



TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE DISTRICT

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT BROWNSVILLE and TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE

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**Board of Trustees**

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*Chester Gonzalez*

*Rosemary Breedlove*

*René Torres*

**UTB/TSC President**

*Juliet V. García, Ph.D.*

**Texas Southmost College District**

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees**

**August 27, 2009**

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session on August 27, 2009, at 5:30 p.m., in the Board Room of Gorgas Hall, The University of Texas at Brownsville/Texas Southmost College. Board members present were David Oliveira, Chair; Eduardo A. Campirano, Vice Chair; Dr. Roberto Robles, Secretary; Adela G. Garza; Rosemary Breedlove; and René Torres. Absent were Chester Gonzalez and Dr. Juliet V. García, President of The University of Texas at Brownsville/Texas Southmost College. Sitting in for Dr. Garcia was Dr. Antonio Zavaleta, Interim Provost.

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Oliveira at 5:37 p.m.

**1. Announcements**

No Announcements.

**2. Acceptance of Gift and Resolution**

**Consideration and Possible Action on  
Adoption of Resolution Naming The Arts Center Box D  
"The Graciela Gutierrez Box"**

Dr. Ruth Ann Ragland, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, announced the acceptance of a gift from Graciela Gutierrez. Dr. Ragland provided a brief biography of Ms. Gutierrez, describing her work as a community leader promoting education, economic development, and the fine arts. She thanked Ms. Gutierrez for her

donation and her important contribution to our university. Mr. Oliveira then read a resolution honoring Ms. Gutierrez,

**A motion was made by Dr. Robles to adopt the resolution naming The Arts Center Box D "The Graciela Gutierrez Box," as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Breedlove and carried unanimously.**

*Exhibit "A"*

### **3. Resolution**

#### **Consideration and Possible Action on Adoption of Resolution Honoring Paul Cowen for his Service as Chief of Staff for State Senator Eddie Lucio, Jr.**

Chairman Oliveira read the resolution honoring Paul Cowen for his service as Chief of Staff to State Senator Eddie Lucio, Jr., and thanked him for his many contributions to our community and university.

**A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to adopt the resolution honoring Mr. Cowen for his service as Chief of Staff for State Senator Eddie Lucio, Jr., as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Torres and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "B"***

### **4. Speakers to the Items and Public Discussion**

Kenneth Lieck, President of Charro Days, Inc., spoke regarding his organization's request to stage the annual Charro Days Carnival at the ITEC Center.

### **5. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

#### **Consideration and Possible Action on Minutes of Regular Meeting on June 18, 2009**

**A motion was made by Mr. Torres to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on June 18, 2009. The motion was seconded by Ms. Breedlove and carried unanimously.**

### **6. Board Briefing**

Dr. Antonio Zavaleta made a presentation on the TSC Foundation Challenge for Excellence Scholarship. He noted how, in 1987, the U.S. Department of Education challenged TSC to raise \$1 million to create a scholarship endowment. If the College reached that goal, the federal government would match it with an additional \$2

million. TSC accepted the challenge, and in 1989, with the help of numerous local and statewide contributors, successfully reached the target amount. Twenty years later, the program has awarded \$3.7 million in scholarships to 13,000 TSC students. The corpus of the fund has grown to \$4.6 million. UTB/TSC will commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Endowment on September 17, 2009, recognizing community volunteers and the scholarship recipients.

#### **7. Executive Session**

as provided by Government  
Code, Chapter 551.071, .072

**The Board convened in Executive Session at 6:12 p.m.**

**The Board reconvened in Regular Session at 6:48 p.m.**

#### **8. Consideration and Possible Action on Matters Discussed in Executive Session**

##### **Contract and Resolution for Purchase of Lot 20, Block 9, Colonia Alta Vista Subdivision, Brownsville, Texas**

A motion was made by Dr. Robles to approve the earnest money contract and resolution for the acquisition of Lot 20, Block 9, in the amount of \$35,000, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Torres and carried unanimously. *“Exhibit C”*

#### **9. Business Affairs Committee Report**

##### **Report**

Mr. Oliveira called on Mr. Campirano, Vice Chair, to report for the Business Affairs Partnership Committee, which met on Thursday, August 26, 2009. The following items were recommended for Board action:

##### **Consideration and Possible Action for Approval of a Change Order on the Contract with Design Build Solutions for the Fort Brown Memorial Center Roof Project**

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to accept the roof deck change order from Design Build Solutions, a Garland company, in the amount of \$65,205, and to authorize the Assistant Vice President for Facilities Services to execute the contract. The motion was seconded by Ms. Garza and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "D"*

**Consideration and Possible Action on Approval  
of Interlocal Agreement between the City of Brownsville and  
The University of Texas at Brownsville/Texas Southmost College**

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to accept the Interlocal Agreement between the City of Brownsville and UTB/TSC in the amount of \$143,964.11 and to authorize the Assistant Vice President for Facilities Services to execute the contract. The motion was seconded by Mr. Torres and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "E"*

**Consideration and Possible Action on the  
Renewal of General Liability, Educators Legal, Crime, and  
Auto Insurance Policies**

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to approve the renewal of General Liability, Educators Legal, Crime, and Auto Insurance Policies in the amount of \$38,857, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robles and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "F"*

**Consideration and Possible Action on  
Second Reading of the TSC District Budget for  
Fiscal Year 2009-2010**

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to adopt the TSC District Budget for Fiscal Year 2009-2010, as presented. The motion is seconded by Ms. Garza and is carried unanimously. *Exhibit "G"*

**Consideration and Possible Action on  
Approval of Budget Amendments for FY 2009**

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to approve the budget amendments #09-011, #09-012, and #09-013 for Fiscal Year 2009, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robles and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "H"*

**10. Appointments of Special Audit Committee**

Chairman Oliveira noted that the appointment of a committee would be deferred to a later time.

