80 Fort Brown • Brownsville, Texas 78520 • (956) 295-3393 • Fax (956) 295-3368 • www.tsc.edu

Board of Trustees

Adela G. Garza Chair

J.J. De Leon, M.Ed. Vice Chair

Alejandra Aldrete, M.Ed. Secretary

Ruben Herrera, J.D. †

Tony Zavaleta, Ph.D.

Eva Alejandro

Delia Saenz

TSC President

Jesus Roberto Rodríguez, Ph.D.

TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE DISTRICT

Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

June 20, 2024

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session on June 20, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. Board Members present were Ms. Adela Garza, Chair; Ms. Alejandra Aldrete, Secretary; Dr. Tony Zavaleta; Ms. Eva Alejandro; and Mrs. Delia Saenz. Also present was Dr. Jesús Roberto Rodríguez, President of Texas Southmost College. Absent was Mr. J.J. De Leon, Vice Chair.

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Garza at 5:30 p.m. She called role and confirmed a quorum.

2. Pledges of Allegiance

Trustee Zavaleta led the United States Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Public Comment

Chair Garza asked if there were any speakers signed up for public comment. There were no public speakers.

4. Chairwoman's Report

Chair Garza presented the following items:

Asociacion Nacional de Periodistas, Locutores, y Comunicadores U.S.A.

Chair Garza was honored at the International Day of Journalists, Broadcasters and Communicators, held in conjunction with the Brownsville Mexican consulate, in Dallas on May 20th. She received a certificate of recognition from the House of Representatives, presented by Texas State Representative Rafael Anchía, in honor of her exemplary service to the association, and she noted that it was a wonderful event that further strengthens TSC's important relationship with its Mexican colleagues.

Spazmatics Concert

Chair Garza commended the TSC Foundation and TSC employees who worked very hard to host a successful student scholarship fundraiser concert on May 25th, featuring the Spazmatics. Although she was unable to attend, Dr. Zavaleta and President Rodríguez attended, and affirmed it was a wonderful event. Chair Garza said the Foundation looks forward to exploring more community events that continue to build support for our student scholarship fund.

5. President's Report

Chair Garza called on President Rodríguez to present his report.

CNA/Phlebotomy

TSC celebrated the graduation of 16 Brownsville Independent School District students who completed the Certified Nurse Assistant and Phlebotomy programs, through a partnership with the BISD Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) program, which provides the community with high-demand health professionals. President Rodriguez said the college is appreciative of the collaboration with the BISD AEL program staff, Program Director Ricardo Rivera and Instructor Rosie Gonzalez. He also thanked Trustee Saenz for participating in the event, as well as the entire WTCE team for successfully graduating another class of allied health professionals.

Early Childhood Center

TSC celebrated the graduation of its little Scorpions from the Raul J. Guerra Early Childhood Center on May 30th. He said the college takes great pride in providing the community with the very best in early childhood education. TSC is the only Early Childhood Center in South Texas that holds the prestigious accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children, providing youth with an exceptional start heading into kindergarten and first grade, as they graduate from the program. President Rodríguez said he is appreciative to the families that entrust their children's education to TSC, and he extended his thanks to Trustee Saenz for attending the little Scorpions' graduation.

PI ECHS graduation

President Rodríguez took part in the Port Isabel Early College High School graduation on May 31st to honor students who earned associate's degrees through TSC's Dual Enrollment program. While last year two Port Isabel ECHS seniors earned associate's degrees at TSC, this year 30 students from the graduating class earned associate's degrees from Texas Southmost College. President Rodríguez expressed his appreciation for the strong partnership with the Point Isabel ISD school board, Superintendent Capistran, Principal Ramos, and the Port Isabel counselors and instructors. Together, they are expanding the opportunities for Port Isabel students to access high-quality education—at no cost to families or the ISD—through TSC'sDual Enrollment program.

Jubilee Graduation

President Rodríguez served as the commencement speaker at the Brownsville Jubilee Academy's graduation ceremony held at the Cameron County Amphitheater on June 4th. Addressing the graduating class of 190 students and their families, President Rodríguez spoke about the opportunities available to them at Texas Southmost College. He thanked the Jubilee Academies Board of Directors Chairman Tom Koger and Associate Superintendent Dr. Alicia Bolt for inviting him as their commencement speaker.

