



TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE DISTRICT  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT BROWNSVILLE and TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE

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## Texas Southmost College District

### Board of Trustees

*Chester Gonzalez*

*Chair*

*Rosemary Breedlove*

*Vice Chair*

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*Secretary*

*Roman "Dino" Esparza*

*David G. Oliveira*

*Roberto Robles, M.D.*

*Dolly Zimmerman*

### UTB/TSC President

*Juliet V. Garcia, Ph.D*

## Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

June 21, 2007

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session on June 21, 2007, at 5:30 p.m., at the Laguna Madre Learning Center, on State Highway 100, Port Isabel, Texas. Board members present were Mr. Chester Gonzalez, Chair, Mr. Eduardo A. Campirano, Secretary, Ms. Dolly Zimmerman, and Dr. Roberto Robles. Absent were Ms. Rosemary Breedlove, Vice Chair, and Mr. David Oliveira. Also present was Dr. Juliet V. Garcia, President of The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College.

### Call to Order

#### 1. Executive Session

as provided by Government Code,  
Chapter 551.072

#### Real Estate

**Contract** and Resolution for  
Purchase of Lot 1, Block 14,  
Colonia Alta Vista Addition,  
Brownsville, Texas

**Contract** and Resolution for  
Purchase of South ½ of Lot 7,  
Block 14, Paredes Track  
Addition, Brownsville

**The Board convened in Executive Session at 5:32 p.m.**

**The Board reconvened in Regular Session at 6:25 p.m.**

**2. Consideration and possible action on matters discussed in Executive Session****Consideration and Possible Action on Contract and Resolution for Purchase of Lot 1, Block 14, Colonia Alta Vista Addition, Brownsville, Texas**

A motion was made by Ms. Zimmerman to approve the Contract and Resolution for the Purchase of Lot 1, Block 14, Colonia Alta Vista Addition, Brownsville, Texas in the amount of \$35,000. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robles and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "A"*

**Consideration and Possible Action on Contract and Resolution for Purchase of South ½ of Lot 7, Block 14, Paredes Track Addition, Brownsville, Texas**

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to approve the Contract and Resolution for the Purchase of South ½ of Lot 7, Block 14, Paredes Track Addition, Brownsville, Texas, in the amount of \$20,000. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "B"*

**3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting****Consideration and possible action on Minutes of Regular Meeting May 31, 2007**

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 31, 2007, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robles and carried unanimously.

**4. Speakers to Agenda Items and Public Discussion**

There were no speakers.

**5. Board Briefing****Research and Community Involvement in the Bahia Grande**

Dr. Charles Dameron, Vice President for Academic Affairs, introduced Ms. Mary Jane Shands, Director of the Jason Project, and Dr. Elizabeth Heise, Assistant Professor in the Chemistry and Environmental Sciences Department, to present an overview of the improvements to the Bahia Grande. Dr. Heise reported that with help from student volunteers and members of the community the B2 and C channels have been re-opened and re-flooded.

Dr. Heise announced that there will be a ceremony to commemorate the opening of the last of the interior channels that links the Bahia Grande, Laguna Larga and Little Laguna Madre basins. The ceremony will take place on June 22, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. at the Bahia Grande Project site located on Highway 48 between Port of Brownsville and Port Isabel.

## **6. Academic Affairs Partnership Committee**

Dr. Charles Dameron, Vice President for Academic Affairs, reported that the Academic Affairs Partnership Committee (AAPC) met on June 6, 2007 and discussed the following items:

- graduate programs in History, Business, and Public Health
- new undergraduate majors in Business (Entrepreneurship, Service Marketing Management, and International Business),
- status on approval of the doctoral program in education,
- learning communities, and
- the Rio Grande Valley Regional Science and Engineering Fair.

### **Consideration and Possible action on Approval of New Academic Programs**

In addition Dr. Dameron stated that the committee considered three new degree programs for Texas Southmost College. Upon approval by the Board, the new programs will be forwarded to U.T. System and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for final approval. The three new programs are as follows:

- Certificate of Proficiency Level 3 – Advanced Level Program – Polysomnography. A comprehensive recording of the biophysiological changes that occur during sleep. Coursework for this certificate may be used as electives for the Bachelor of Applied Technology (BAT) degree in Health Services.
- Associate in Applied Science – Natural Heritage Technology. This degree will target the growing world-wide eco-tourism industry especially in Latin America and the Lower Rio Grande Valley.
- Associate of Science – Computer Science. This associate degree will articulate directly into the Bachelor and Master programs in Computer Science with no loss of credits.

**A motion was made by Dr. Robles to approve the New Academic Programs as presented and direct the Vice President for Academic Affairs to forward them to UT System and the Texas Higher Education Coordinator Board for approval. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and carried unanimously. Exhibit "C"**

**Consideration and Possible action on  
Satisfactory Academic Progress**

Dr. Dameron also presented the AAPC's recommendation regarding stricter academic standards for acceptable academic progress in spirit with the proposal from the Academic Standards and Student Records Committee.

