projects Report

*Ms. Veronica Mendez, Vice President for Construction, reported the following:*

- In preparation for construction of the Center for Early Childhood Studies, the existing structure at the building site was demolished.
- As part of the renovations to the air conditioning system at the ITEC Campus, the cooling tower is being reinforced. It will be moved to the roof in the coming weeks.
- Construction of the Recreation, Education and Kinesiology (REK) complex continues to make progress. Pier drilling has begun to prepare the site for the building foundation.

## 9 Construction Report

*Dr. Pearson reported the following:*

- Construction of the pedestrian bridge over the Fort Brown Resaca is almost complete. The 375 linear feet long bridge will connect The Village at Fort Brown with the Mary Rose Cardenas South Lawn.
- The Lightner Student Center is under renovation for use by the Academic Advising department. There will be 22 offices, a conference room, a work room and a reception area. The project is expected to be finished by spring 2007.
- The Commandant's Quarters building was moved over the holidays. It is now located next to the News and Information building. The building will be renovated under Mr. Larry Lof's supervision.
- The second floor of the Rusteberg building is under renovation for the Fine Arts Department. There will be studio spaces, faculty offices, and a workroom. The project, which is being renovated by Physical Plant, is expected to be completed by spring 2007.
- The 011 Overlay District, which covers all of the Fort Brown campus, was extended to include the south side of Jackson Street. The overlay District preserves the historical aspects of structures within the district. The Heritage Department of the City of Brownsville reviews permits for demolition or construction of buildings within the overlay district and gives UTB/TSC an opportunity to make recommendations.

## 10 President's Report

*Dr. García reported the following:*

- Dr. David E. Pearson has been appointed as Vice President for Partnership Affairs. Dr. Pearson served in the Faculty Fellowships Program during the 2006 fall semester. This program allows members of the faculty to apprentice with vice presidents. The Administrative Fellowships program will be established permanently is seeking nominations for others to participate during the 2007 fall semester.
- UTB/TSC received approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) to offer a Master's degree in Music. The THECB also gave preliminary planning authority for a Master's degree in History.
- UTB/TSC students interested in applying to law school had an opportunity to meet with the Interim Dean of the University of Texas Law School, Mr. Steven Goode, who was on campus last week.
- More than 600 hundred students from throughout the Rio Grande Valley attended a speech by Ms. Suzanne Young, a researcher with NASA's Phoenix Mars Lander Mission, which is scheduled to launch in August 2007.
- The Scorpion Baseball team will begin their 2007 season with a home opener against Viterbo University from Wisconsin on February 15.
- UTB/TSC launched the Imagine College program, which will make college possible and affordable for students. Beginning fall 2007, the program will cover all tuition and fees for first-time, full-time freshman Texas residents with a family income of \$25,000 or less.
- Dr. Mario Diaz, Director of the Center for Gravitational Wave and Astronomy and Associate Professor of Physics and Astronomy, was invited to speak during the annual Academy of Medicine, Engineering and Science of Texas Conference in Austin, Texas. His presentation was entitled *Our Present Knowledge of the Universe*.
- UTB/TSC held a *Celebration of Life* honoring Mr. Terry Jay Phillips. The celebration was held on Saturday, January 27 at the Student Union, Grand Salon.
- UTB/TSC hosted the Biomedical Research and Community Outreach Conference. Our professors were joined by other local experts to give a presentation entitled: *Alzheimer's Disease: Does the Future Hold Promise?* to the community.

**11 Proposed Meeting Dates**

Friday & Saturday – February 2 & 3, 2007 - Board Workshop  
Thursday, March 1, 2007  
Thursday, April 26, 2007  
Thursday, May 31, 2007  
Thursday, June 21, 2007  
July – No meeting

Mr. Gonzalez reviewed the dates with the Board.

**12 Announcements**

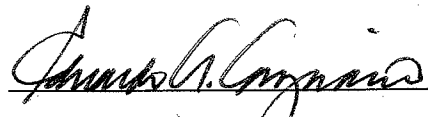
There were no announcements.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Gonzalez at 8:10 p.m.



Mr. Chester Gonzalez  
Chairman, Board of Trustees



Mr. Eduardo A. Campirano  
Secretary, Board of Trustees

**NOTE:** The tape of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting held on February 1, 2007 is on file at the District Office of the Texas Southmost College District. The master tape is on file at the UTB/TSC Media center. These minutes were taken and transcribed by Mari Montelongo, Administrative Secretary. Videotaping of the Board of Trustees' meetings began on April 11, 1996. They are aired on Channel KISD in cooperation with the Brownsville Independent School District.