



TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE DISTRICT
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT BROWNSVILLE and TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE

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Texas Southmost College District

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Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

March 1, 2007

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session on March 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 5:31 p.m.

1 Executive Session

**As provided by Government Code,
Chapter 551.072**

Real Estate

Discussion and possible action on 20 Hectares in Novillo Canyon, Mexico
Contract and Resolution for Purchase of Front 19.7 ft of Lot 4, Block 5, Paredes Addition, Brownsville, Texas
Contract and Resolution for Purchase of Lot 11, Block 16, Colonia Alta Vista, Brownsville, Texas
Contract and Resolution for Purchase of Lot 32, Block 12, Colonia Alta, Vista, Brownsville, Texas

**Contract and Resolution for
Purchase of Fort Brown Villas II,
Unit 6F, Brownsville, Texas**
**Contract and Resolution for
Purchase of Fort Brown Villas II,
Unit 8A, Brownsville, Texas**
**Contract and Resolution for
Purchase of Fort Brown Villas II,
Unit 5C, Brownsville, Texas**
**Contract and Resolution for
Purchase of Fort Brown Villas II,
Unit 7B, Brownsville, Texas**

The Board convened in Executive Session at 5:36 p.m.

The Board reconvened in Regular Session at 6:48 p.m.

2 Consideration and Possible Action on Matters Discussed in Executive Session

**Discussion and Possible Action on
20 Hectares in Novillo Canyon, Mexico**

A motion was made by Dr. Robles to adopt the Resolution Consenting to the Sale of 20 Hectares in Novillo Canyon, Mexico, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Esparza and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "A"*

**Consideration and Possible Action on
Contract and Resolution for Purchase of
Front 19.7 ft. of Lot 4, Block 5, Paredes Addition, Brownsville, Texas**

A motion was made by Dr. Robles to approve the Contract and Resolution for the Purchase of Front 19.7 ft. of Lot 4, Block 5, Paredes Addition, Brownsville, Texas, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Esparza and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "B"*

**Consideration and Possible Action on
Contract and Resolution for Purchase of
Lot 11, Block 16, Colonia Alta Vista, Brownsville, Texas**

A motion was made by Mr. Esparza to approve the Contract and Resolution for the Purchase of Lot 11, Block 16, Colonia Alta Vista, 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
Lot 32, Block 12, Colonia Alta Vista, Brownsville, Texas**

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to approve the Contract and Resolution for the Purchase of Lot 32, Block 12, Colonia Alta Vista, Brownsville, Texas, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "D"*

**Consideration and Possible Action on
Contract and Resolution for Purchase of
Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 6-F, Brownsville, Texas**

A motion was made by Ms. Zimmerman to approve the Contract and Resolution for the Purchase of Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 6-F, Brownsville, Texas, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Breedlove and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "E"*

**Consideration and Possible Action on
Contract and Resolution for Purchase of
Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 8-A, Brownsville, Texas**

A motion was made by Mr. Esparza to approve the Contract and Resolution for the Purchase of Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 8-A, Brownsville, Texas, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robles and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "F"*

**Consideration and Possible Action on
Contract and Resolution for Purchase of
Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 5-C, Brownsville, Texas**

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to approve the Contract and Resolution for the Purchase of Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 5-C, Brownsville, Texas, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "G"*

**Consideration and Possible Action on
Contract and Resolution for Purchase of
Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 7-B, Brownsville, Texas**

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to approve the Contract and Resolution for the Purchase of Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 7-B, Brownsville, Texas, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robles and carried unanimously. Exhibit "H"

3 Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

**Consideration and Possible Action on
Minutes of Regular Meeting February 1, 2007**

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 1, 2007, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and carried unanimously.

4 Speakers to Agenda Items and Public Discussion

**2nd Annual Sergeant Keith Ferguson
5 Kilometers Run/Walk Race**

Ms. Sonia Cunningham, Associate Professor in the Nursing Department, addressed the Board regarding the 2nd Annual 5K Walk/Race in honor of his late son, Sergeant Keith Ferguson. Ms. Cunningham announced that the race, which will be held on April 14, will be followed by the celebration commemorating the 15th anniversary of the College of Liberal Arts. She announced that registration is \$15 in advance, and \$20 the day of the race. The proceeds from the race will be used to create an endowed chair in the Department of Criminal Justice.

