Texas Southmost College District

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

May 14, 2009

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session on May 14, 2009, at 5:30 p.m., in the Board Room of Gorgas Hall, The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College. Board members present were David Oliveira, Chair, Eduardo A. Campirano, Vice Chair, Dr. Roberto Robles, Secretary, Chester Gonzalez, Rosemary Breedlove, René Torres, and Adela Garza. Also present was Dr. Juliet V. Garcia, President of The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Oliveira at 5:35 p.m.

1. Announcements

Dr. García called on Dr. Ruth Anne Ragland, Vice President for Institutional Advancement to introduce the new Associate Vice President for Development, Ken Turpen. Dr. Ragland provided a brief biography on Mr. Turpen, and outlined his role at UTB/TSC.

2. Speakers to the Items and Public Discussion

There were no speakers.
3. Acceptance of Gift and Resolution

Consideration and possible action on adoption of resolution naming The Arts Center Box A “The Charles and Elizabeth Stillman Box”

Dr. Ruth Ann Ragland, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, announced the acceptance of a gift from Charles and Elizabeth Stillman. Dr. Ragland provided a brief biography of the Stillman’s describing their work as community leaders in promoting education, economic development, and the fine arts. She informed the Board that the donors were not present at the meeting, but publicly thanked them for making this important contribution. Mr. Oliveira then read a resolution honoring the Stillman’s, noting that a copy of the resolution and a framed portrait of The Arts Center would subsequently be presented to them.

A motion was made by Dr. Robles to adopt the resolution naming The Arts Center Box A “The Charles and Elizabeth Stillman Box,” as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Breedlove and carried unanimously. Exhibit “A”

4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Consideration and possible action on Minutes of Regular Meeting on April 23, 2009

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on April 23, 2009. The motion was seconded by Mr. Torres and carried unanimously.

5. Board Briefing

Dr. García called on Dr. Charles Dameron, Vice President for Academic Affairs, who introduced Mr. Edward Argueta, Principal for the Mathematics & Science Academy (MSA). Mr. Argueta told the Board that MSA’s class of 2009, its first graduating class, consisted of twenty-four high school students from the Brownsville and Los Fresnos area who have now completed their two years at UTB/TSC. These students completed 64 hours of college course work and maintained an average 3.56 GPA. Four of the students maintained a 4.0 GPA. Mr. Argueta noted that the students integrated very well into the college campus community, engaging in numerous extracurricular activities. Mr. Argueta proudly announced to the Board that the Mathematics & Science Academy class of 2009 will be receiving their high school diplomas during spring commencement on Saturday, May 16, 2009.
6. Executive Session

The Board considered two contracts and resolutions for purchase of real estate: Lot 1, Block 1, University Park Subdivision, Brownsville, Texas; and Lots 21 and 22, Block 10, Colonia AltaVista Subdivision, Brownsville, Texas. The Board also considered one Legal matter: To Authorize the funding of a security contract through UTB/TSC for the New Library and Classroom Buildings.

The Board convened in Executive Session at 6:42 p.m.

The Board reconvened in Regular Session at 7:30 p.m.

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

Contract and resolution for purchase
Lot 1, Block 1, University Park Subdivision,
Brownsville, Texas

A motion was made by Mr. Gonzalez to approve the earnest money contract and resolution for the acquisition of Lot 1, Block 1, University Park Subdivision in the amount of $73,637 as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Breedlove and carried unanimously. Exhibit "B"

Contract and resolution for purchase
of Lots 21 and 22, Block 10, Colonia AltaVista Subdivision,
Brownsville, Texas

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to approve the earnest money contract and resolution for the acquisition of Lots 21 and 22, Block 10, Colonia AltaVista Subdivision in the amount of $65,000 as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Garza and carried unanimously. Exhibit "C"
Authorization of funding of a security contract through UTB/TSC for the New Library and Classroom Buildings

A motion was made by Mr. Torres to authorize the funding of a security contract through UTB/TSC for the New Library and Classroom Buildings in the amount of $62,132 as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Breedlove and carried unanimously. Exhibit “D”

8. Physical Facilities Committee

Report

Mr. Oliveira called on Chester Gonzalez to make the report. Mr. Gonzalez reported that the Physical Facilities Committee met on Thursday, May 7, 2009. The following items were discussed for recommendation:

Consideration and possible action on the award of a contract for the netting support system for the REK Center site.

