

TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE
Southmost Union Junior College District

Minutes of the **Regular** Meeting of the Board of Trustees
November 22, 2004

The Board of Trustees of the Southmost Union Junior College District convened in open session November 22, 2004 at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room of Gorgas Hall at Texas Southmost College. Board members present were Mr. Chester Gonzalez, Chairman, Mr. Eduardo A. Campirano, Secretary, Ms. Mary Rose Cardenas, Mr. David Oliveira, Ms. Dolly Zimmerman and Dr. Roberto Robles. Absent was Ms. Rosemary Breedlove, Vice Chair. Also present was Dr. Juliet V. García, President of The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College.

Regular Meeting

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gonzalez at 5:32 p.m.

1 Resolution

**Consideration and possible action on
Resolution in Memory of Mr. Raul A. Besteiro, Jr.**

Chairman Gonzalez read the resolution honoring the life and contributions of the late Mr. Raul A. Besteiro, Jr. A copy of the resolution is attached to these minutes. The Board of Trustees requested a moment of silence to honor Mr. Besteiro. The Trustees also expressed their sincere condolences to his family.

A motion was made by Ms. Cardenas to adopt the Resolution in Memory of Mr. Raul A. Besteiro, Jr., as presented; seconded by Ms. Zimmerman; motion carried unanimously. Exhibit "A"

2 Executive Session as provided by Government Code, Chapter 551.071-551.076, 551.082-551.084

Real Estate

Contract and Resolution for purchase of
Lot 6, Block 6 Paredes Addition,
Brownsville, Texas

Contract for 1.074 acre tract of land
of the Fort Brown Villa Condominium
Regime

The Board convened in Executive Session at 5:49 p.m.

The Board reconvened in regular session at 6:13 p.m.

3 Consideration and possible action on matters discussed in Executive Session

Real Estate

**Consideration and possible action on
Contract and Resolution for purchase of Lot 6,
Block 6 Paredes Addition Brownsville, Texas**

No action was taken.

**Consideration and possible action on
Contract for 1.074 acre tract of land of the
Fort Brown Villa Condominium Regime**

**A motion was made by Dr. Robles to approve the Contract for 1.074 acre tract
of Land of the Fort Brown Villa Condominium Regime; seconded by Ms.
Cardenas as presented; motion carried. Mr. Oliveira abstained from voting on
this item. EXHIBIT "B"**

4 Approval of minutes of previous meetings

**Consideration and possible action on
Regular Meeting October 14, 2004**

**A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to approve the minutes of the Regular
Meeting of October 14, 2004 as presented; seconded by Ms. Cardenas; motion
carried unanimously.**

**Consideration and possible action on
Special Meeting November 11, 2004**

**A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to approve the minutes of the Special
Meeting of November 11, 2004 as presented; seconded by Ms. Cardenas; motion
carried unanimously.**

5 **Speakers to Agenda Items and Public Discussion**

Mr. Edward Camarillo, former Student Government President, thanked the Board for their leadership during the bond election. He announced that his community involvement during the bond election has inspired him to run for Brownsville City Commissioner in District 4.

6 **Board Briefing**

Research Infrastructure in Minority Institutions Grant

Dr. José Martín, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, introduced Dr. Luis Colom, Chair of the Biology Department. Dr. Colom announced that the Biology Department has been awarded a five-year, \$3.8 million grant from the National Institute of Health (NIH). He reported that approximately \$12 million have been awarded to the Biology department for biomedical research to date.

Dr. Colom stated that this \$3.8 million grant represents a major stepping stone in the Community University's efforts to establish a center for research in biomedicine. The funds from this grant will be used to recruit two new faculty members, hire a grant specialist and purchase specialized and expensive equipment.

Dr. Colom introduced Dr. Emilio Garrido, Dr. Massoud Zarei, members of the Biology Department faculty. Each faculty member made a brief presentation on the types of research being conducted in their department.

