



Texas Southmost College District

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees

August 27, 2019

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session on August 27, 2019, at 12:02 p.m., in the Gorgas Board Room at Texas Southmost College. Board Members present were Ms. Adela Garza, Chair, Mr. Ruben Herrera, Vice Chair, Dr. Tony Zavaleta, Secretary, Mr. Art Rendon, and Mr. J.J. De Leon, Jr. Absent were Mrs. Delia Saenz and Ms. Eva Alejandro. Also present was Dr. Jesús Roberto Rodríguez, President of Texas Southmost College.

Board of Trustees

Adela G. Garza
Chair

Ruben Herrera, J.D.
Vice Chair

Tony Zavaleta, Ph.D.
Secretary

J.J. De Leon, M.Ed.

Art Rendon, M.Ed.

Eva Alejandro

Delia Saenz

TSC President

Jesus Roberto Rodriguez, Ph.D.

1. Call to Order

Madam Chair Adela Garza called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

2. Pledges of Allegiance

Dr. Tony Zavaleta let the United States Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Public Comment

There were no speakers.

4. Presentation of scholarship donation by Dynamic Campus

Madam Chair called on Mr. Luis Villarreal, Vice President of Information Technology, to present the item. Mr. Villarreal thanked Dynamic Campus for their service to the College and cooperation in the transition. Mr. Villarreal announced that Mr. Greg Amato would present a check to the Board on behalf of Dynamic Campus.

Mr. Amato presented a donation of \$45,000. He indicated that \$25,000 would be going to the 1st Year Scholarship and \$15,000 to the Foundation Scholarship.

Ms. Garza expressed appreciation and thanked Dynamic Campus for their donation and cooperation in the transition, and a photo was taken of Mr. Amato with the Board of Trustees.

5. Update on grants received from July 2019 to August 2019

Dr. Gisela Figueroa, Vice President for Finance and Administration, provided a report of grants received from July 2019 to August 2019. Dr. Rodriguez noted that the grants represent just over \$2,000,000.

This item was for information only. No action was taken.

6. Consideration and possible action on contract renewal for legal services with Mr. Ruben R. Pena

Dr. Gisela Figueroa provided information regarding the renewal of the contract for legal services with Mr. Ruben Pena. Current contract ends on August 31, 2019.

A motion was made by Mr. Herrera to approve a contract renewal for legal services with Mr. Ruben R. Pena. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rendon and opened for discussion.

Mr. Rendon inquired about who besides Mr. Pena would have access to use the Lexis-Nexis or Westwall legal research services. The license would be available to any user with a login. Mr. De Leon requested for next time that a summary of services be provided for review. Mr. Pena indicated that he provided a log of services for August 2019 and summarized some of the primary areas of focus of his services.

The motion carried with five votes and two absences.

7. Budget/Finance Committee Report

- a. Consideration and possible action on approval of the Texas Southmost College District Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020**

A motion was made by Mr. Herrera to approve the Texas Southmost College District Budget for FY2019-2020. The motion was seconded by Dr. Zavaleta and opened for discussion.

Mr. Herrera called on Dr. Figueroa to elaborate on the item. Dr. Figueroa provided an overview of budget priorities, budget assumptions and the timeline for review of the budget. Mr. Herrera inquired whether there were any changes in the budget from what was presented to the Budget Finance Committee. Dr. Figueroa noted a minor adjustment to increase the amount expected in interest income. Dr. Zavaleta commented that he wanted to ensure there was a cost of living increase included in the budget. Dr. Figueroa confirmed this was included.

The motion carried with five votes and two absences.

Dr. Figueroa clarified the motion included approval of the 2019 – 2020 Exemptions Resolution. Mr. Herrera restated the motion to approve the Texas Southmost College District Budget for FY2019-2020 as presented and approve the FY 2019-2020 Exemptions Resolution. The motion was seconded by Dr. Zavaleta and carried with five votes and two absences.

b. Consideration and possible action on adoption of the 2019 Texas Southmost College District Ad Valorem Tax Rates

Dr. Figueroa presented information regarding the Texas Southmost College District Ad Valorem Tax Rates. Dr. Figueroa indicated the proposed tax rate will remain the same as in the prior year.

A motion was made by Mr. Herrera to adopt a maintenance and operations tax rate of \$0.0118289 and a debt tax rate of \$0.044118 for a total tax rate of \$0.162407 per \$100 of valuation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rendon and carried with five votes and two absences.

8. Executive Session

The Board convened in Executive Session at 12:28 p.m.

The Board reconvened in Regular Session at 1:00 p.m.

9. Action on Executive Session Matters

a. Correction of previous motion

Mr. Herrera made a correction to the motion regarding the 2019 Texas Southmost College District Ad Valorem Tax Rates. The motion was corrected to adopt a maintenance and operations tax rate of \$0.118289 and a debt tax rate of \$0.044118 for a total tax rate of \$0.162407 per \$100 of valuation. The corrected motion was seconded by Mr. Rendon and carried with five votes and two absences.

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

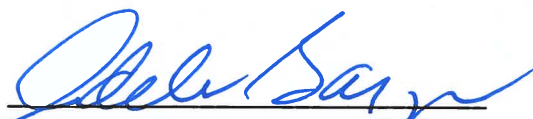
A motion was made by Mr. Herrera to approve the RIF provision in the instructors contracts to be removed from the contract. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rendon and carried with five votes and two absences.

10. Announcement of Next Meeting Dates

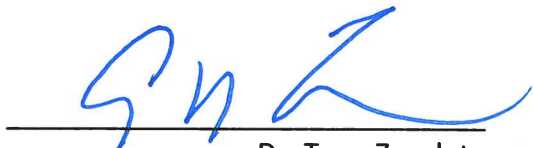
- a. Regular Board Meeting – Thursday, September 19, 2019, 5:30 p.m.
- b. Regular Board Meeting – Thursday, October 24, 2019, 5:30 p.m.

11. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Herrera. The motion was seconded by Mr. De Leon and carried with five votes and two absences.



Adela G. Garza
Chair, Board of Trustees



Dr. Tony Zavaleta
Secretary, Board of Trustees

The video recording of the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees held on August 27, 2019, is available on the TSC.EDU website. These minutes were taken and transcribed by Nina Young, Chief of Staff & Board Liaison. Videotaping of the Board of Trustees' meetings began on April 11, 1996.