**A motion was made by Dr. Robles to support efforts to implement stricter academic standards for satisfactory academic progress as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and carried unanimously. Exhibit "D"**

**Consideration and Possible action on  
Texas Southmost College Subsidy**

Dr. Dameron introduced Dr. David E. Pearson, Vice President of Partnership Affairs, to present the recommendation regarding the amendment to the TSC Board Policy Section VI-B Tuition, which sets the TSC tuition at 100% of the UTB resident tuition rate.

**A motion was made by Dr. Robles to approve the first reading of TSC Board Policy Section VI-B Tuition and direct the President and Administration to analyze the current TSC Tuition Subsidy with the goal of ensuring that it is used in a way consistent with furthering student academic success. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and carried unanimously. Exhibit "E"**

**7. Business Affairs Partnership Committee**

Mr. Campirano reported that the Business Affairs Partnership Committee (BAPC) met on June 20, 2007 and discussed the following items:

**Presentation of the UTB/TSC Budget  
for Fiscal Year 2007-2008**

Mr. Campirano introduced Ms. Rosemary Martinez, Vice President for Business Affairs, to present the proposed UTB/TSC Budget for Fiscal Year 2007-2008. Ms. Martinez reported that UTB/TSC will receive \$5.3 million in additional funding for the coming fiscal year. She stated that the increase in funding will be directed towards critical need areas such as faculty and staff salaries, maintenance and operations, utilities, marketing, Math and Science Academy, student services, IT services, advising services and the Doctoral Program.

There was no action was necessary or taken.

**Consideration and possible action on  
First Reading of the TSC District Budget for Fiscal Year 2007-2008**

Mr. Campirano introduced Ms. Melba Sanchez, Assistant Vice President for Finance, to present the first reading of the TSC District Budget for Fiscal Year 2007-2008. Ms. Sanchez reported that the Budget for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 will fund tuition scholarships, capital improvements, deferred maintenance, insurance reserves, property acquisition for campus expansion and construction of the bond projects. Ms. Sanchez stated that 79% of the revenues will be transferred, per the partnership agreement, to the Partnership to provide instructional and related services. The remaining 21% will be used for the District's operations. Ms. Sanchez announced that the second reading of the budget will be presented for approval at the August Board Meeting.

**Consideration and possible action on:  
Selection of Bank Depository for Fiscal Years 2008 and 2009**

Mr. Campirano reported that Chapter 51.003 of the Education Code requires the Board to select a depository bank bi-annually in odd numbered years. He stated that the District received five responses from local banks to its Request for Proposals distributed in May. Responses were received from Chase, International Bank of Commerce, Lone Star National Bank, Texas State Bank, and Wells Fargo Bank. Mr. Campirano reported that the BAPC recommends selecting Texas State Bank as their proposal is the most beneficial to the District.

**A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to select Texas State Bank as the District's Bank depository beginning September 1, 2007 and ending August 31, 2009. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "F"***

**Consideration and possible action on the  
First Reading of Board Policy V-D: Investment**

Mr. Campirano reported that the Public Funds Investment Act requires that the District's Investment Policy be reviewed on an annual basis. He stated that the only changes being proposed by the BAPC are related to personnel title changes due to the reorganization of the TSC District Office. The second reading of the policy will be presented for approval at the August Board Meeting.

**Consideration and possible action on  
Substantial Completion and Authorization to Release Final Payment  
to Jamail Construction for the Pedestrian Bridge Project**

Mr. Campirano reported that the Pedestrian Bridge Project is complete. He stated that Physical Plant staff conducted a substantial completion inspection with the general contractor, Jamail Construction. The bridge was opened for public use in May.

**A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to accept the substantial completion of the pedestrian bridge project and authorize release of final payment to Jamail Construction. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robles and carried unanimously. Exhibit "G"**

**Consideration and possible action on  
Substantial Completion and Authorization to Release Final Payment  
to R&R Paving Company for the New Entrance to Physical Plant Project**

Mr. Campirano reported that a substantial completion inspection was conducted by Physical Plant staff and the project engineer on January 29, 2007. During the inspection, some areas of the new road showed signs of stress. The contractor fixed the areas and agreed to extend the warranty period to one year from the date they were fixed.

**A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to accept the substantial completion of the new entrance to physical plant project and authorize release of final payment to R&R Paving Company. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and carried unanimously. Exhibit "H"**

**Consideration and possible action on  
Bid for Campus Wide Roof Projects**

Mr. Campirano reported that five vendors responded to the District's request for proposals for Campus Wide Roof Repairs. He stated that the roofs that are included in this project are the M2 Vocational Trade Shop, Oliveira Library, Tandy Hall, Science Engineering and Technology, MO Building, Old Morgue, and the Lightner Student Center. Mr. Campirano reported that the lowest bid was submitted by Sechrist Hall in the amount of \$416,636.