The Board thanked Dr. Colom and the Biology Faculty for their presentation and ongoing contributions to research efforts at UTB/TSC.

7 **Budget Amendments**

Consideration and possible action on SUJCD Budget Amendments for Fiscal Year 2003-2004

Dr. Ronnau stated that Budget Amendment #04-11 adjusts budgeted amounts to reflect actual expenditures in the General Fund.

A motion was made by Mr. Oliveira to approve Budget Amendments #04-11 as presented; seconded by Mr. Campirano; motion carried unanimously. Exhibit "C"

Dr. Ronnau stated that Budget Amendment #04-12 to the Unexpended Fund adjusts budgeted amount for Cueto House Renovations to reflect actual expenditures.

A motion was made by Mr. Oliveira to accept Budget Amendments #04-12 as presented; seconded by Mr. Campirano; motion carried unanimously. Exhibit “D”

Dr. Ronnau stated that Budget Amendment #04-13 to the Auxiliary Fund adjusts the budgeted amount to reflect actual expenditures.

A motion was made by Mr. Oliveira to accept Budget Amendments #04-13 as presented; seconded by Mr. Campirano; motion carried unanimously. Exhibit “E”

8 Resolution

Consideration and possible action on Southmost Union Junior College District Name Change

Dr. Ronnau reported that staff recommends adopting a resolution to change the name of the District from Southmost Union Junior College District to Texas Southmost College. He stated that the current name of the District does not accurately reflect its identity and it is difficult for community members to recognize and remember. Dr. Ronnau stated that upon approval from the Board of Trustees, staff will seek approval of the name change from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB). Following approval of the name change by the THECB, staff will inform all pertinent entities.

A motion was made by Ms. Zimmerman to adopt the resolution changing the name of the District from Southmost Union Junior College District to Texas Southmost College as presented; seconded by Dr. Robles; motion carried unanimously. Exhibit “F”

9 District Election

Consideration and possible action on Contract with the Cameron County Elections Administrator for Election Services

Dr. Ronnau stated that the District contracted with the Cameron County Elections Administrator to conduct the November 2, 2004 Bond Election. The estimated contract amount is \$60,245. Dr. Ronnau stated that these expenses include staffing for each of the polling places, equipment, printing of ballots and other items. Dr. Ronnau requested that the Board ratify the contract for election services.

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to ratify the Contract for Election Services for the November 2, 2004 Bond Election in the amount of \$60,245 as presented; seconded by Mr. Oliveira; motion carried unanimously. Exhibit “G”

10 Physical Facilities Subcommittee

Report

Mr. Campirano reported that the Physical Facilities Subcommittee met on Thursday, November 18th. He reported that the Committee reviewed options for siting and renovating the Commandant's Quarters. He stated that the discussion began with an explanation of the need to move this historic building from its present location behind Jacob Brown. Mr. Campirano reported that the move is imminent due to the anticipated growth of the Fine Arts programs and the need to expand the facilities to house these programs. He reported that the suggested site is along May Street at the Corner of May and Gorgas. The structure would face the Champion Building and would be adjacent to Building 23(Officers' Quarters). Both the project's location and structural renovation would be in keeping with the historic nature of Fort Brown.

Mr. Campirano reported that the project will be reviewed by the Brownsville Heritage Council. Final approval for renovation and relocation will be sought from the Texas Historical Commission.

11. Fourth Quarter Financial and Investment Report

Ms. Melba Sanchez, TSC District Comptroller, presented the Fourth Quarter Financial and Investment Reports as information items. Exhibit "H"

12 Construction Report

Dr. Ronnau narrated a video of construction at the International Technology, Education, and Commerce Campus (ITECC). He reported that approximately 5,000 square feet are currently being renovated to house the Mexican Consulate. He stated that the project is expected to be completed by the end of December 2004.

