



**Board of Trustees**

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*Adela G. Garza*

*Reynaldo García, DDS*

*Art Rendon*

*Ramon Champion Hinojosa*

**TSC President**

*Lily F. Tercero, Ph.D.*

**Texas Southmost College District**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

August 27, 2015

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session on August 27, 2015, 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; Ed Rivera, Secretary; Dr. Reynaldo García; Adela G. Garza; and Ramon Champion Hinojosa. Also present was Dr. Lily F. Tercero, President of Texas Southmost College. Absent was Art Rendon.

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rendon at 5:35 p.m.

**2. Speakers to Agenda Items and Public Discussion**

Mr. Dagoberto Barrera, a community member, addressed the Board regarding the proposed 2015 tax rate. There were no other speakers.

**3. Mission Statement**

Chairman Rendon read the mission and role and scope for Texas Southmost College District as follows:

Mission:

Transforming our communities through innovative learning opportunities.

Role and Scope:

Texas Southmost College's mission is guided by our commitment to provide:

- University transfer, career, and technical programs leading to an associate degree or certificate along with courses specializing in college preparatory and

developmental education, workforce training, adult literacy, and continuing education to support the evolving needs of citizens, industry, and economic development initiatives within Cameron and Willacy Counties.

- High-quality instruction and learning opportunities in the classroom, online, and through other delivery methods; a supportive and innovative faculty and staff; appropriate technology, equipment, and learning resources; and advising and assessment services to promote transfer to a four-year baccalaureate institution, entry or advancement in the workforce, or lifelong learning.
- A learning-centered, service-oriented environment that celebrates diversity and inclusion; facilitates growth and development; fosters social responsibility, critical thinking, communication, and innovation; and empowers and engages students, faculty and staff to achieve personal and professional goals.
- Institutional effectiveness that embraces individual accountability, data-informed decision making, change, and an unending pursuit of excellence.

#### **4. President's Report**

Chairman Rendon called on Dr. Tercero to give the report. Dr. Tercero announced new staff members: Gilbert Alcala, Instructor, Emergency Medical Science; Corina Alfaro, Instructor, Associate Degree Nursing; Blas Breceda, Instructor, Economics; Charles Garcia, Instructor, English for Speakers of Other Languages; Alejandra Parra, Academic Advisor; Tomas Ramos, Instructor, Respiratory Care Program Director; Dennis Salinas, Instructor, Mathematics; Dr. Apolinar Zapata, Instructor, Mathematics; Graciela Alonso, Adjunct Instructor, History; Margaret T. Annen, Adjunct Instructor, English; Maria Aquino, Instructor, English; Dr. Deborah A. Banker, Instructor, Education; Carlos F. Chavez, Building Maintenance Worker; Edgar Chrnko Salas, Director of Marketing and Community Relations; Adriana Escamilla, Adjunct Instructor, Sociology; Edgar Flores, Adjunct Instructor, Computer Science; Susy Garza, Sign Language Interpreter; Alma Gomez, Financial Aid, Reporting and Compliance Specialist; Dr. Daniel E. Gonzalez, Instructor, English; Ismael G. Haun, Administrative Assistant; Monica Hernandez, Instructor, Psychology; Gerardo Marmolejo, Adjunct Instructor, College Preparatory Mathematics; Maria McKenzie, Adjunct Instructor, English; Rosa Monsivais, Child Center Cook; Gregory S. Nelson, Instructor, Emergency Medical Science Program Director; Gloria G. Range, Instructor, College Preparatory Mathematics; Pete Tijerina, Instructor, English; and Leo Villarreal, Adjunct Instructor, Government.

Dr. Tercero stated that the Raul Alcala Challenge Bike Ride was a great success. TSC in collaboration with the City of Brownsville and numerous other local businesses participated in this inaugural event. She stated that about 300 riders

signed up for the 60 mile or the 100 mile ride. She also stated that this will likely be an annual event.

Dr. Tercero stated that the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) Onsite Visiting Committee were on the TSC campus on August 18 – 20, 2015. During their visit they had numerous interviews with students, faculty and staff and reviewed additional documents while on campus. She stated that TSC has not received the final report; however, they met prior to their departure to provide a preliminary information report and in this meeting they were very complimentary of the college, the college's administration and the officers of the Board of Trustees. Once the final report is provided, TSC will respond to document compliance. Our response and the final report will be forwarded to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. She stated that this achievement is simply outstanding and a testament to the hard work of our College's faculty and staff. She thanked the students, faculty and staff for their extraordinary efforts and for their continuing hard work for the good of this institution and its students.