CJI Institute

The Scorpion community celebrated the graduation of the Criminal Justice Institute cadets on June 7th. The cadets attend classes full time for six months to complete all of the program requirements set forth by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement. President Rodríguez announced that all of the cadets have already passed their TCOLE licensing exams, and he expressed his pride in the graduates, as well as their exceptional instructors and the entire WTCE team that supported their success. He also thanked Chair Garza, Vice Chair De Leon, and Secretary Aldrete for their participation in the ceremony.

Soccer camp

Fifty-two kids ages 5-12 participated in the TSC soccer camp earlier this month, led by TSC Head Soccer Coach Mario Zamora, with support from the soccer team players. President Rodríguez thanked the camp sponsor, Raising Canes, for providing refreshments and free kids' meals for the participants, and he thanked Chair Garza for attending the camp celebration to support local youth.

Academy of Lifelong Learning camps

The WTCE division is coordinating nine summer camps for middle school and high school students throughout the Rio Grande Valley, from Brownsville to McAllen. More than 600 students are expected to participate, this June and July, in a wide range of activities, such as welding, agriculture, drafting, law enforcement, architecture, Mariachi, and physical wellness. The camps are overseen by a strong campuswide team, led by Dr. Prisci Tipton, Dr. Angelica Fuentes, Dr. Adriana Rios-Santiago, Ms. Martha Casquette, and Ms. Avi Gonzalez. President Rodríguez thanked the campus leaders, as well as the many other staff and AmeriCorps members who are supporting this effort.

TX HSIC Conference

President Rodríguez participated in the Texas Hispanic Serving Institutions Consortium (TX HSIC) last month. The conference is designed to promote networking, uncover funding opportunities, and identify trends in Hispanic Serving Institution education. He served on the Leadership Panel, which was the opening session, alongside Dr. Luis H. Zayas, UTRGV Provost, and Dr. Francisco Solis, San Antonio College Interim President. He noted that the event was a good opportunity to connect with colleagues around the state and share TSC's own insights.

Student Services events

The Student Services Division has been hard at work hosting a number of events designed to engage students. These include:

- Scorpion Success Crew serving as guides for new students at the beginning of the semester
- Sign Language Classes
- Blood Drive, and
- the Summer Employment Connections.

<u>Video Presentation</u>

President Rodríguez shared a video highlighting college activities since the last regular board meeting.

President Rodríguez thanked the Board of Trustees for their continued commitment and support to the college and the communities it serves. He also thanked the entire scorpion community for their continued dedication during the summer months, as they offer summer classes and prepare for the next academic year.

6. Drought Update/Stage 2 and 3 Water Restrictions presented by Brownsville Public Utilities Board

Mr. Guadalupe Garcia, Brownsville Public Utilities Board Water Resources Administrator, was called upon to present the item. He reported that the city is currently in Stage 2 drought conditions and is advising the public to comply with the corresponding restrictions. He also reviewed the region's water sources and international treaties that govern water usage. The board engaged in a brief discussion of water conservation practices.

7. Consideration and Possible Action on the Minutes of the following meetings:

a. Special Meeting - May 15, 2024

Secretary Aldrete made a motion to approve the minutes of the special meeting of May 15, 2024. Trustee Alejandro seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

b. Regular Meeting - May 16, 2024

Secretary Aldrete made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 16, 2024. Trustee Alejandro seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

8. Finance Committee

Chair Garza presented the report.

Consideration and possible action on award RFP 24-13 for Campus Security Services

Dr. Stella Garcia, Vice President of Institutional Advancement/Chief of Staff, and Ms. Keila Tuttle, Director of Operations-Safety & Risk Management, were called upon to present the item. Ms. Tuttle reviewed the RFP timeline, scope of work, evaluation committee, current hybrid security model, scoring tabulation, evaluation criteria, and budget and financial impact. Fourteen vendors responded to the RFP, with Op6 Inc. receiving the highest score from the committee. The board engaged in a discussion of the current vendor's performance, as well as Op6 Inc.'s proposed services.

Secretary Aldrete made a motion to award RFP 24-13 for "Campus Security Services" to Op6 Inc. and authorize President Rodríguez to execute the contract, as presented. Trustee Saenz seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

b. Consideration and possible action on award RFQ 24-14 for "Telecommunication Services"

Mr. Luis Villarreal, Vice President of Information Technology, was called upon to present the item. He reviewed the RFP timeline, scope of work, evaluation committee, scoring tabulation, evaluation criteria, and budget and financial impact. Seven vendors responded to the RFP, with three finalists moved forward for a second round of evaluation. Ultimately, T-Mobile received the highest score from the committee.