5 Board Briefing

UTB/TSC Anniversary Celebration

Dr. Ruth Ann Ragland, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, introduced Dr. Olivia Rivas, Chair of the School of Specialties Department and head of the Anniversary Celebration Committee. Dr. Rivas provided an update on the anniversary events held since the launch of the year-long anniversary celebration in September 2006.

Dr. Rivas reported that some of the anniversary events already held include: open houses for the College of Science, Math & Technology, the School of Business and the School of Health Sciences, the Diamonds Among Us Ceremony, plus many other art, cultural, and educational events. Dr. Rivas also reviewed the events that are scheduled for the remainder of the Anniversary Year. These events include: The Reading Aloud Marathon, the Quinceañera Scholarship Gala, the Liberal Arts Fair, and many others. Dr. Rivas invited the Board and the community to attend the anniversary events.

6 Budget**Consideration and Possible Action on
Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2007**

Ms. Melba Sanchez, TSC District Comptroller, stated that Budget Amendment #07-003 adjusts the budget for additional salaries, taxes and benefits due to the re-organization of the District Office. It also adjusts the budget for increased fees to the Cameron Appraisal District. Ms. Sanchez noted that this budget amendment does not affect the projected fund balance.

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to approve Budget Amendment #07-003, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robles and carried unanimously. Exhibit "I"

7 Resolution**Consideration and Possible Action on a Resolution
Requesting the Creation and Submission of a Bill Relating
to a Fee in Support of Intercollegiate Athletics at UTB/TSC**

Dr. David Pearson, Vice President for Partnership Affairs, reminded the Board that the students held a successful referendum in November to create an Athletic fee of \$7 per semester credit hour. He stated that the revenue from the fee will allow the Athletics Program to increase its support services and continue to grow. The fee will go into effect in the fall of 2008.

Dr. Pearson explained that the proposed resolution asserts the District's support of Senate Bill 612 and House Bill 1505, which amend the Education Code to establish an Intercollegiate Athletics Fee at UTB and describes how revenue from the fee shall be expended in accordance with the partnership agreements entered into between UTB and TSC.

A motion was made by Ms. Zimmerman to adopt the Resolution Requesting the Creation and Submission of a Bill Relating to the Fee in Support of Intercollegiate Athletics at UTB/TSC, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Campirano and carried unanimously. Exhibit "J"

8 Bond Projects Report**Approval of Schematic Designs for
Library and Classrooms Projects**

Ms. Veronica Mendez, Assistant Vice President for Construction, reviewed the process followed to develop the schematic designs for the Library and Classroom projects. Ms. Mendez stated that the relevant Board Bond Advisory Committees (BBACs) and Campus Advisory Committees (CACs) provided input regarding the site, floor plans and elevations of the projects.

Ms. Mendez introduced Ms. Diana Gonzalez, Project Manager from Broaddus and Associates, to report on the budget for the bond projects. Ms. Gonzalez reported that Broaddus and Associates has continued to look for cost-saving measures with the architects, contractors and consultants involved in the bond projects. She stated that as a result the overall budget overage has been reduced from the 15% reported at the Board retreat to about 7%. The overage for the Professional Zone has been reduced from 19% to about 14%.

Ms. Gonzalez introduced Mr. Jim Sterner and Mr. Henry Muñoz from Kell Muñoz Architects in San Antonio. Mr. Muñoz reviewed in detail the main elements of the schematic designs for the Library and Classroom projects. Mr. Sterner played a 3D animation of the Professional Zone that showed the designs for the Library and the Classroom projects and their proximity to the existing Education and Business Complex.

Chairman Gonzalez and Trustee Liaison for the Classroom Project, reported that the BBAC for the Professional Zone met on Tuesday, February 20, to review the schematic designs presented. He stated that the meeting was well attended with faculty, staff, and students, as well as Trustee Rosemary Breedlove present. He stated that the BBAC recommends approval of the schematic designs.

