



TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE DISTRICT

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Texas Southmost College District

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

October 20, 2011

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session on October 20, 2011, at 5:00 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; Dr. Robert A. Lozano and Ren  Torres. Also present was Dr. Lily F. Tercero, President of Texas Southmost College. Board member Dr. Roberto Robles, Vice Chair was absent.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rendon at 5:10 p.m.

1. Announcements

There were no announcements.

2. Transition Team Status Report

Chairman Rendon called on Dr. Robert Furgason and Dr. John Anthony, TSC Consultants for the Transition Team. Dr. Furgason reported that there was a meeting with the staff of the University of Texas System in Austin, Texas. He reported one of the items involved space issues and the space inventory will be given at the end of October. It is very important because of the programs that will be placed together in the spaces that are available. He said there is a reasonable amount of space for the two institutions but the distribution has to be dealt with. He also said he had been struggling to access the data that is necessary to make the decisions because some of the data is for public information and other has to be protected for privacy. He also said in the meeting they discussed UTB/TSC principles that will be shared in the next meeting. Another item he discussed was the personnel policy for faculty and is refining the policy to bring to the next Board meeting.

Mr. Mendez asked from whom he is having problem getting data.

Dr. Furgason responded that it is primarily local but that it is a timely request on getting specific. He also mentioned that Michael Putegnath has been helpful in getting that data to the consultants.

3. Opening Statement by Trustees

Chairman Rendon stated that in the near future there will be workshops to talk about the new vision and mission will be. He read the existing mission for the Texas Southmost College District "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."

4. Speakers to Agenda Items and Public Discussion

Chairman Rendon called on Robert Lucio. Mr. Lucio discussed the item regarding the Fort Brown Golf Course.

Chairman Rendon called on Michael Gonzalez, Executive Director of United Brownsville. Mr. Gonzalez said that on behalf of United Brownsville welcome Dr. Tercero to the community. He said he was at the State of Education event and was very impressed on Dr. Tercero comments.

5. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

**Consideration and Possible Action on Approval
of Minutes of the Regular Meeting on September 22, 2011**

A motion was made by Mr. Mendez to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on September 22, 2011 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Torres and carried unanimously.

6. Executive Session

as provided by Government Code,
Chapter 551.071 and 551.072.

The Board convened in Executive Session at 5:24 p.m.

The Board reconvened in Regular Session at 6:30 p.m.

7. Consideration and possible action on matters discussed in Executive Session

**Discussion and Review
of Golf Course Contract**

No action was taken.

**Litigation Regarding Mary Jane Saucedo
vs. University of Texas at Brownsville, ET
AL Cause No. C-2077-11-F**

No action was taken.

**Discussion Regarding the Appraisal of
the TSC Fort Brown Condos Villas I and II**

No action was taken.

**Declaration of TSC Fort Brown
Villas I and II as Surplus Property**

A motion was made by Mr. Mendez to declare the TSC Fort Brown Villas I as surplus property and direct Dr. Tercero to move forward with the sale as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Torres and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "A"*

**Discussion and Possible
Action on the Cueto Building**

Mr. Oliveira said that it is a great deal and is happy to sell it to the City a partner of the community. He also glad they made an offer for the property for the downtown area.

A motion was made by Mr. Oliveira to accept the offer from the City of Brownsville to purchase the Cueto Building for the TSC Appraised Value of \$500,000 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Torres and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "B"*

**Discussion and Possible Action on the
Property Appraisal of 2.10 Acres dba Lots 1 and 2,
Block 4, University Park Subdivision**

This item was tabled.

8. Board Policy

**Consideration and Possible Action
on Second Reading Board Policy: IV.B.1 –
Employment Contracts**

Chairman Rendon called on Dr. Furgason to present the item. He said the intent is to provide the ability for the Board to have the flexibility for the length of the contract for the employees.

Mr. Oliveira asked if it is common for the junior colleges to have longer contracts for the president is his concern of the policy.

Dr. Anthony responded that in the majority of community colleges across state and country are common. He said that a three year contract with a renewal every year. He said the way the contract can be structured in such ways that you are not committed to anything other than the yearly assessment. He also said the other advantage of this policy is to hire other faculty or staff members for longer term

contracts and also said it doesn't mean you cannot hire them for one year but it provides a flexibility to hire people for longer periods of time if you believe there doing a good job.

Mr. Mendez asked if it was common to have three year contracts for administrative personnel or is that for faculty or staff as well.

Dr. Anthony responded that there is number of institutions across that state and country that have multi-year contracts for faculty members. He said it is not just for president that it can be for staff or faculty members but he said the policy provides the Board with a flexibility.

A motion was made by Mr. Torres to approve the Second Reading Board Policy: IV.B.1 – Employment Contracts as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mendez and carried unanimously. Exhibit "C"

9. Proposed Meeting Dates

Saturday, November 12, 2011
Introduction of President to
Community
Thursday, November 14, 2011
Board Retreat
Thursday, November 17, 2011
Thursday, December 15, 2011

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 October 20, 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.