A motion was made by Mr. Gonzalez to accept a contract to purchase and install a netting support system for the REK Center with Net Connection, Inc., in the amount of $73,492 and authorize the Assistant Vice President for Planning and Construction to execute the contract. The motion was seconded by Mr. Torres and carried unanimously. Exhibit “E”

Accept a change order to the contract with Skanska USA for the library mural

The change order with Skanska USA for the Library mural was tabled.

To approve substantial completion of the New Library and the Classroom

A motion was made by Mr. Gonzalez to approve substantial completion of the New Library and the Classroom and authorize the Assistant Vice President for Planning and Construction to close the project upon completion of the punch list items. The motion was seconded by Mr. Campirano and carried unanimously. Exhibit “F”
9. Construction Report

Dr. Pearson reported the following:

- Renovations at the Campus Security Center are complete.
- Work continues at the Commissary Building. The door frames and molding are installed. Projected completion is fall 2009.
- Interior work on the Commandant’s Quarters continues. Replication of the historical molding and drywall is installed. The exterior is complete.
- A sidewalk from the Student Union to the REK Center is nearing completion. Light posts are installed and landscaping will be added in the next two weeks.
- Renovation in the Cavalry building is in progress. The historical ceiling beams were reinforced with screws and 16 ft. studs have been installed.
- The parking lot adjacent to the Amphitheatre is complete. The sod and landscaping are also complete.
- The parking lot on 21st Street is in progress. The sub-base for the curbs, sidewalks, and asphalt is being installed.
- Work at the Center for Early Childhood Studies continues. The administration building is complete, a fence has been installed, and interior work in the casitas is in progress.
- Work continues at the Arts Center. The columns and theatrical system have been installed. The project is on schedule for completion late this year.
- Work at the Science, Technology Learning Center building is now in progress. Excavation and drilling for the pillars to the South building has begun.
- The REK Center parking lot is under construction. Lime is being poured to prepare for the asphalt. Projected completion is July 2009.

10. President’s Report

Dr. Garcia reported the following:

- The N1H1 Public Forum convened on May 1, 2009, at the SET-B Lecture Hall. A panel of campus experts addressed the status of the influenza, and safety precautions and procedures, and questions from the community were answered.

- The Associate Degree in Nursing program, held its annual pinning ceremony on May 8, 2009, at the Jacob Brown Auditorium. There were 95 students in the graduating class. Dr. Garcia congratulated Professor Joe Lacher, staff and the ADN students for their passing rate of 96.5%, which is above both the state and national averages.
• The UTB/TSC Ring Ceremony was held on May 8, 2009, at El Gran Salon. This spring semester there were 72 rings purchased by graduating students. Additionally, leadership rings were awarded to three outstanding young women: Katie Japp, Rosalinda Olivo, and Crystal Olivo. They will be graduating this spring.

• Dr. Manuel G. Guajardo and John C. Hunter will be honored as UTB/TSC Distinguished Alumni, and Dr. Bill Davis will be recognized as the recipient of the 2009 Chancellor’s Council Outstanding Teaching Award. The ceremony will take place on May 15, 2009, at 6:00 pm, at the SET-B Lecture Hall.

• The 17th UTB/TSC commencement ceremony will be held at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 16, 2009.

11. Proposed Meeting Dates

Thursday, June 18, 2009
July-No Meeting
Thursday, August 27, 2009
Thursday, September 17, 2009

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Oliveira at 8:13 p.m.

Mr. David G. Oliveira
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Roberto Robles, M.D.
Secretary, Board of Trustees

NOTE: The tape of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting held on May 14, 2009 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 Gloria Miranda, Administrative Assistant. 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.