



TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE DISTRICT

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT BROWNSVILLE and TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE

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Juliet V. García, Ph.D

Texas Southmost College District

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

September 30, 2009

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session on September 30, 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; Chester Gonzalez; Adela G. Garza; Rosemary Breedlove; and René Torres. Also present was Dr. Juliet V. García, President of The University of Texas at Brownsville/Texas Southmost College.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Oliveira at 5:39 p.m.

1. Announcements

Dr. García welcomed Provost-Elect Dr. Alan Artibise to the meeting.

2. Resolution

**Consideration and Possible Action on
Adoption of Resolution Honoring Bob Shepard for His Service
on the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board**

Dr. García provided an introduction and background for Mr. Shepard, who served on the UTB Development Board before his appointment to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board thirteen years ago. Chairman Oliveira then read a resolution honoring Mr. Shepard for his service and thanked him for his many contributions to education in the state and to our university.

A motion was made by all of the Trustees to adopt the resolution honoring Mr. Shepard for his service on the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board as presented. The motion was seconded by all of the Trustees and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "A"*

**Consideration and Possible Action on
Adoption of Resolution in Support of a Living Wage
Requirement for Those Employed by and Those Doing Work
for Texas Southmost College**

Chairman Oliveira read a resolution to adopt a living wage requirement for those employed by and doing work for Texas Southmost College.

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to adopt the resolution in support of a living wage requirement for those employed by and doing work for Texas Southmost College, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Garza and Dr. Robles and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "B"*

3. Appearance before the Board

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

4. Speakers to the Items and Public Discussion

Dagoberto Barrera, a Brownsville resident, commented on the tax rate.

5. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

**Consideration and Possible Action on
Minutes of Special Meeting on August 24, 2009**

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on August 24, 2009. The motion was seconded by Ms. Breedlove and carried unanimously.

**Consideration and Possible Action on
Minutes of Regular Meeting on August 27, 2009**

A motion was made by Mr. Torres to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on August 27, 2009. The motion was seconded by Ms. Garza and carried unanimously.

6. Board Briefing

Dr. Ruth Ann Ragland, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, presented a video about the TSC Foundation Endowment Challenge for Excellence Scholarship, in which the U.S. Department of Education challenged TSC to raise \$1 million back in 1987. If the college were to reach its goal in 18 months, the federal government would give an additional \$2 million to create a scholarship endowment. Twenty years later, that fund has grown to \$4.6 million and has distributed \$3.7 million in scholarships to more than 13,000 students.

7. Executive Session

as provided by Government
Code, Chapter 551.071, .072

The Board convened in Executive Session at 6:59 p.m.

The Board reconvened in Regular Session at 8:07 p.m.

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

Utility Easement to the Brownsville Public Utilities Board for The Arts Center

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to approve the utility easement to the Brownsville Public Utilities Board for The Arts Center, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robles and carried unanimously. "Exhibit C"

Contract and Resolution for Purchase of Fort Brown Villa Condominiums Unit 7C, Type A, Bldg C, Phase II, Brownsville, Texas

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to approve the contract and resolution for purchase of Fort Brown Villa Condominiums Unit 7C, Type A, Bldg C, Phase II, Brownsville, Texas, for \$38,000, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Breedlove and carried unanimously. "Exhibit D"

**Contract and Resolution for Purchase of
Fort Brown Villa Condominiums Unit 4F,
Type B, Bldg F, Phase II, Brownsville, Texas**

No motion was made to approve the contract and resolution for purchase of Fort Brown Villa Condominiums Unit 4F, Type B, Bldg F, Phase II, Brownsville, Texas, for \$55,000. The agenda item failed because of the lack of a motion. "Exhibit E"

**Approval of Correction Deed with
Zimmerman Brothers, Inc., Interlocal Agreement
and Exclusive Use Permit with Port Isabel**

No motion was made to approve the correction deed with Zimmerman Brothers, Inc., interlocal agreement and exclusive use permit with Port Isabel, as presented. The motion failed. The board then entertained a motion to authorize the President to negotiate and sign a settlement with Port Isabel as defined in Executive Session. The motion was made by Ms. Breedlove, seconded by Mr. Gonzalez, and passed unanimously. "Exhibit F"

9. Bond Projects

Chairman Oliveira called on Veronica Mendez, Assistant Vice President for Construction and Planning, to report on the Oliveira Library renovation. Ms. Mendez said work on the renovation was delayed until the recent opening of the University Boulevard Library to minimize disruption to students. Total budget for the renovation is currently planned at \$3.1 million. Ms. Mendez said the Board hired PBK Architects in June. She asked Greg Louviere of PBK to present the schematic design to the Board. Louviere said the design was inspired by the Paseo. Following the discussion, the Board took up:

