



TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE DISTRICT

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT BROWNSVILLE and TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE

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Texas Southmost College District

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

February 14, 2008

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session on February 14, 2008 at 4:30 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, Dr. Roberto Robles, Ms. Dolly Zimmerman, Mr. David Oliveira and Mr. José A. Herrera, Jr. Also present was Dr. Juliet V. García, President of The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College.

Call to Order

1. Executive Session

as provided by Government
Code, Chapter 551.072

Real Estate

Contract and resolution for purchase
of Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 3-F,
Brownsville, Texas

Contract and resolution for purchase
of Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 8-D,
Brownsville, Texas

Contract and resolution for purchase
of Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 7-D,
Brownsville, Texas

Contract and resolution for purchase
of Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 14-F,
Brownsville, Texas

**Contract and resolution for purchase
of Fort Brown Villas I, Unit 5007,
Brownsville, Texas**

The Board convened in Executive Session at 4:40 p.m.

The Board reconvened in Regular Session at 4:52 p.m.

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

**Contract and resolution for purchase of
Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 3-F, Brownsville, Texas**

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to approve the earnest money contract and resolution for the acquisition of Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 3-F in the amount of \$40,000. The motion was seconded by Mr. Herrera and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "A"*

**Contract and resolution for purchase
of Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 8-D, Brownsville, Texas**

A motion was made by Mr. Herrera to approve the earnest money contract and resolution for the acquisition of Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 8-D in the amount of \$41,500. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robles and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "B"*

**Contract and resolution for purchase
of Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 7-D, Brownsville, Texas**

A motion was made by Mr. Oliveira to approve the earnest money contract and resolution for the acquisition of Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 7-D in the amount of \$42,000. The motion was seconded by Mr. Campirano and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "C"*

**Contract and resolution for purchase of
Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 14-F, Brownsville, Texas**

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to approve the earnest money contract and resolution for the acquisition of Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 14-F in the amount of \$49,000 as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "D"*

**Contract and resolution for purchase of
Fort Brown Villas I, Unit 5007, Brownsville, Texas**

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to approve the earnest money contract and resolution for the acquisition of Fort Brown Villas I, Unit 5007, Brownsville, Texas, in the amount of \$45,000 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 on January 17, 2008**

A motion was made by Dr. Robles to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on January 17, 2008. The motion was seconded by Ms. Breedlove and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "F"*

4. Speakers to Agenda Items and Public Discussion

A member of the community spoke in reference to the Border Wall.

5. Resolution

**Consideration and possible action on
adoption of a Resolution in Support of the Big Read Program**

Dr. Pearson, Vice president of Partnership Affairs introduced University Archivist, John Hawthorn, sponsor of the Big Read Program. Mr. Hawthorn presented the Big Read, an initiative of the National Endowment of the Arts, in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and Arts Midwest. The program is designed to restore reading to the Center of American Culture. The National Endowment for the Arts has awarded the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College a \$16,000 national competitive grant in support of the Big Read. The university has partnered with the Brownsville Independent School District to encourage reading of great literature among community students. The kick-off event to launch the program is scheduled for March 1, 2008.

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to adopt the resolution in support of the Big Read Program as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "G"*

6. Business Affairs Partnership Committee

Report

Mr. Campirano reported that the Business Affairs Partnership Committee met on February 11, 2008. The committee reviewed and recommended on the following three items:

Consideration and possible action on Adoption of Resolution Granting Certain Tax Exemptions to Certain Historic Sites under the 2008 Heritage Plan.

Mr. Campirano reported that this request is keeping with our community university's interest and commitment to the restoration and preservation of historic properties. The financial implications to the District would be a total of \$8,615.68 of tax forgone for 43 properties, which would be included in the FY 2009 budget. Mr. Jose Gavito, Heritage Officer from the City of Brownsville, was present.

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to adopt a resolution granting certain tax exemptions to certain historic sites under the 2008 Heritage Plan as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Breedlove and carried unanimously. "Exhibit H"

Consideration and possible action on Proposal for Mary Rose Cardenas North and South Halls HVAC Control System Upgrade

Mr. Campirano reported that the upgrade will allow approximately 60 percent of the building to be computer controlled under Siemens the campus HVAC Control System. The remaining 40 percent of the upgrade will be requested next fiscal year. Siemens controls are proprietary, and thus cannot be obtained elsewhere. The quoted price was obtained through TXMAS, a State group purchasing program.

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to award the contract for Mary Rose Cardenas North and South Halls HVAC Control System Upgrade to Siemens Control in the amount of \$ 49, 950 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Herrera and carried unanimously. "Exhibit I"

Consideration and possible action on Proposal for REK Center Weight and Fitness Equipment

Mr. Campirano reported that the owner procurement of materials was identified as one of the cost control strategies for the construction projects. By procuring the weight and fitness equipment for the REK Center through a State group purchasing contract, staff anticipates a total savings of \$160,000.

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to accept the proposal from Life Fitness in the amount of \$327,283.28 and authorize the Assistant Vice president for Planning and Construction to execute the purchase order. The motion was seconded by Ms. Breedlove and carried unanimously. "Exhibit J"

7. Physical Facilities Committee

Report

Ms. Rosemary Breedlove reported on the Physical Facilities Committee meeting. The committee met on January 28, 2008, to review and discuss the competitive sealed proposals for Construction of the Center for Early Childhood Studies. Ms. Breedlove called on Dr. Pearson to present the item recommended by the committee.

