



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

May 15, 2008

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session on May 15, 2008, 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, Dr. Roberto Robles, Ms. Dolly Zimmerman, Mr. David Oliveira. Absent was 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

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gonzalez at 5:41 p.m.

1. Resolution

Consideration and possible action on adoption of a Resolution Honoring Dolly Zimmerman

Mr. Chester Gonzalez, Chair, announced Ms. Dolly Zimmerman's retirement from the TSC Board after 13 years of service. He recognized Ms. Zimmerman for her dedication, commitment, and service to the College and the community. He also thanked her family for letting her serve those many years.

Mr. Gonzalez presented a plaque to Mrs. Zimmerman and read the Resolution honoring her for her 13 years of service to the TSC Board. A reception at the Rose Garden followed.

A motion was made by Dr. Robles to adopt the resolution Honoring Dolly Zimmerman for her 13 years of service to the Board as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Breedlove and carried unanimously. Exhibit "A"

2. Executive Session

as provided by Government Code, Chapter 551.071-72

Real Estate

Contract and resolution for purchase of Fort Brown Villas I, Unit 4004, Brownsville, Texas

Contract and resolution for purchase of Fort Brown Villas I, Unit 4003, Brownsville, Texas

Contract and resolution for purchase of Fort Brown Villas I, Unit 6008, Brownsville, Texas

Contract and resolution for purchase of Lot 8, Block 13, Colonia Alta Vista, Brownsville, Texas

Legal Matters

Discussion of construction project issues

The Board convened in Executive Session at 6:15 p.m.

The Board reconvened in Regular Session at 7:05 p.m.

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

Contract and resolution for purchase of Fort Brown Villas I, Unit 4004, Brownsville, Texas

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to approve the earnest money contract and resolution for the acquisition of Fort Brown Villas I, Unit 4004, in the amount of \$38,000. The motion was seconded by Ms. Breedlove and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "B"*

Contract and resolution for purchase of Fort Brown Villas I, Unit 4003, Brownsville, Texas

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to approve the earnest money contract and resolution for the acquisition of Fort Brown Villas I, Unit 4003, in the amount of \$38,000. The motion was seconded by Ms. Breedlove and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "C"*

**Contract and resolution for purchase
of Fort Brown Villas I, Unit 6008, Brownsville, Texas**

A motion was made by Ms. Zimmerman to approve the earnest money contract and resolution for the acquisition of Fort Brown Villas I, Unit 6008 in the amount of \$40,000. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robles and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "D"*

**Contract and resolution for purchase of
Lot 8, Block 13, Colonia Alta Vista, Brownsville, Texas**

A motion was made by Dr. Robles to approve the earnest money contract and resolution for the acquisition of Lot 8, Block 13, Colonia Alta Vista in the amount of \$30,000 as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "E"*

**Consideration and possible action on
Change Order and Related Documents in Connection with
the Recreation and Kinesiology Center.**

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to approve the Change Order and Related Documents in Connection with the Recreation and Kinesiology Center and authorize the Vice President for Planning and Construction to execute the change order in the amount of \$453,777.00. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "F"*

4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

**Consideration and possible action on
Minutes of Regular Meeting on April 24, 2008**

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on April 24, 2008. The motion was seconded by Ms. Breedlove and carried unanimously.

5. Speakers to Agenda Items and Public Discussion

No Speakers.

6. Acceptance of Gift and Resolution

Dr. Ruth Ann Ragland, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, announced the acceptance of a gift for the Orchestra Pit of the Arts Center from IBC Bank. She presented a brief summary of the donors, recognizing them as strong advocates for the Arts Center and for their dedicated and support for our students.

Mr. Gonzalez read the Resolution honoring IBC Bank and presented the resolution and a framed portrait of the building to Mr. Al Villarreal. Mr. Villarreal thanked the Board on behalf of Mr. Rusteburg and IBC Board of Directors for the opportunity to make this important donation.

Consideration and possible action on adoption of resolution naming The Arts Center Orchestra Pit the IBC Bank Orchestra Pit

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to adopt the resolution naming The Arts Center Orchestra Pit the IBC Bank Orchestra Pit as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and carried unanimously. Exhibit "G"

7. Board Briefing

Dr. Charles Dameron, Vice President for Academic Affairs, introduced Mary Jane Shands, Lecturer, Environmental Sciences. She provided a presentation on several awards that the Bahia Grande Restoration Project has received as result of the hard work and support from hundreds of people, including researchers and school children from our own community. She reported that the project continues to get new funding, including \$2.7 million from Cameron County for a permanent main channel and a scenic overlook area on Highway 48.