**Consideration and Possible Action for Approval of
Schematic Design for the Oliveira Library Renovation**

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to approve the schematic design for the Oliveira Library renovation, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robles and carried unanimously. Exhibit "G"

10. Construction Report

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

- Work on the Commandant's Quarters is progressing and should be completed for the Office of the Provost by late October 2009. Eight-foot double doors are

being installed near the front entryway; custom woodwork is progressing; wainscoting is being put in throughout; carpets and painting have been completed on the second floor; and the railing for the rear stairway, made from original beams, is now in place.

- Work on the Commissary Building has been delayed in order to speed up work on the Commandant's Quarters. However, beaded yellow pine woodwork is being installed on the third floor, and lighting and painting are nearly complete on that floor. On the second floor, brickwork around the front entry has been repaired, insulating foam has been sprayed between the ceiling rafters, and wooden paneling is being installed on the ceiling. On the first floor, glass has been installed between the offices, and woodwork is mostly complete.
- In Cavalry Hall, work is progressing on two of the building's three wings. On the wing closest to the bookstore, framing, plumbing, and electrical work is progressing. In the other wing, the space is now being prepped for construction of the Faculty Club.
- Work on the Jacob Brown Auditorium roof is progressing.
- Work on the Oliveira Library roof is complete.

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

- The Center for Early Childhood Studies is nearing completion. Finishing touches are currently being applied, including landscaping.
- Work on The Arts Center progressing. Taylor Avenue is being reconstructed next to the building, ironwork is being installed, and finishing touches are being applied in the auditorium. Work is expected to be complete in November.
- Work at the Science and Technology Learning Center is progressing on schedule despite recent rains. Structural steel is being erected. Decking on the second and third floor has been put in place, and pouring of concrete will occur shortly. The pad for the south building is about one third done.

11. President's Report

Dr. García reported the following:

- The Center for Gravitational Wave Astronomy has been awarded a \$5 million grant from NASA. The money will be used to support equipment purchases,

- scholarships, and faculty. She congratulated the center's director, Dr. Mario Diaz, and principal investigators Dr. Fredrick Jenet, Dr. Malik Rakhmanov, and Dr. Volker Quetschke.
- Our athletic teams are doing well. The volleyball team is ranked 12th in the country in the NAIA, and the men's soccer team is ranked 17th nationally.
 - The Institute for Library and Museum Services awarded UTB/TSC \$99,000 through their national leadership grant. In collaboration with Colegio de la Frontera Norte in Matamoros, Mexico, the money will be used to develop a Border Studies Resource Center, which will include a digital repository for border studies related research. Dr. García congratulated University Archivist John Hawthorne and Interim Provost Dr. Antonio Zavaletta for their work to secure the grant.
 - The Board was presented the book, *Espacios, Poblamiento y Conflicto en el Noreste Mexicano y Texas*, which is also called, *People, Places, and Conflicts in Northeastern Mexico and Texas*. The book was published as a collaborative effort between UTB/TSC and the Mexican institutions the Autonomous University of Tamaulipas and the National Institute of Anthropology and History. The book is designed to destroy barriers and facilitate cooperation. The President congratulated the library's John Hawthorne and Interim Provost Dr. Antonio Zavaletta for their work on this project.
 - A border history colloquium themed, "Northeastern Mexico and Texas Bridges and Barriers of the Past and Present," is planned for October 20-23. The Mexican states of Tamaulipas, Coahuila, Nuevo Leon and universities on both sides of the border have cooperated to make this colloquium possible.
 - The Distinguished Lecture Series is coming up on October 13. Dr. George Friedman, a futurist and author of *The Next 100 Years: A Forecast for the 21st Century*, will be speaking. Friedman is also author of *America's Secret War*, *The Future of War*, and *The Coming War with Japan*. There is an essay contest accompanying the lecture, the theme of which is called "Nations Go to War."
 - Homecoming Week will take place during the week of October 14-18. There will be the dedication of the REK Center, tailgating, soccer games, and more. It is a way to invite alumni and the community onto to campus.
 - Dr. García also congratulated the university's grant writers for the good work they have been doing in securing needed resources for the institution.

12. Proposed Meeting Dates

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 8:59 p.m.



Mr. David G. Oliveira
Chairman, Board of Trustees



Roberto Robles, M.D.
Secretary, Board of Trustees

NOTE: The tape of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting held on September 30, 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 Andrew Keese, Technical Writer. 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.