

TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Public Hearing

August 18, 2005

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session, August 18, 2005, at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room of Gorgas Hall at Texas Southmost College. Board members present were Mr. Chester Gonzalez, Chair, Mr. Eduardo A. Campirano, Secretary, Mr. David Oliveira, Ms. Dolly Zimmerman and Mr. Roman "Dino" Esparza. Absent were Ms. Rosemary Breedlove, Vice Chair, and Dr. Roberto Robles. Also present was Dr. Juliet V. García, President of The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College.

Special Meeting

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gonzalez at 5:37 p.m.

1 Public Hearing on proposed 2005 Ad Valorem Tax Rate for Texas Southmost College District

Mr. Gonzalez stated that the Public Hearing is an opportunity for taxpayers to express their views on the Board's proposed tax rate. Mr. Gonzalez reported that the Board is proposing a Maintenance and Operation tax rate of \$0.113122 and a Debt tax rate of \$0.015306 for the 1986 Tax bonds and a Debt tax rate of \$0.034344 for the 2005 Tax bonds for a total tax of \$0.162772 per \$100 valuation. Mr. Gonzalez noted that the notice of the public hearing was published in The Brownsville Herald and The Valley Morning Star on Monday, August 8, 2005.

The following citizens addressed the Board regarding the proposed 2005 tax rate: Mr. Dagoberto Barrera, Mr. Ernesto De Leon, Mr. Lloyd Johnston, Mr. Jack N. Sutter, Mr. Roy Resefrora and Ms. Lucy Wilbearsore. They all expressed their opposition to the proposed tax rate.

Mr. Gonzalez noted that the proposed rate is mainly due to the bond election approved by the voters in November 2004. He also noted that the Board acted on an Ad Valorem Tax freeze on homestead residence of homeowners 65 or older and of disabled homeowners and their spouses last year. These homeowners will not see their taxes increase due to the 2005 Tax debt.

Mr. Gonzalez announced that the regular Board Meeting to vote on the tax rate is scheduled for Thursday, August 25, 2005 at 5:30 p.m. at the Board Room, Gorgas Hall, Texas Southmost College.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Gonzalez at 5:55 p.m.

Chester Gonzalez
Chair, Board of Trustees

Eduardo A. Campirano
Secretary, Board of Trustees