8. District Elections

Report

Mr. Allan Peakes, Assistant Vice President for Facilities Services, gave a brief summary on elections. He stated that the election was held last Saturday, May 10, 2008 for Places 1 and 2 on the TSC Board of Trustees. He reported that the late ballot board doesn't convene until tomorrow, May 16, 2008 and that this cannot give the board official results to canvass this evening May 15, 2008. Unofficially, for place one, Adela Garza and Dr. Jaime Silva were the leaders. As no one received a majority of the votes cast, a runoff election needs to occur. Until the election is canvassed, TSC cannot officially post a Notice and Order for a Runoff Election.

Mr. Peakes stated that next time the Board meets on May 19, 2008, TSC will propose per the recommendation of the County Elections Administrator that the Runoff occur on June 14, 2008, with early voting taking place on June 5,6,7,9, and 10, TSC will propose the same number of locations of polling places as in the May 10 election.

Mr. Peakes announced that the winner for place 2 was Mr. Rene Torres. Since the Election results cannot yet be canvassed, the results are not official and no swearing in can occur. When the Board meets on Monday, May 19, 2008, TSC will have the official results for the Board to canvass at that time he will ask the Board approve the Notice and Order for a Runoff Election, to approve the Notice of Drawing for place on the ballot, and to present the certificate of elections.

9. Disposition of Items

Consideration and possible action on Authorization for Disposition of Items at Annual Auction May 31, 2008 to include TSC Vehicles and Furniture.

Dr. David Pearson, Vice President for Partnership Affairs, gave a summary of disposal of a number of items that are no longer of value to TSC, including furniture and three TSC-owned vehicles.

A motion was made by Dr. Robles to approve the Disposal of TSC Vehicles and other items as presented at the UTB Auction to be held on May 31, 2008 as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and carried unanimously. Exhibit "H"

10. Academic Affairs

Report

Ms. Breedlove reported the Academic Affairs Partnership Committee met on May 7, 2008. One informational item discussed was the Rural Technical Skilled Training/Distance Learning/Small Business Incubator Center in Raymondville. The City of Raymondville has received a \$1.3 million grant to build the Center on 20 acres of land across from the high school. The Center will allow for economic development, business assistance, community events, workforce support, and educational resources all in one location.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) accreditation on-site visit went well, with only twelve items needing further clarification. Committees have been formed and are working on the responses to those items. A final

document with these responses will be ready for submittal to SACS by the end of August. An announcement of reaffirmation of accreditation of UTB/TSC is expected at the December SACS meeting.

The first steps have been taken toward the goal of developing an architecture program. We will be bringing in a faculty member with a Ph.D. in Architecture to develop a pre-architecture program at the lower level, with a possible bridge program to Texas Tech University. Students may be able to enroll in this program within a year, provided the curriculum has been developed and approved.

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board approved preliminary authority requests for nine programs at their April 2008 meeting (Three bachelors' and six masters' level programs):

The Bachelor's Level Includes:

- Biomedical Sciences
- Public Health
- Spanish Translation and Interpreting

The Master's Level Includes:

- Art Education
- Chemistry
- Communication
- Health Services/Allied Health/Health Sciences, General
- Industrial Technology
- Information Science/Studies

Ms. Breedlove stated that UTB/TSC is taking greater responsibility and an enhanced role in solving regional problems and improving the quality of life through the creation of The Institute for Public Service. The proposal to create this institute grew out of broad-based community and campus participation spanning several years. Emphasizing the importance of values and ethics, the Institute will build skills and capacity in those who aspire to careers in public service. It will emphasize research and analysis, instruction and training programs, and developing resources and networks. The Institute will offer certification programs, technical and consulting assistance, and research linking theory to practice. It will convene and promote partnerships and help build a professional culture based on service and learning. The search for a Director has already begun.

11. Construction Report

Dr. Pearson reported the following:

- Dr. Pearson stated that the work is near completion on the new parking areas in on the intersection of Jackson St. and 21 St. He said that the asphalt has been applied to both parking lots, and that in the following weeks work will continue with the landscaping irrigation and striping.
- Construction continues in the Cavalry Building, for the Center for Gravitational Wave Astronomy. The electrical wiring and the air conditioning system are being installed, and a number of deteriorated roof boards and bricks.
- Renovation on the Commandant's Quarters continues. The roof is being lowered five feet, from two stories to its original one and half stories. New siding is being installed and two chimneys are being reconstructed.
- Demolition work continues on the Commissary Building.

Ms. Mendez reported the following:

- Steel will be delivered this week for the New Library and Classrooms building, and work continues to connect the buildings.
- Construction continues at the REK Center and the jogging track has been completed and installation of brick, air conditioning ducts, and the railing for the track are in progress.
- Construction continues at the Arts Center. The concrete pilings to support the structure are being built. The utility and communication lines are being worked on.
- Work on the ITECC they continue on the interior renovation continues, with walls being installed and insulation that will remediate noise transmission.

