



Board of Trustees

Adela G. Garza
Chair

Delia Saenz
Vice Chair

Norma Lopez Harris, PharmD
Secretary

Alejandra Aldrete, M.Ed.

Tony Zavaleta, Ph.D.

Edgar E. Garcia, MPAS PA-C

Edward Camarillo, M.P.P.M.

TSC President

Jesus Roberto Rodriguez, Ph.D.

TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE DISTRICT

Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees

August 12, 2024

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session on August 12, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. Board Members present were Ms. Adela Garza, Chair; Ms. Delia Saenz, Vice Chair; Dr. Norma Lopez-Harris, Secretary; Ms. Alejandra Aldrete, Mr. Eduard Camarillo, and Dr. Tony Zavaleta. Also present was Dr. Jesús Roberto Rodríguez, President of Texas Southmost College.

SPECIAL 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. Consideration and possible action on adoption of procedure to fill Board of Trustees Place 5 vacancy

Mr. Frank Perez, legal counsel, was called upon to present the options for filling the vacant Board position. Mr. Perez said there are two options to fill the vacancy on the Board of Trustees: A) appointment by resolution or as B) special election.

Vice Chair Saenz made a motion to adopt Procedure A, Appointment of Vacancy, to fill Trustee Place 5, as presented by legal counsel. Trustee Zavaleta seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

5. Consideration and possible action to fill Board of Trustees Place 5 vacancy by appointment

Vice Chair Saenz made a motion to fill the vacancy by appointment. Trustee Aldrete seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Vice Chair Saenz shared highlights of Mr. Edgar Garcia's background, which included his academic career in Brownsville public schools and attendance at Texas Southmost College. He served as a teacher and coach in the Brownsville Public School District, before changing careers to become a physician's assistant, a position he has held for a decade. Trustees shared their support for Mr. Garcia joining the Board.

Vice Chair Saenz made a motion to nominate Mr. Edgar Garcia to fill the Place 5 Vacancy. Trustee Camarillo seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Garcia thanked the board for their trust in him and shared his passion for serving the community, as well as his vision for supporting TSC faculty, staff and students.

6. Consideration and possible action to fill Board of Trustees Place 5 vacancy by special election

No action was taken on this item.

7. Administration of the Oath of Office

Cameron County Clerk Sylvia Garza Perez administered the Oath of Office to Trustee Garcia. Chair Garza welcomed Trustee Garcia to the board.

The board recessed for a brief welcome reception.

8. Consideration and possible action on adoption of a bank resolution for signature card authorization

Dr. Gisela Figueroa, Vice President of Finance and Administration, was called upon to present the item. She said the bank signature cards need to be updated to reflect the changes in TSC Board leadership.

Trustee Aldrete made a motion to adopt the resolution to designate board officers and authorized signatories as authorized signers. Trustee Camarillo seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

9. Review of Texas Southmost College District Proposed Budget for FY25

Dr. Gisela Figueroa, Vice President of Finance and Administration, was called upon to present the item. She reviewed the budget timeline, budget comparisons, and revenue vs. expenses.

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

10. Consideration and possible action on the proposed TSC District 2024 tax rate and schedule of public hearing.

Dr. Gisela Figueroa, Vice President of Finance and Administration, was called upon to present the item. She reviewed the three property tax rates, consisting of the voter-approval tax rate, prior year tax rate, and no-new-revenue tax rate. She also shared the tax rate calculations for the various rates. The proposed vote-approval rate is lower than current rate, the difference is .004650.

Vice Chair Saenz made a motion to propose a tax rate of 0.115117 per \$100K of valuation. Trustee Aldrete seconded the motion. Trustees voting in favor of the motion included: Chair Garza, Vice Chair Saenz, Secretary Lopez Harris, Trustee Aldrete, Trustee Camarillo, and Trustee Zavaleta. Trustee Garcia abstained from the vote.

11. Executive Session

The Board convened in Executive Session at 6:40 p.m.

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

12. 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

No action was taken.

13. Adjournment

Trustee Camarillo made a motion to adjourn. Secretary Lopez Harris seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.


Ms. Adela Garza
Chair, Board of Trustees


Dr. Norma Lopez Harris
Secretary, Board of Trustees

The video recording of the Special Board of Trustees meeting held on August 12, 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.