**A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to award the bid for the Campus Wide Roof Project to Sechrist Hall Company in the amount of \$416,636. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and carried unanimously. Exhibit "I"**

**8. Bond Projects**

**Consideration and possible action on  
Order Authorizing the Issuance of "Texas Southmost College District  
Limited Tax Bonds, Series 2007"; Entering Into a Bond Purchase Agreement  
and a Paying Agent/ Registrar Agreement; and Other Matters Related Thereto**

Dr. Pearson reported that this is the third of four installments of the \$68 million bond issuance approved by the voters in November 2004. He added that due to the favorable financial climate, it was possible to leverage an additional \$2 million in Maintenance Tax

Notes. Dr. Pearson also reported that during the rating process that took place on June 4<sup>th</sup>, the District was able to maintain the previous favorable rate of “AA-” from Fitch Ratings and “A+” from Standard & Poor’s.

Dr. Pearson introduced Ms. Ann Burger Entrekina, the District’s Financial Advisor from First Southwest Company, to report on the outcome of the pricing process. Ms. Burger reported that even though it has been a tough market historically, the District finds itself at an opportune time to access the capital markets. She reported that the District secured a 4.772% interest rate for the Limited Tax Bonds and a 4.703% interest rate for the \$2 million Maintenance Tax Notes.

Ms. Burger reported that at the time of the bond referendum in 2004, the proposal included six bond issuances. It has now been reduced to four bond issuances to take advantage of the low interest rates. As a result, only \$9 million remain for issuance.

**A motion was made by Ms. Zimmerman to accept the Order Authorizing the Issuance of “Texas Southmost College District Limited Tax Bonds, Series 2007”; Entering Into a Bond Purchase Agreement and a Paying Agent/Registrar Agreement; and Other Matters Related Thereto. The motion was seconded by Mr. Campirano and carried unanimously. Exhibit “J”**

**A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to adopt the Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of “Texas Southmost College District Maintenance Tax Notes, Series 2007”; Entering Into a Purchase Contract and a Paying Agent/Registrar Agreement; Approving an Official Statement; and Authorizing and Approving Other Matters Related Thereto. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robles and carried unanimously. Exhibit “K”**

Dr. Pearson introduced Ms. Veronica Mendez, Assistant Vice President for Construction, to report on the progress of the construction projects. Ms. Mendez reported that the foundation for the wing of REK Center that will house the faculty and staff offices was poured on June 15<sup>th</sup>. She stated that structural steel beams will be installed in the next couple of weeks.

## **9. 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Financial and Investment Report**

The Second Quarter Financial and Investment Reports were presented by Ms. Sanchez. The report was for informational purposes only and required no action. *Exhibit “L”*

## **10. President’s Report**

*President García reported the following:*

- Jorge G. Castañeda, Former Mexican Foreign Minister and now political science and Latin American studies professor at New York University, will headline the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Distinguished Lecture Series on October 10, 2007.

- The “Diamonds Among Us” event will take place on July 30, 2007, at 6:00 p.m. The honorees will be Arnie Alvarez, Terry Jay Phillips, Werner Paul Steinbach and Marilyn Dyer-Whelan.
- Dr. Joseph Rene Corbeil and Dr. Maria Elena Corbeil, Assistant Professors in the School of Education, have received the 2007 EDUCAUSE Quarterly Contribution of the Year Award for their article entitled “Are You for Mobile Learning”. They will be honored in Seattle, Washington in October.
- “El Centro”, a black and white photography exhibition of downtown Brownsville, opened on June 7<sup>th</sup>. The exhibition will be open to the public until June 28, 2007.

### 11. Proposed Meeting Dates

July – No meeting

Thursday, August 30, 2007

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Thursday, October 25, 2007

Thursday, November 29, 2007

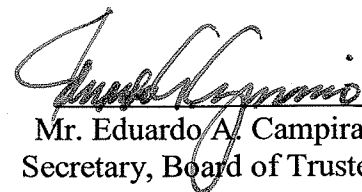
Mr. Gonzalez reviewed the dates with the Board

### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Gonzalez at 8:15 p.m.



Mr. Chester Gonzalez  
Chairman, Board of Trustees



Mr. Eduardo A. Campirano  
Secretary, Board of Trustees

**NOTE:** The tape of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting held on June 21, 2007 is on file at the District Office of the Texas Southmost College District. The master tape is on file at the UTB/TSC Media center. These minutes were taken and transcribed by Claudia L. Cortina, Administrative Secretary. Videotaping of the Board of Trustees' meetings began on April 11, 1996. They are aired on Channel KISD in cooperation with the Brownsville Independent School District.