Consideration and possible action on Competitive Sealed Proposals for Construction of the Center for Early Childhood Studies

Dr. David Pearson, Vice President for Partnership Affairs, provided a brief overview of the recommendation made by the Board of Trustees to proceed with the competitive sealed proposals for the construction of the Early Childhood Studies on August 27, 2007. The project was advertised according to the TSC Board Policies. The proposals were received on December 19, 2007, and were evaluated by members of the Construction Council, as well as Ms. Diana Bravo Gonzalez, Mr. Larry Janousek, and Mr. Joe Rafac. In addition, the proposals were reviewed during the Physical Facilities Committee (PFC). Upon evaluation of the proposals, the PFC proposed to accept the proposal provided by RGV Paint Center and Construction for recommendation.

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to select RGV Paint Center and Construction as the best value respondent for the Competitive Sealed Proposals for Construction of the Center for Early Childhood Studies and authorize the Assistant Vice President for Planning and Construction to negotiate the contract. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and carried unanimously. Exhibit "K"

8. Change Order

Consideration and possible action on Change Order to the Contract with Design Build Solutions for Construction of the ITECC Roof.

Ms. Veronica Mendez, Assistant Vice President for Planning and Construction, explained that at the request of Texas Southmost College, Broaddus and Associates obtained a cost estimate from Design Build Solutions, a Garland Company, to increase the roof replacement work at the ITEC Campus. In August 2007, the Board of Trustees awarded the roofing project for the ITEC Campus to Design Build Solutions, a Garland Company, through a TXMAS (State group purchasing contract) in the amount of \$1,998,402. The scope of work consisted of re-roofing 142,845 sq. ft. of the ITECC roof. During the construction process the project realized a credit on roof decking in the amount of \$220,762,60. Due to the poor conditions of the Incubator roof, a recommendation was made to extend the contract to repair the Incubator and the Incubator Expansi3n roof areas. The proposed cost of this new 44,278 sq. ft. area is \$598,493. With the applied credit of \$220,762.60, the remaining balance of the proposed change order for the area will be \$377,730.40.

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to approve the Change Order to Contract Design Build Solutions, a Garland Company, for the Construction of the ITECC Roof in the amount of \$377,730.40, and authorize the Vice President for Planning and Construction to execute the change order. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robles and carried unanimously. Mr. Oliveira abstained. Exhibit "L"

9. Trustee Elections

Consideration and possible action on Notice and Order of Election

Dr. Pearson introduced Mr. Allan Peakes, Assistant Vice President for Facilities Services. Mr. Peakes explained that the Notice and Order of Election serves to notify the public that the District will conduct an election listing the early/regular voting participating sites, dates, and times. He added that there will be 38 polling places for the General Election, the same as the previous election; and 8 early voting sites, one more than the previous election.

A motion was made by Mr. Oliveira to approve the Notice and Order of Election as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Breedlove and carried unanimously. Exhibit "M"

10. President's Report

Dr. Garcia reported the following:

- The Center for Gravitational Wave Astronomy was featured on the front page of the National Science Foundation (NSF) website as a result of a program funded by the NSF. Dr. Fredereick A. Jenet, Assistant Professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, heads the Arecibo Remote Command Center, which

controls the world's largest radio telescope located in Puerto Rico. The program has been such a success in recruiting students in the sciences that it is now being replicated in Wisconsin, Utah, and Australia. Dr. Jenet has another project funded by the NSF for \$1,055,000, entitled "Pulsar Search Partnerships: Attaining young Hispanic Students into careers in Astrophysics." Dr. Garcia congratulated Dr. Jenet and his students.

- UTB/TSC and the Association of Maquiladoras of Matamoros signed a Memorandum of Understanding earlier this week that will facilitate education, research, and internships for students and employees. The MOU emphasizes academic degrees and specialized workforce training for maquila employees. Our students will have access to 122 member maquiladoras for research.
- The Award-winning UTB/TSC One O'Clock Jazz Band has been invited to participate at the 50th Annual Collegiate Jazz Festival at the University of Notre Dame on February 22-23, 2008.
- UTB/TSC Chess Player Axel Bachmann was named 2007 Sportsman of the Year in Paraguay and also earned the prestigious "Grandmaster" title. Mr. Bachmann is presently competing in Torneo Iberoamericano Morelai 2008, featuring 24 of the top players from Latin America and Spain. Dr. Garcia congratulated Axel and wished him well during his upcoming competition in Spain.
- Dr. Garcia congratulated Larry Loff for receiving the *Humanities Texas Inaugural Award* from Texas Governor Rick Perry in January 2008. The award was presented at the Historic Senate Chamber at the State Capitol in Austin. The award recognizes imaginative leadership in the humanities on a local, regional or state level and carries a cash award of \$5,000.
- The public is invited to submit names of deserving candidates for the Distinguished Alumnus Award for the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College.

11. Proposed Meeting Dates

Thursday, March 27, 2008

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Monday, May 19, 2008

Thursday, June 26, 2008

12. Announcements

- Dr. Vince Solis introduced Matthew Kendall, President, and Crystal Olivo, Vice President, of the Student Government Association (SGA).

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Gonzalez at 6:20 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 14, 2008 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 Gloria Miranda, Administrative Assistant. 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.