#### **5. Consideration and Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings**

##### **Consideration and Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 23, 2015 and Special Meetings of August 7, 2015 and August 20, 2015**

**A motion was made by Dr. García to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 23, 2015 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rivera and carried. Mr. Mendez abstained.**

**A motion was made by Mr. Mendez to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of August 7, 2015 as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. García and carried. Mr. Mendez abstained.**

**A motion was made by Dr. García to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of August 20, 2015 as presented. Motion failed.**

**A motion was made by Mr. Rivera to table the Minutes of the Special Meeting of August 20, 2015 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mendez and carried unanimously.**

#### **6. Consideration and Approval of the Texas Southmost College District Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016**

##### **Consideration and Approval of the Texas Southmost College District Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016**

Chairman Rendon called on Dr. Tercero to present the item. Dr. Tercero called on Mr. Lewis to make the presentation. Mr. Lewis explained the various funds, revenues, expenses and transfers as defined in the budget. The following items were presented to the Board:

FY 2015-2016 Salaries and Benefits and  
FY 2015-2016 Credit and Non-Credit Tuition and Fees

- **A two (2.0) percent across-the-board salary increase for all full-time personnel employed by May 1, 2015;**
- **The FY 2015-2016 Salary Schedule;**
- **Authority for the president to set individual salaries and sign contracts;**
- **The FY 2015-2016 tuition and fees schedule; and**
- **Authority for the president to establish tuition and fees, including the establishment of zero non-credit tuition if local resources and state funding provide sufficient contributions to cover the cost of offering the course.**

FY 2015-2016 Budget Resolution

**Be it resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District that the Texas Southmost College Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 in the amount of \$42,422,915 comprised of the following amounts:**

<b>\$ 30,876,079</b>	<b>Maintenance and Operation</b>
<b>\$ 7,379,620</b>	<b>Debt Service</b>
<b>\$ 826,023</b>	<b>Facilities Fund</b>
<b>\$ 2,289,398</b>	<b>Auxiliary Fund</b>
<b>\$ 1,051,795</b>	<b>Restricted Fund</b>

**be approved, and that a certified copy of the budget be filed with the state agencies as required by law and that said budget be included by reference in its entirety as a part of the minutes of this meeting.**

**A motion was made by Mr. Rivera to Approve the Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 as presented, including a two (2) percent across-the-board increase for all full-time personnel employed by May 1,2015; the FY 2015-2016 Salary Schedule; authority for the president to set individual salaries and sign contracts; the FY2015-2016 tuition and fee schedule; and authority for the president to establish tuition and fees, including the establishment of zero non-credit tuition if local resources and state funding provide sufficient contributions to cover the cost of offering the course); and the FY 2015-2016 Budget Resolution as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. García and carried. Mrs. Garza voted against. Mr. Hinojosa abstained. *Exhibit "A"***

Tax Exemptions for Certain Disabled and Senior Citizens were presented to the Board and Mr. Lewis read the Resolution.

**Be it so ordered by the Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District that all ad valorem tax exemptions comply with state law and are as noted below:**

<b>Disabled Veterans</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>
	<b>50%</b>	<b>7,500</b>
	<b>70%</b>	<b>10,000</b>
	<b>100%</b>	<b>12,000</b>
<b>Other Disabled Persons</b>		<b>Tax Freeze</b>
<b>Persons over Age 65</b>		<b>Tax Freeze</b>

**A motion was made by Mr. Hinojosa to Approve the Ad Valorem Tax Exemptions Resolution, which complies with state law, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rivera and carried unanimously.**

**7. Consideration and Approval of Adoption of 2015 TSC District Ad Valorem Tax Rates**

**Consideration and Approval of Adoption  
of 2015 TSC District Ad Valorem Tax Rates**

Mr. Lewis read the resolution.

**A motion was made by Mr. Rivera to adopt a resolution of Maintenance and Operations tax rate of \$0.107905 and a Debt Tax Rate of \$0.056189 per \$100 of valuation as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mendez and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "B"***

**8. Executive Session as provided by Government Code, Chapter 551.071 and 551.072.**

**The Board convened in Executive Session at 6:21 p.m.**

**The Board reconvened in Regular Session at 6:55 p.m.**

**9. 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.

**Consultation with Attorney on  
Pending Real Estate Issues, Section  
551.072, Texas Government Code.**

No action was taken.

**10. Proposed Meeting Dates**

**Thursday, September 24, 2015**  
Regular Board Meeting  
**Thursday, October 29, 2015**  
Regular Board Meeting

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Rendon at 6:55 p.m.

  
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Mr. Francisco G. Rendon  
Chairman, Board of Trustees

  
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Mr. Ed Rivera  
Secretary, Board of Trustees

**NOTE:** The tape of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting held on August 27, 2015, 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.