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to approve the Schematic Designs for the Library and Classroom Projects, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "K"*

9 Construction Report

Dr. Pearson reported the following:

- The George Truan Sculpture Garden is near completion. The benches have been installed and the landscaping improvements are in progress. The project is expected to be completed in a couple of weeks.
- Electrical wiring for the light fixtures at the Pedestrian Bridge is underway. Expected completion for this project is in the Spring of 2007.
- A 35,000-pound cooling tower was moved from its temporary location at one of the parking lots to the roof of the ITEC Campus. This is one of the final steps of the renovation of the ITEC Campus Thermal Plant.

10 President's Report

Dr. García reported the following:

- Dr. Luis Colón, Dr. Mario Díaz, Dr. Jude Benavides, and Dr. Elizabeth Heise participated in the UT System Technology Transfer Showcase in Austin. Their display focused on the Bahia Grande Project and Gravitational Wave Astronomy programs.
- A memorial service was held on Saturday, February 15, at 5:00 p.m., in remembrance of Dr. Gerhard Grytz, Assistant Professor of History, who passed away on Saturday, February 10. Dr. Grytz is survived by his wife Kathy, who works in the University's Office of Environmental Health and Safety.
- UT System Regent Robert A. Estrada established a \$10,000 endowment fund in honor of his parents, Carlos A. and Virginia G. Estrada. Also Nancy Freeth, Associate Nursing Professor, established the \$10,000 Robert A. Wood Nursing Scholarship.
- Axel Bachmann and Nadya Ortiz, two of the best chess players in South America, were recruited to join the UTB/TSC Chess Team.
- The Academy Award winning documentary "An Inconvenient Truth" was presented on Tuesday, February 27, at 7:00 p.m. in the Student Union Gran Salon. This documentary will serve as a stimulus to developing a conservationist master plan for our campus and for exploring sustainability with our community partners.
- The Excelencia in Education meeting was attended by the Presidents and staff from UT Pan American, South Texas College, UT El Paso, El Paso County Community College and UTB/TSC. The purpose of this meeting was to identify and share strategies to advance Latino College Student success.
- The UTB/TSC Master Chorale embarks on a concert tour of Ireland this month. The tour's highlight will be a performance at the St. Patrick's Cathedral during the St. Patrick's Day Festival.
- Dr. David Hicks, Assistant Professor in the Biology Department, will make the next presentation for the South Padre Island Faculty Series on March 29. He will lecture on fish-eating snails. Other South Padre Island Faculty Series presenters have been Dr. David Pearson, "KAL 007: The Coverup: Why the True Story Has Never Been Told", and Dr. Tony Knopp, "U.S. – Mexico War: Its Impact on the Valley and the World We Live in Today."
- Dr. Charles Dameron, Vice President for Academic Affairs, has been selected to become a member of the Texas Institute of Letters, which recognizes distinctive literary achievement in Texas.

- Mr. Michael Olivas, the William B. Bates Distinguished Chair in Law and Director of the Institute for Higher Education Law and Governance at the University of Houston Law Center, will be on our campus. Mr. Olivas will present his book "*Colored Men and Hombres Aqui: Hernandez v. Texas and the Rise of Mexican American Lawyering*" on Tuesday, March 27, at 6:00 p.m. at the Science and Engineering Technology Building Lecture Hall.

11 Proposed Meeting Dates

Thursday, April 26, 2007
Thursday, May 31, 2007
Thursday, June 21, 2007
July – No meeting
Thursday, August 30, 2007
Thursday, September 27, 2007


Mr. Gonzalez reviewed the dates with the Board.

12 Announcements

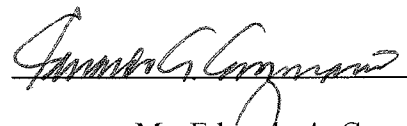
There were no announcements.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Gonzalez at 8:14 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 March 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.