12. Presidents Report

Dr. García reported the following:

- Dr. García stated that UTB/TSC held its 16th Spring semester commencement celebration, awarding almost 800 degrees. UTB/TSC received notes and e-mails from students thanking us for the special attention that our faculty and staff gave to each detail of the ceremony. She also thanked the Trustees for making it a priority to honor the achievement of our graduates, and for making sure each one gets a handshake or a hug as they cross the stage. The evening before commencement, UTB/TSC held its Distinguished Guest Ceremony. UTB/TSC honored two Distinguished Alumni, Dr. Ciro Valent Sumaya, founding Dean of the Texas A&M School of Rural Public Health, and Dr. Ruben Gallegos, Chief Executive Officer of International Education Services, Inc. UTB/TSC also honored the Chancellor's Council Outstanding Teaching Award winner, Mr. James Mills, Professor Emerita Dr. Sylvia Pena, and paid tribute to our outgoing Board member, Mrs. Dolly Zimmerman.

- Dr. García stated that last week UTB/TSC broke ground on the Raymondville Rural Technical Skills Training/Distance Learning and Small Business Incubator Center. The Center, which is the first of its kind for Willacy County, is modeled after UTB/TSC's work at the ITEC Campus. She also stated that the ITECC team assisted the Raymondville team in writing the \$1.25 million EDA grant which is funding the facility. To be co-located at the Center are an office of UTB/TSC's Workforce Training and Continuing Education, the Raymondville Economic Development office, the Raymondville Chamber of Commerce, and Workforce Solutions. She also said that UTB/TSC will have the ability to provide specialized training, distance learning, and business incubator offices. The facility is to be strategically located across from the Raymondville High School and will provide a constant image and reminder to high school students that institutions of higher education do exist in the area and are achievable.
- Dr. García announced that UTB/TSC is in the processes of applying for reaccreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Every accredited college and university in the United States undergoes this process once every 10 years. The SACS on-site review committee visited in April. While UTB/TSC passed most areas with flying colors, there were several recommendations made regarding our Institutional Effectiveness process and the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) that we submitted. Dr. García stated that UTB/TSC is in the process of responding to these recommendations, which are due back to SACS by the end of August. UTB/TSC has formed solid teams to address the recommendations and UTB/TSC has even recruited some outside expertise to help us think through the process. Today UTB/TSC had a visit from two colleagues from UT Arlington, Dr. Pam Haws, Associate VP and Director for Institutional Research, Planning, and Effectiveness and Rebecca Lewis, the Coordinator of Outcomes Assessment, Institutional Research, Planning, and Effectiveness. She stated that they spoke of the dedication of the faculty and staff, and the campus' infectious passion for the region. They spoke of the beauty of the campus and admired the care taken to respect the historical nature and the natural beauty of the area. They were impressed with our students; their enthusiasm and sincerity, which they cited as a reflection of all that we do. Finally, they spoke of the kind and generous hospitality provided by all who took time to welcome them to our community. In fact, the Committee felt that with some revisions and refinement, our QEP has the potential to become a national model for improving student success.
- Dr. García stated that preparations have begun around the state for the next legislative session, which begins in January. On Friday, May 9, 2008 she testified at the Select Committee on Higher and Public Education Finance in McAllen. Among the other University President's present were: Dr. William Powers, The University of Texas at Austin, Dr. Blandina Cardenas, The University of Texas-Pan American and Dr. Rumaldo Juarez, Texas A & M University-Kingsville.

- Dr. García said the Senate Committee on International Relations and Health and Human Services will hold a joint public hearing in Austin on May 28. They will be hearing testimony on their joint interim charge, which directs the committee to address the current and long-range needs for healthcare professionals along the Border region. Specifically, they have been asked to study the state's current and long-range need for physicians, dentists, nurses, and other allied health professionals. They have also been asked to make recommendations for recruiting high-need professionals-especially for primary care providers and long-term care professionals in the border region of Texas. Dr. Eldon Nelson, Dean of the School of Health Sciences, has been invited by Senator Eddie Lucio to testify at this hearing.
- Dr. García said that UTB/TSC has been notified by the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the EMS Professions that our progress report submitted for the EMT-Paramedic Program has been accepted and we maintain our Initial Accreditation status. Initial Accreditation is a status of public recognition that is granted for a limited period of time to a new program. The agency commended the University for our commitment to continuous quality improvement in education as demonstrated by our participation in "programmatic" accreditation. We congratulate Adriel García, Program Director, his colleagues and staff, as well as Dr. Eldon Nelson, Dean of the School of Health Sciences for their outstanding work in this field.

13. Proposed Meeting Dates

**Monday, Special Meeting
and Workshop, May 19, 2008**
Wednesday, June 25, 2008
July ** no meeting**
Thursday, August 28, 2008
Thursday, September 18, 2008

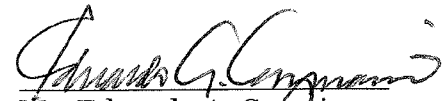
14. Announcements

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 May 15, 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 Max E. Roca, 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.