## **11. 2009-10 TSC District Ad Valorem Tax Rate**

### **Consideration and Possible Action on the 2009-10 TSC District Ad Valorem Tax Rate**

Chairman Oliveira noted that the adoption of the 2009-10 Ad Valorem Tax would not represent an increase in the tax rate, nor would it have a negative impact on District taxpayers.

**A motion was made by Mr. Torres to adopt a Maintenance and Operations Tax Rate of \$0.108949 per \$100 of property valuation, and a Debt Tax Rate of \$0.052975 per \$100 of property valuation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Campirano and passed unanimously. Exhibit "I"**

## **12. Third Quarter Financial Statements and Investment Report**

Chairman Oliveira called on Melba Sanchez, Assistant Vice President for Finance, to present this item. Ms. Sanchez noted that the information for this item was in the Trustees' binders for informational purposes.

**No action necessary.**

## **13. Construction Report**

*Dr. David Pearson, Vice President for Partnership Affairs, reported the following:*

- Work on the Commissary Building is progressing. The ceilings and the woodwork are nearing completion. The office walls have been erected and the windows repaired.
- Work on the Commandant's Quarters is being accelerated and should be completed by late October 2009. The interior walls are being painted, and the woodwork is being installed.
- The Ringgold sidewalk is completed. The sidewalk has pavers reminiscent of the pavers in other areas of campus.
- Renovation work in Cavalry Hall is progressing. The plumbing work has begun. The project is scheduled for completion in spring 2010.
- The Campus Security Center is now completed. Sidewalks have been completed, PUB has removed overhead power lines and installed underground lines to the facility.

*Ms. Veronica Mendez, Assistant Vice President for Construction and Planning, reported the following:*

- The University Boulevard Classroom Building opened for classes on August 24, 2009.
- The REK Center parking lot is complete with 139 spaces now available.
- Improvements to Scorpion Soccer Field have been completed, including a new scoreboard, goal netting, and benches.
- Work at the Center of Early Childhood Studies continues. The irrigation system is being installed, and the parking and drop-off drive are now under construction.
- At the Arts Center, metal arches decorating the exterior building halls are now installed, and a connection to the campus paseo is in progress.
- Work at the Science and Technology Learning Center has begun. The first concrete pour for the building's slabs occurred on August 11, 2009. Steel beams have since been erected.

#### **14. President's Report**

*Chairman Oliveira called on Dr. Zavaleta to make the report.*

- The new Center for Teaching Excellence and Innovation in the College of Education has been awarded \$1.6 million for mathematics and science teacher preparation. The grant will provide more than 75 scholarships over a five-year period. Dr. Zavaleta offered congratulations to the grant's principal investigators: Dr. Reynaldo Ramirez, Jr., Dr. Jerzy K. Mogiliski, Dr. Eli E. Peña, Dr. Phil Dukes, and Dr. Carmen Garcia Caceres.
- The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has approved a name change for the School of Education, which will now be the College of Education. The majority of universities in Texas and the United States have switched to "College of Education" to indicate that they are not only professional schools, but also research and doctorate-granting academic units of the universities. The Coordinating Board also approved name changes for several of the College of Education's departments to more accurately reflect the scope of study. The College is now composed of:
  1. The Department of Educational Psychology and Leadership Studies
  2. The Department of Language, Literacy, and Intercultural Studies
  3. The Department of Teaching, Learning, and Innovation
  4. The existing Department of Health and Human Performance

- The Brownsville Early College High School, in partnership with the Brownsville Independent School District, has received TEA's top rating of exemplary. Congratulations were given to Ronnie Rentfro, the principal and a UTB/TSC alumnus, and to faculty and students. Dr. Steven Rosales, Assistant Dean for Lifelong Learning, was also acknowledged.
- UTB/TSC has joined a national project involving several colleges and universities called Foundations of Excellence in the First College Year. The project is sponsored by the Policy Center on the First Year of College. Our campus will participate in a self-study focused on first-year student activities. The goal is to examine all aspects of the first year experience. The campus-wide effort will be led by project managers Ethel Cantu, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Dr. Vincent Solis, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs.
- UTB/TSC's first Homecoming Week will kick off with the dedication of the REK Center on Wednesday, October 14th, 2009.
- Karim Meijer has been appointed by Governor Rick Perry to a one-year term as Student Regent on The University of Texas System Board of Regents. Mr. Meijer will visit Brownsville on September 2, 2009.

#### **15. Proposed Meeting Dates**

**Thursday, September 17, 2009**

**Friday, October 2, 2009**

12:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Board Retreat

**Saturday, October 3, 2009**

9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Board Retreat


**Thursday, October 29, 2009**

**Thursday, November 19, 2009**

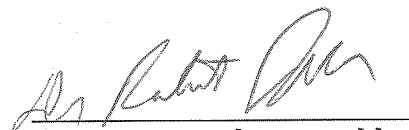
**Thursday, December 17, 2009**

## Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Oliveira at 7:30 p.m.



Mr. David G. Oliveira  
Chairman, Board of Trustees



Dr. Roberto Robles  
Secretary, Board of Trustees

**NOTE:** The tape of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting held on August 27, 2009 is on file at the District Office of the Texas Southmost College District. The master tape is on file at UTB/TSC Media Services. 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 KBSD in cooperation with the Brownsville Independent School District.