



Board of Trustees

Adela G. Garza
Chair

Trey Mendez, J.D.
Vice Chair

Ruben Herrera, J.D.
Secretary

Reynaldo García, DDS

Art Rendon

Tony Zavaleta, Ph.D.

Ruben Gallegos, Ph.D.

TSC President

Jesus Roberto Rodríguez, Ph.D.

Texas Southmost College District

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

September 21, 2017

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session on August 31, 2017, at 5:30 p.m., in the Gorgas Board Room at Texas Southmost College. Board Members present were Adela Garza, Chair; Trey Mendez, Vice Chair; Ruben Herrera, Secretary; Dr. Reynaldo García, Dr. Tony Zavaleta, Dr. Ruben Gallegos and Art Rendon. Also present was Dr. Jesus Roberto Rodríguez, President of Texas Southmost College.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Adela Garza, at 5:31 p.m.

2. Pledges of Allegiance

The Girl Scout Troop from South Padre Island led the United States Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Public Comment

No public speakers.

4. President's Report

Mrs. Garza called on Dr. Rodríguez to present the report. Dr. Rodríguez reported the enrollment numbers for Fall 2017. He informed that TSC total enrollment is 6,221 students, which is a 23% increase over Fall 2016. TSC Campus Enrollment is 3,821 students, Dual Enrollment is 1,073 students, and Early College High School Enrollment is at 1,327 students. He stated that the marketing department is preparing a press release with this information.

In addition, and in collaboration with the Education and Career Expo Leadership Committee, TSC hosted on September 21st the fifteenth Annual Education and Career Expo at the International, Technology, Education and Commerce Center (ITECC). The Expo provided opportunities for high school students to visit with representatives from colleges and universities. TSC had over 52 programs represented, 1,200 Rio Grande Valley high school students and more than 80 business and educational institutions. There were also opportunities for students to explore career options by interacting with 17 exhibitors from local, regional and state businesses and organizations. In addition, the expo activities included tours of the various TSC programs located at ITECC, as well as several panel presentations focusing on various career clusters.

Dr. Rodriguez recognized the exemplary service of several staff members: Joe Arambul, Sarai Barrera, Madeleine Guillen, Aidee Park and Cinthia Baleon. He stated that these five individuals work in the department of High School Programs and Services, and he recognized them for their significant contribution leading to TSC's record enrollment in dual credit and early college high school programs. He also named one more individual for recognition, Guadalupe Meza, in the office of Admissions and Records. Mr. Meza is being recognized for the extraordinary support that he provided to the department of High School Programs and Services which also contributed to TSC record enrollment this semester. The six individuals recognized, through their hard work, dedication and professionalism, serve as an example of the outstanding staff and faculty we have at TSC, and he thanked them for their exemplary service.

Dr. Rodríguez last noted that the Pizza with the President event is scheduled for October 3, 2017, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Gazebos. At the

event, he will meet with TSC students to hear from them regarding their experiences at TSC.

This concluded the President's Report.

5. Consideration and Approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of August 24, 2017 and the Regular Meeting of August 31, 2017

**Consideration and Approval of the
Minutes of the Special Meeting of August 24, 2017
and the Regular Meeting of August 31, 2017**

A motion was made by Mr. Herrera to Approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of August 24, 2017 and the Regular Meeting of August 31, 2017. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mendez and carried unanimously.

6. Presentation of The Texas House Historic Proclamation to TSC/Fort Brown Honoring the Service of United States Colored Troops at Fort Brown from 1864 to 1906

Mrs. Garza called on Dr. Zavaleta to present the item. Dr. Zavaleta stated that State Representative Eddie Lucio III and staff were kind enough this past session of the Legislature to place before the House of Representatives a Proclamation on TSC's behalf, in honor of the hundreds of African American soldiers that served at the at Fort Brown. He noted that there used to be a national cemetery where the Fort Brown Hotel was built, but the cemetery was later moved. The Board agreed to begin the process of honoring the memory of those soldiers. Gene Fernandez from the Brownsville Historical Association is assisting in writing the application to the State Historical Commission for the plaque.

Dr. Zavaleta called on Representative Lucio to present the Proclamation. Representative Lucio stated that the House of Representatives passed a resolution on behalf of the service of the United States Colored Troops at Fort Brown from 1864 to 1906. Representative Lucio had copies of the resolution for the Board Members and a special copy for Dr. Zavaleta. Representative Lucio then read the proclamation and congratulated Dr. Zavaleta on his work.

