



TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE DISTRICT

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT BROWNSVILLE and TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE

80 Fort Brown • Brownsville, Texas 78520 • (956) 882-3879 • Fax: (956) 882-8811 • www.utb.edu

**Board of Trustees**

*Francisco G. Rendon*

*Chair*

*Roberto Robles, M.D.*

*Vice Chair*

*Adela G. Garza*

*Secretary*

*Trey Mendez*

*Robert A. Lozano, M.D., Ph.D*

*David G. Oliveira*

*René Torres*

**UTB/TSC President**

*Juliet V. García, Ph.D*

**Texas Southmost College District**

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

**February 17, 2011**

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session on February 17, 2011, at 5:30 p.m., in the Arts Center Performance Hall at The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College. Board members present were Francisco G. Rendon, Chair; Dr. Roberto Robles, Vice Chair; Adela G. Garza, Secretary; Trey Mendez; Dr. Robert A. Lozano; David Oliveira and René Torres. Dr. Juliet V. García, President of The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College was absent. Dr. Alan Artibise, Provost of The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College was present representing Dr. García.

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rendon at 5:31 p.m.

Chairman Rendon began with a moment of silence for Special Agent Jaime Jorge Zapata, a native of the community and a UTB/TSC Alumni who lost his life in service of the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement agent.

Mr. Rendon read the Texas Southmost College mission. Texas Southmost College is a comprehensive open admissions public community college whose mission comports with Texas Statute Subchapter A, Section 130.

Texas Southmost College offers programs leading to certificates of completion and associate degrees, developmental education to prepare students for college-level work, occupational and technical programs to prepare students for immediate employment, academic courses of study to develop the core skills, understandings, and knowledge appropriate for baccalaureate programs, and

continuing education, counseling, guidance, adult literacy and personal enrichment.

Texas Southmost College advances economic and social development, enhances the quality of life, encourages respect for the environment, cultivates personal enrichment, and expands knowledge in service to its community. It convenes the cultures of its community and fosters an appreciation for the unique heritage of the Lower Rio Grande Valley. It provides academic leadership in the intellectual, social, cultural, and economic life of the region it serves.

Texas Southmost College places excellence in teaching and learning at the core of its commitments. It seeks to help students at all levels develop the skills which will sustain life-long learning while respecting the dignity of each learner and the needs of the entire community.

### **1. Announcements**

There were no announcements.

### **2. Speakers to Agenda Items and Public Discussion**

There were a total of 53 community, staff, student, and faculty members that addressed the Board of Trustees in reference to the two options being proposed on the partnership between UTB/TSC.

Trustees Dr. Roberto Robles, Adela Garza, David Oliveira, Trey Mendez and Dr. Robert Lozano gave statements to the audience regarding the two options beings proposed on the partnership between UTB/TSC.

**A motion was made by Dr. Lozano to waive Executive Session and have the debate in public. The motion was seconded by Mr. Oliveira and carried unanimously.**

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

#### **Consideration and Possible Action on Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting on January 20, 2011**

**A motion was made by Dr. Lozano to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on January 20, 2011 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Torres and carried unanimously.**

#### **4. Executive Session**

as provided by Government Code,  
Chapter 551.071 and 551.074.

**The Board recessed at 7:59 p.m. for a break.**

**The Board reconvened in Regular Session at 8:20 p.m.**

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

Mr. Oliveira mentioned that both items on the agenda under executive session regarding the Two Autonomous Institutions with Separate Governance and Contracts for Facilities of Certain Staff Services, and the item regarding Adoption of a Resolution Concerning the Formation by the University of Texas System and Texas Southmost College of a Single Institution of Higher Education can both be discussed together, since they are intertwined. Mr. Mendez asked if there were any other options on the table. There were no other options presented, however, the Board did review approximately seven different models.

**A motion was made by Mr. Oliveira to discuss both items on the agenda as presented together. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robles and carried unanimously.**

**Consultation with District Counsel Regarding the  
Educational Partnership Agreement with the Board of  
Regents of University of Texas System where we have Two  
Autonomous Institutions with Separate Governance and  
Contracts for Facilities of Certain Staff Services**

Chairman Rendon called on Mr. Mendez to make a motion.