Dr. Wayne Moore, Assistant to the President for New Construction, reported on the progress of the Education Business Complex construction. He stated that installation of the brick is almost complete and iron rails will be installed in the next few weeks. He invited the Board of Trustees to tour the Education and Business Complex.

13 President's Report

Dr. García reported the following:

- Dr. Jose Martin introduced Mr. John Hawthorne to make a presentation on the book "*Ghosts of Fort Brown Vol. IP*". Mr. Hawthorne presented the Board with a copy of the book.

- The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board approved the Master of Science degree with a major in Mathematics. Dr. García thanked the faculty of the Mathematics Department for their hard work to create this degree.
- Dr. John Ronnau, Vice President for Administration and Partnership Affairs, Ms. Veronica Mendez, Asst. Vice President for Administration and Partnership Affairs and Mr. Andres Andujar, from 3D International, Inc., presented: “Strategic Space Management in a Dynamic Campus Environment” at the Society for College and University Planning Southern Regional Conference on October 25th in Austin.
- The Board of Nursing Examiners reported the passing rate for the Associate Degree Nursing students. Ninety-four percent of the 68 students that took the exam were successful. Dr. García congratulated Professor Lacher and the dedicated nursing faculty for the success of their students.
- Five UTB/TSC staff members have been selected by the Rio Grand Initiative to receive a grant to complete a Master’s degree in library studies. The students will begin their Master’s program in January 2005. The goal of this grant is to educate and prepare bilingual professional librarians to fill vacancies in public and academic libraries along the U.S. Mexico border. The grant will pay for tuition and fees for the 36 semester-hour Master’s Degree at the University of North Texas.
- The UTB/TSC Volleyball Team competed at the National Junior College Athletic Association Division I Volleyball tournament held November 18th to 21st in West Plains, Missouri.
- Mr. William C. Powers, UT Austin Law School Dean, will be visiting our campus December 1st at 10:00 a.m., 3rd floor of the Science and Engineering Technology Building. Mr. Powers will be on campus to meet with students interested in applying to the UT Austin Law School.
- The Annual Thanksgiving Appreciation Luncheon in recognition of Physical Plant and custodial employees will be held Wednesday, November 23rd, 11:30 a.m., at the Fortress Room.
- The UTB/TSC Arts and Entertainment Series has added an event to the season called, “A Special Night of Jazz”. The concert will be held on Saturday, December 4th, 8:00 p.m., at the Jacob Brown Auditorium. Proceeds from the concert will help fund the band’s travel to jazz competitions and festivals.
- The annual performance of Handel’s Messiah will be on Monday, December 6th, 7:00 p.m., Jacob Brown Auditorium. Admission is free.

- The Office of the President is hosting the Annual Christmas Tamalada on Thursday, December 9th in the Lightner Center.
- UTB/TSC's 10th Winter Commencement will include three ceremonies in order to accommodate the increasing number of graduates. The events will take place on Saturday, December 18th at Jacob Brown Auditorium. The first ceremony will begin at 10:00 a.m. for the College of Liberal Arts, followed at 2:00 p.m. by the College of Science, Mathematics and Technology, the School of Business and the School of Health Sciences. The final ceremony will begin at 6:00 p.m. for the School of Education.

14 Proposed Meeting Dates

Board of Trustees Meetings:

December 16, 2004

January 20, 2005

February 17, 2005

March 22, 2005

Partnership Committee Meetings:

BAPC – December 14, 2004

IEPC – December 7, 2004

Mr. Gonzalez reviewed the dates with the Board.

15 Announcements

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Gonzalez at 7:55 p.m.

Mr. Chester Gonzalez
Chairman, Board of Trustees
Southmost Union Junior College District

Mr. Eduardo A. Campirano
Secretary Board of Trustees
Southmost Union Junior College District

NOTE: The tape of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting held on November 22, 2004, is on file at the District Office of the Southmost Union Junior College District. The master tape is on file at the UTB/TSC Media center. These minutes were taken and transcribed by Alma B. Solis. 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.