7. Presentation of the TSC Foundation, Inc. Scholarship

Mrs. Garza called on Mrs. Melinda Rodriguez, Vice President of Institutional Advancement & Workforce Training, to present the item. Mrs. Rodriguez introduced Dr. Tara Rios, Chair of the TSC Foundation Board of Directors. Dr. Rios stated that this was the first disbursement in five years by the Foundation. Dr. Rios was joined by Mr. Eduardo Campirano and Mr. Cesar Munoz also on the TSC Foundation Board of Directors to present a \$109,000 scholarship for TSC students.

8. Strategic Planning Subcommittee Report

Mrs. Garza called on Dr. Gallegos to make the report. Dr. Gallegos stated the Strategic Planning Subcommittee met with Dr. Rodriguez to discuss the process to develop a new strategic plan for the College. He noted that Dr. Rodriguez suggested, and the subcommittee agrees, that TSC engage Dr. Byron McClenney as a consultant to lead the College through this process. Dr. Rodriguez stated that an initial meeting with Dr. McClenney will be tentatively scheduled on October 6, 9, 10, or 11, depending on the Board of Trustees availability for the meeting. This meeting will commence the strategic planning process for the College.

This concluded the Strategic Planning Subcommittee Report.

9. Academic Subcommittee Report

Mr. Herrera stated that the Academic Subcommittee met on September 13, 2017, and are recommending Approval of item 9a. - Data Sharing with Region One Education Services Center and Brownsville Independent School District Adult Continuing Education Consortium for Cameron County.

Consideration and Approval of the Agreement for Data Sharing with Region One Education Services Center

A motion was made by Mr. Herrera to approve item 9a. - Data Sharing with Region One Education Services Center. The motion was seconded by Dr. Zavaleta and carried unanimously.

Consideration and Approval of the Brownsville Independent School District Adult Continuing Education Consortium for Cameron County

A motion was made by Mr. Herrera to approve the Brownsville Independent School District Adult Continuing Education Consortium for Cameron County. The motion was seconded by Dr. Gallegos and carried unanimously.

10. Budget/Finance Subcommittee Report

Mrs. Garza called on Dr. Zavaleta to present the item. Dr. Zavaleta stated that the Budget/Finance Subcommittee met on September 13 and 20 to consider the approval of a contract for Marcis and Associates Custodial Services on campus.

Mr. Herrera commented that at the previous Board Meeting this item had been brought to the Board for Approval. After having reviewed the contract for renewal, some issues were found with the contract and they are presently working with the President to resolve them. Dr. Zavaleta stated that Marcis and Associates will be providing custodial services on a month to month basis until a decision is made regarding the contract renewal.

A motion was made by Dr. Zavaleta to table item 10a. - Marcis and Associates Custodial Services. The motion was seconded by Mr. Herrera and carried unanimously.

11. Consideration and Approval of the Resolution to Nominate and Vote for the Position Eight (8) Representative on the Cameron Appraisal District.

Mrs. Garza explained to the Board that TSC has the opportunity to nominate someone from the Board as a nominee for Cameron Appraisal District Position 8 as a representative. She explained that each taxing unit is entitled to vote and nominate by resolution adopted, by its governing body one candidate. Mrs. Garza then suggested a list be obtained of all entities that are entitled to vote, that may help get TSC nominee elected. Mrs. Garza then shared that Dr. Zavaleta showed interest in being nominated by the Board.

A motion was made by Dr. Garcia to Nominate Dr. Zavaleta for Position Eight (8) Representative on the Cameron Appraisal District. The motion was seconded by Mr. Herrera and carried unanimously.

12. Executive Session

The Board convened in Executive Session at 6:13 p.m.

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

13. Action on Executive Session Matters

**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.**

- i. Regarding Potential Leases within Campus Buildings and/or Space within Buildings**
- ii. Between the United States Department of Education and Texas Southmost College**

A motion was made by Mr. Rendon to Approve the Second Amendment to space lease agreement that extended the current lease and Authorize the President to Execute that lease agreement with the University of Texas System. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mendez and carried unanimously.

**Deliberation on Personnel Matters,
Section 551.074, Texas Government Code.**

No action was taken.

14. Report on the Third Quarter Investment Report

Mrs. Garza called on Mr. Santos Alarcon, Vice President for Finance and Administration, to give the report. Mr. Alarcon stated that the reports are provided for informational purposes only, and no action is required by the Board. He presented the Investment Report for Quarter ending May 31, 2017. He gave a brief Summary of the Book/Market Value for the 3rd Quarter.

Mr. Herrera stated that he was concerned why the May 31st report getting presented to the Board in September. Mr. Alarcon stated that the Finance Office had submitted it several times in July and August to the Interim President Office before to be placed on the Agenda and it was approved to be on the Agenda on September 15, 2017.

15. Proposed Meeting Dates

Thursday, October 19, 2017

Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, November 16, 2017

Regular Board Meeting

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chair, Mrs. Garza at 7:02 p.m.