Secretary Aldrete made a motion to award RFP 24-14 for Telecommunication Services to T-Mobile and authorize President Rodríguez to execute the contract, as presented. Trustee Saenz seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

c. Consideration and possible action on contract approval with Ellucian for Colleague Software renewal and early contract modification of Managed Services

Mr. Luis Villarreal, Vice President of Information Technology, was called upon to present the item. He reviewed the two current college contracts, options for in-house services vs. outsourced services, and a summary of the proposed new contracts. Trustee Saenz thanked Mr. Villarreal for his hard work in researching and negotiating for these IT solutions.

Secretary Aldrete made a motion to contract with Ellucian for Colleague software renewal and early contract modification of the Ellucian Managed Services contract and authorize President Rodríguez to execute the contract, as presented. Trustee Saenz seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

d. Consideration and possible action on approval of network access control software and professional services purchase

Mr. Luis Villarreal, Vice President of Information Technology, was called upon to present the item. He reviewed the applicable laws, proposed software, purchasing cooperative rationale, and budget and financial impact.

Secretary Aldrete made a motion to the purchase of network access control software and associated professional services in the amount of \$79,409 from Sequel Data Systems Incorporated through DIR-TSO-4160 and TIPS Contract 210101 and authorize President Rodríguez to execute the purchase order contracts, as presented. Trustee Alejandro seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

e. Monthly Financial Statement Report for the month ended April 30, 2024

Dr. Gisela Figueroa, Vice President of Finance and Administration, was called upon to present the item. She presented the Monthly Financial Statement Report for the month ending April 30, 2024.

The item was for information only. No action was taken.

f. Fund Balance Operation Report

Dr. Gisela Figueroa, Vice President of Finance and Administration, was called upon to present the item. She reported out on funding for the current number of days of operation for the college.

The item was for information only. No action was taken.

g. Grants Update

Dr. Gisela Figueroa, Vice President of Finance and Administration, was called upon to present the item. She reported out on the grants received during the month of May 2024.

The item was for information only. No action was taken.

9. Facilities Committee

Chair Garza called upon Secretary Aldrete to present the report.

a. Consideration and possible action on award for engineering design services for the installation of prepurchased cooling towers at the main thermal plant

Dr. Stella Garcia, Vice President of Institutional Advancement/Chief of Staff, and Mr. Gerardo Mascorro, HVAC Supervisor, were called upon to present the item. Dr. Garcia reviewed the project timeline, scope of work, vendor pool, engineering design fees, and budget and financial impact. Mr. Mascorro elaborated on the work to be completed.

Secretary Aldrete made a motion to negotiate contract award for engineering design services for the installation of pre-purchased cooling towers at the main thermal plant to Ethos Holistique Holdings, LLC dba Ethos Engineering and authorize President Rodríguez to execute the contract, as presented. Trustee Alejandro seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

b. Consideration and possible action on award for engineering design services for the relocation of existing chilled/hot water lines at the main campus

Dr. Stella Garcia, Vice President of Institutional Advancement/Chief of Staff, and Mr. Gerardo Mascorro, HVAC Supervisor, were called upon to present the item. Dr. Garcia provided background on the project. Mr. Mascorro reviewed the scope of work, engineering design services, awarded vendors, engineering design fees, and budget and financial impact.

Secretary Aldrete made a motion to negotiate contract award for engineering design services for the relocation of existing chilled/hot water lines at the main campus to Halff Associates, Inc. and authorize President Rodríguez to execute the contract, as presented. Trustee Saenz seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

 Consideration and possible action on utility easement granting approval of rights to the Brownsville Public Utilities Board for the New Dedicated Recreation Center Chiller Plant

Dr. Stella Garcia, Vice President of Institutional Advancement/Chief of Staff, was called upon to present the item. She said the college is still pending information relevant to the project.

Secretary Aldrete made a motion to table the item. Trustee Alejandro seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

c. Facilities Update

Dr. Stella Garcia, Vice President of Institutional Advancement/Chief of Staff, and Mr. Gerardo Mascorro, HVAC Supervisor, were called upon to present the item. Mr. Mascorro reported out on the dedicated chiller plant for the TSC Recreation Center and Child Care Center Unit 2 project. Chair Garza complemented Mr. Mascorro and his team on the excellent work they have completed.

The item was for information only. No action was taken.

10. Academic Committee

Chair Garza called upon Trustee Zavaleta to present the report.

a. Consideration and possible action on Agreement for Federal (Adult Education and Family Literacy Act)
 Program Instructional Services between Brownsville Independent School District and Texas Southmost
 College

Mr. Richard Mesquias, Vice President of External Relations and Workforce Development, was called upon to present the item. He said the Brownsville Independent School District has proposed awarding a subaward grant to TSC to fund 28 students in the Certified Nurse Assistant and Phlebotomy programs.

