



TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE DISTRICT

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Texas Southmost College District

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

December 15, 2011

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session on December 15, 2011, at 5:30 p.m., in the Gorgas Board Room at Texas Southmost College. Board members present were Francisco G. Rendon, Chair; Adela G. Garza, Secretary; Trey Mendez; and Dr. Robert A. Lozano. Also present was Dr. Lily F. Tercero, President of Texas Southmost College. Board members Dr. Roberto Robles, Vice Chair David Oliveira, and Ren  Torres were absent.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rendon at 5:36 p.m.

1. Announcements

Chairman Rendon announced that Dr. Tercero had been appointed to the Tech Prep Board of the Rio Grande Valley Board of Directors. The Tech Prep Board is a partnership between education and business that prepares young people for today's skilled workforce. Mr. Rendon also announced that Dr. Tercero had been appointed to serve on the Brownsville Economic Development Council, which is the business league contracted by the Greater Brownsville Incentives Corporation to provide economic development services for the Brownsville community. He congratulated Dr. Tercero for the appointments to serve.

Dr. Tercero announced that TSC held its 85th Anniversary Celebration on December 14th at the Arts Center. Dr. Tercero presented a video of the highlights of the event.

2. Mission Statement

Chairman Rendon read the existing mission for the Texas Southmost College District as follows:

“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.”

3. Resolution

Chairman Rendon announced that the Board would like to recognize the Late Seferino Rodriguez by formally passing a Resolution that will be incorporated into the official minutes of this meeting. Mr. Rendon announced that the family of the Late Seferino Rodriguez joined the 85th Anniversary Celebration held on December 14, 2011. Mr. Rodriguez contributed to the naming of Texas Southmost College in 1949 when he entered a contest and won.

Chairman Rendon read the resolution honoring the Late Seferino Rodriguez.

Adoption of Resolution Honoring the Family of the Late Seferino Rodriguez for Submitting the Winning Entry to Rename the Institution as Texas Southmost College.

A motion was made by Dr. Lozano to adopt the resolution Honoring the Late Seferino Rodriguez for Submitting the Winning Entry to Rename the Institution as Texas Southmost College. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mendez and carried unanimously. *Exhibit “A”*

4. Speakers to Agenda Items and Public Discussion

There were no speakers.

5. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

Consideration and Possible Action on Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting on November 17, 2011

A motion was made by Mr. Mendez to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on November 17, 2011 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Garza and carried unanimously.

6. District Elections

Chairman Rendon called on Mr. Chet Lewis, Vice President of Administration and Finance to present the item. Mr. Lewis stated that the Election of 2012 is moving forward. Mr. Lewis presented two documents regarding the appointment of an Election Agent and the hiring of a consultant to assist with administering the Election. Mr. Lewis reminded the Board that the County does not anticipate running the TSC election as in previous years, and since TSC does not have the experience or the expertise, staff is recommending that a consultant be hired to administer the election on behalf of TSC. The Secretary of State's Office has been contacted regarding possible qualified consultants. The District will weigh all options and bring forth the best option for administering the election.

Consideration and Possible Action on Appointment of Election Agent

A motion was made by Mrs. Garza to adopt the Resolution appointing the District's agent for the May 2012 Trustee Election as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mendez and carried unanimously.

Exhibit "B"

Consideration and Possible Action on Approval to Hire a Consultant to Administer the Election Process

A motion was made by Dr. Lozano to authorize the President to do all things necessary to negotiate a contract to hire a consultant to administer the election process as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mendez.

Dr. Lozano questioned the process. Mr. Lewis reminded the Board that the election process demands a lot of expertise. The consultant would assist the

District in the same capacity as the county has in the past. Dr. Lozano requested that the motion be amended to include the Board to approve the consultant for this process. Mr. Lewis informed the Board that the Brownsville Navigation District does not anticipate using an outside consultant; however, as the elections process progresses, the BND will be consulted and asked to share costs.

An amended motion was made by Dr. Lozano to authorize the President to do all things necessary to negotiate a contract to hire a consultant to administer the election process and bring those to the Board for approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mendez and carried unanimously. Exhibit "C"

7. Budget Amendments

Chairman Rendon called on Mr. Lewis to present the item. Mr. Lewis reported that budget amendment #11.008 is for fiscal year 2011. He explained that two items went over budget. Additional funds are being allocated within the same account. The remaining items are related to the bond issuance, which typically requires a budget amendment at the end of the fiscal year.

Consideration and Possible Action on Approval of Budget Amendments for Fiscal Year 2011 and Fiscal Year 2012

A motion was made by Mrs. Garza to approve budget amendments #11-008 for Fiscal Year 2011 and #12-001 for Fiscal Year 2012 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mendez and carried unanimously. Exhibit "D"

8. TSC Strategic Planning

Chairman Rendon called on Dr. Tercero to present the item. Dr. Tercero reported that the first phase of the Strategic Planning process has been completed. There were three community summits, held in the cities of Brownsville, Los Fresnos and Port Isabel. There were also focus group sessions for the business communities held by sector, which included Healthcare, Services Retail, Manufacturing logistics, and Financial Services. The focus group sessions were in partnership with the Brownsville chamber of commerce, Workforce Solutions Cameron and Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC. Wells Fargo, LLC was kind enough to cover all the expenses for food that was provided for all the events. Dr. Tercero reported that there were also sessions held with faculty, students, and staff. Over 300 people participated in the sessions and summits.

Dr. Tercero reported that all the information will be gathered and presented to the Strategic Planning Committee to assist with developing a draft mission statement,

institutional goals, a vision, and a value statement, which will then be presented to the Board for discussion. The final stage will be the adoption of a new strategic plan by the Board of Trustees.

9. 4th Quarter Financial Statements and Investment Report

Mr. Lewis provided a brief report on the Fourth Quarter Financial Statements and Investment Report for FY 2011. Mr. Lewis stated that the reports are provided for informational purposes only, and no action is required by the Board.

10. Proposed Meeting Dates

Thursday, January 19, 2012
Thursday, February 16, 2012
Thursday, March 22, 2012

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Rendon at 6:39 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 December 15, 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. 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.