**A motion was made by Mr. Mendez to instruct the Texas Southmost College Transition Team to develop a model and create legislation whereby Texas Southmost College District will partner with the University of Texas System for use of resources and facilities while having two (2) autonomous institutions to be known as Texas Southmost College and the University of Texas at Brownsville as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Garza. The motion was carried with Mrs. Garza, Mr. Mendez, Mr. Torres and Mr. Rendon voting in favor of the motion. Mr. Oliveira, Dr. Robles and Dr. Lozano voted nay.**

**Consultation with District Counsel Regarding the  
Adoption of a Resolution Concerning the Formation  
by the University of Texas System and Texas Southmost  
College of a Single Institution of Higher Education**

Dr. Robles read the resolution concerning the Formation by the University of Texas System and Texas Southmost College of a Single Institution of Higher Education.

**Discussion of Candidates for  
Appointment to the Transition Team**

No action was taken.

**Discussion of Candidates  
for the Executive Director Position**

No action was taken.

**Contract and Resolution for purchase  
of Lot 5-6, Block 12, Colonia Alta Vista Addition,  
Brownsville, Texas**

**A motion was made by Mr. Torres to table the earnest money contract and resolution for the acquisition of Lot 5-6, Block 12, Colonia Alta Vista Addition in the amount of \$54,000 as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Garza and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "A"***

## **6. Audit Committee**

### **Report**

Chairman Rendon called on Mr. Torres to give the report. He reported that the Audit Committee met on Monday, February 14th. Present was Adela Garza, Francisco Rendon, Elias Villarreal, Antonio Juarez, Dr. Alan Artibise, Norma Ramos, Nancy Saldana, Carlos Pecero of Patillo, Brown and Hill and himself.

The first item discussed was the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and Audit for Texas Southmost College District for FY ending August 31, 2010. The District has completed the process of compiling a Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, also known as a CAFR for your approval and for submission to the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). This will be the fourth consecutive year that the District has submitted the CAFR to the GFOA for the

Certificate of Achievement and has received the award on the past three submissions. The District's financial reports, accounting procedures and internal controls are audited annually by an independent auditing firm. This year's audit was conducted by the firm of Patillo, Brown and Hill.

Patillo, Brown & Hill has submitted this year's audit and are pleased to report that the District has once again earned an unqualified opinion – or a clean opinion. He thanked the TSC Finance Office and the TSC District Office Staff for all their time and assistance in completing the report.

Mr. Torres introduced Mr. Pablo Bazaldua, of Patillo, Brown and Hill to give a brief overview and to answer any questions you may have. Mr. Bazaldua

**Consideration and Possible Action on  
Acceptance of Comprehensive Annual Financial Report  
and Audit for Texas Southmost College District  
for FY ending August 31, 2010**

**A motion was made by Mr. Torres to accept the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and Audit for Texas Southmost College District for FY ending August 31, 2010 as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Garza and carried unanimously. Exhibit "B"**

The next item discussed was the audit activities related to TSC Operations by Norma Ramos, Director of Internal Audits. Norma discussed three audit engagements concerning TSC operations. The first audit engagement discussed was a follow up audit on the ITECC Leases which identified significant issues and resulted in change of management.

The second item discussed was the FY 2010 Change in Management Audit for the Vice President for Partnership Affairs where recommendations were made to improve internal controls in both the UTB and TSC operations.

The third item discussed by Norma was a consulting engagement where Internal Audits reviewed processes of the TSC District Office. Recommendations were made to improve segregation of duties, IT security, and efficiencies. He thanked Norma Ramos for presenting these items to the committee.

## **7. Consulting Services**

**Consideration and Possible Action on  
Entering a contract with a Consultant to Join  
the TSC Transition Team**

Chairman Rendon called on Mrs. Garza to present the item. Mrs. Garza stated that TSC requires the service of a consultant to lead the Transition Team to

acquire essential information relevant to the ongoing relationship between UTB and TSC after dissolution and coordinating the work of those persons compromising TSC Transition. Mr. Rendon mentioned that Dr. Furgason will assist in finding administrative staff and faculty.

**A motion was made by Mrs. Garza to retain the services of Dr. Robert Furgason as a consultant to lead the Transition Team in this regard as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mendez and carried unanimously.**

### **8. Proposed Meeting Dates**

**Thursday, March 24, 2011**

**Thursday, April 28, 2011**

**Thursday, May 19, 2011**

**Thursday, June 23, 2011**

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Rendon at 9:22 p.m.



Mr. Francisco G. Rendon  
Chairman, Board of Trustees



Ms. Adela G. Garza  
Secretary, Board of Trustees

**NOTE:** The tape of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting held on February 17, 2011, 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 Max E. Roca, Administrative Secretary. Video taping 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.