Trustee Zavaleta made a motion to approve the Agreement for Federal (Adult Education and Family Literacy Act) Program Instructional Services between Brownsville Independent School District and Texas Southmost College and authorize President Rodríguez to execute the agreement, as presented. Secretary Aldrete seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

b. Consideration and possible action on approval of a renewal affiliation agreement with Doctors Hospital at Renaissance

Dr. Brian McCormack, Interim Vice President of Instruction, was called upon to present the item. The proposed fourth renewal of the agreement would support clinical sites for the following programs: Registered Nursing, Vocational Nursing, Emergency Medical Professions, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Radiology Technology, Respiratory Care Technology, Medical Laboratory Technology, Patient Care Technician, and Certified Nursing Aide Programs.

Trustee Zavaleta made a motion to approve the renewal of the Affiliation Agreement with Doctors Hospital at Renaissance for Health Professions Programs and authorize President Rodríguez to sign the agreement. Trustee Saenz seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

11. Student Services Committee

Chair Garza called on Trustee Saenz to present the report.

a. Consideration and possible action on agreement renewal with City of Brownsville/Multimodal transportation to provide transportation services to Texas Southmost Collage students

Dr. Gisela Figueroa, Vice President of Finance and Administration, was called upon to present the item. She reviewed the applicable law and presented three options for providing transportation services to Texas Southmost College students.

Trustee Saenz made a motion to approve option A: to approve interlocal annual agreement with City of Brownsville/Multimodal Transportation to provide transportation services to Texas Southmost College students to and from the College campus as well as all routes of the Brownsville Metro in the amount of \$75,783 for FY 2024-2025 and authorize President Rodríguez to execute agreement. Trustee Alejandro seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

12. Policy Committee

Chair Garza presented the report.

a. Consideration and possible action on the following LOCAL policies related to TASB Update 47: CC, CS, DH, DK, DMC, EBA, and GK

Mr. Frank Perez, Legal Counsel, provided an overview of the seven policies impacted by Update 47 and TASB's recommended revisions.

CC (LOCAL) Annual Operating Budget
CS (LOCAL) Information Security
DH (LOCAL) Employee Standards of Conduct
DK (LOCAL) Professional Development
DMC (LOCAL) Termination of Employment: Reduction In Force
EBA (LOCAL) Alternate Methods of Instruction: Distance Education
GK (LOCAL) Relations with Educational Accreditation Agencies

Chair Garza made a motion to approve the policy revisions as presented for the following policies: CC, CS, DH, DK, DMC, EBA, and GK. Trustee Saenz seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

b. Consideration and possible action on the following (LOCAL) policy related the Governor's Executive Order 44 on Antisemitism

Mr. Frank Perez, Legal Counsel, provided an overview of FLB (LOCAL) Student Rights and Responsibilities: Student Conduct, which relates to the Governor's Executive Order 44.

Chair Garza made a motion to review and approve policy revisions on FLB (LOCAL) to comply with Executive Order No. GA-44 on antisemitism. Secretary Aldrete seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

13. Executive Session

The Board convened in Executive Session at 7:08 p.m.

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 8:15 p.m.

14. Action on Executive Session Matters

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

No action was taken.

- b. Consultation with Attorney on Pending Real Estate Issues, Section 551.072 Texas Government Code No action was taken.
- c. Deliberation on Personnel Matters, Section 551.074 Texas Government Code

Trustee Saenz made a motion to approve the Salary Schedule for FY 2023-24, as discussed in Executive Session. Trustee Alejandro seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- 15. Announcement of Proposed Meeting Dates
 - a. Special Board Meeting June 26, 2024 (Canvassing Election's Results)
 - b. First Reading of TSC Budget Monday, August 5, 2024
 - c. Regular Board Meeting Thursday, August 15, 2024, 5:30 p.m.
- 15. Adjournment

Secretary Aldrete made a motion adjourn. Trustee Alejandro seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Ms. Adela Garza

Chair, Board of Trustees

Ms. Alejandra Aldrete Secretary, Board of Trustees

The video recording of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting held on June 20, 2024 is available on the TSC.EDU website. These minutes were prepared by Dr. Angela K. McCauley, Chief Institutional Editor and Special Projects. Videotaping of the Board of Trustees' meetings began on April 11, 1996.