



Texas Southmost College

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80 Fort Brown • Brownsville, Texas 78520 • (956) 295-3600 • Fax (956) 295-3368 • www.tsc.edu

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Texas Southmost College District

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

May 25, 2017

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session on May 25, 2017, at 5:30 p.m., in the Gorgas Board Room at Texas Southmost College. Board Members present were Adela Garza, Chair; Ruben Herrera, Secretary; Dr. Reynaldo García, Ramon Champion Hinojosa, Art Rendon, and Dr. Tony Zavaleta. Also present was Mr. Mike Shannon, Interim President of Texas Southmost College. Absent was Trey Mendez, Vice Chair.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair; Adela Garza at 5:30 pm.

2. Pledges of Allegiance

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

3. Public Comment

There were no public speakers.

4. President's Report

Mr. Shannon gave a report in regards to enrollment. He reported that enrollment for Fall 2017 is at 1,949; Summer I 2017 is at 672;

Summer II 2017 is at 470; and Summer III is at 31. He also reported that enrollment for BISD Early College High School Summer I is 227, and 94 for Summer II. Dual Enrollment for Los Fresnos and Harlingen for Summer I are 102 students, bringing the total Dual/ECHS summer enrollment to 423.

Mr. Shannon clarified in regards to TSC accreditation. Mr. Shannon read a letter he received from SACSCOC that stated that TSC had provided sufficient clarification and documentation to close both complaints that SACSCOC had previously received. He stated that there were no concerns about TSC's accreditation status and wanted it documented in the minutes that TSC is fully accredited and that the accreditation status has not changed.

Mr. Shannon stated that the Rotary Club of Historic Brownsville has donated \$500 to the Cameron Park Scholarship. He thanked the Rotary Club for supporting TSC students.

This concluded the President's Report.

5. Consideration and Approval of the Regular Meeting of April 27, 2017.

**Consideration and Approval of
the Regular Meeting of April 27, 2017**

A motion was made by Mr. Herrera to Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 27, 2017. The motion was seconded by Dr. Zavaleta, motion passed. Mrs. Garza abstained from the vote.

6. Legislative Update.

Chair Mrs. Garza called on Mr. Joe Garcia; President of the Garcia Group to give an update. Mr. Garcia has been lobbying for the past 20 years and is presently lobbying for Texas Southmost College. Mr. Garcia discussed the character of the Legislature. He touched base in regards to the Texas Senate, Texas House and their leadership priorities.

He mentioned the legislature has 4,333 House Bills that had been filed, 2,298 Senate Bills filed and only 159 had made it to the Governor's desk. Mr. Garcia mentioned that the budget had not been fully negotiated yet, but that there was a \$218 billion budget cut and that higher education was getting the biggest cut. Mr. Garcia addressed the Baccalaureate programs and the status of that Bill. He stated that the Leadership created a platform where all community colleges could apply to get the Baccalaureate degree program, and that the Bill has passed the Senate and the House amended the Bill. Mr. Garcia discussed other educational related Bills presently being reviewed by the Legislature on the last three days of session.

7. Monthly Budget Report

Chair Mrs. Garza called on Mr. Alarcon, Vice President of Finance and Administration, to give the report. Mr. Alarcon went over the totals for the Education and General Fund as of April 30, 2017. He stated that TSC has spent 50% of the budget. He also provided a General Fund Summary, and a Budget to Actual Report by Cost Center.

8. Introduction on the Texas Southmost College Foundation, Inc.

Mrs. Garza called on Tara Rios, TSC Foundation, Inc., Chair, to present the item and thanked all of the Foundation Board members. Ms. Rios shared what the Foundation had been doing for the past few months, and introduced the Foundation Board of Directors which represent many areas of industry and business. Ms. Rios touched base on the purpose of the TSC Foundation, that it supports and enhances the role and mission of TSC by fundraising and distributing scholarships. She also mentioned that the Foundation is current with its audits and tax forms and are registered with the State of Texas and the Internal Revenue Service.

Ms. Rios also brought the Board up to date with the current status of the Foundation budget. She mentioned that the Foundation assets are valued at \$8 million and that TSC has paid out \$1.9 million in scholarships to date. She stated that there hasn't been any scholarship

distributions since 2012. Ms. Rios stated that the core mission of the Foundation is helping to create wealth for distribution of scholarships.

9. Introduction on the Mariachi Margarita, presented by Berta Guerra, Mr. Amigo Mariachi Festival Director

Chair Mrs. Garza called on Ms. Berta Guerra, Mr. Amigo Mariachi Festival Director, to make the introduction. Ms. Guerra went over the tentative schedule for the 2018 Annual Mariachi Festival February 2 and 3. The mariachi program supports the middle school thru higher education level youth in their music departments. The workshop will consist of mariachi music instruction and training for 400 students throughout Texas by renowned mariachi educators and practitioners. Ms. Guerra requested the assistance of Texas Southmost College to house this event in February 2018. The program has grown and continues to grow with over 300 students and 40 Directors.

Mr. Shannon announced that Ms. Guerra has agreed to help coordinate TSC's own Mariachi and Folklorico programs and thanked her. Mariachi Margarita performed a song at the Board of Trustees meeting.

The Board recessed at 6:18 p.m. for a reception.

The Board reconvened in Regular Session at 6:57 p.m.

10. Discussion and Possible action Granting the Authority to the President to Execute Memorandums of Understanding, Affiliation Agreements, Articulation Agreements, and Academic Agreements

Mrs. Garza asked Mr. Herrera to present the item. Mr. Herrera asked that this item be tabled till the next meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Herrera to table this item. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hinojosa and carried unanimously.

11. Academic Subcommittee Report

Chair Mrs. Garza called on Mr. Herrera to present the item. Mr. Herrera stated that the Academic Subcommittee met on May 17 and are recommending Approval of item 11a. Academic Agreement; 11b. Affiliation Agreement; 11c. Articulation Agreement; and 11d. Memorandum of Understanding.

A motion was made by Mr. Herrera to Approve Items 11a. - d. and Authorize the Interim President to execute the Agreements, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Zavaleta and carried unanimously.

12. Budget/Finance Subcommittee Report

Chair Mrs. Garza called on Dr. Zavaleta to present this item. Dr. Zavaleta stated that the Budget/Finance Subcommittee met on May 17 and are recommending Approval for item 12a. Automotive Technology Program; Heating, Ventilation, and Air Condition Technology Program and the Rental of Copier Equipment.

A motion was made by Dr. Zavaleta to Approve the Proposals for Items 12a. 1 – 3 and Authorize the Interim President to execute the purchases, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Herrera and carried unanimously.

13. Executive Session

The Board convened in Executive Session at 7:00 p.m.

The Board reconvened in Regular Session at 7:27 p.m.

14. Action on Executive Session Matters

**Consultation with Attorney on
Pending or Contemplated Litigation, Section
551.071, Texas Government Code.**

No action was taken.

**Consultation with Attorney on
Pending Real Estate Issues, Section
551.072, Texas Government Code.**

A motion was made by Mr. Rendon stating that Texas Southmost College District approve for DP Consulting, to move forward on a survey and appraisal of the land for a hotel, through a mutually agreeable appraiser at no cost to the College. The motion was seconded by Mr. Herrera and carried unanimously.

**Deliberation on Personnel Matters, Section
551.074, Texas Government Code. The deliberate
may include the appointment, employment,
evaluation, reassignment, duties, performance of
duties, discipline, or dismissal of an employee(s).**

A motion was made by Mr. Rendon to Authorize the Interim President to issue a renewal contract for employee with the initials L.G., with the understanding that TSC will pay for the TRS surcharges. The motion was seconded by Mr. Herrera and carried unanimously.

15. Proposed Meeting Dates

**Thursday, June 22, 2017
Regular Board Meeting**

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chair, Mrs. Garza at 7:30 p.m.