

TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE

Minutes of the **Regular** Meeting of the Board of Trustees
October 20, 2005

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session October 20, 2005 at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room of Gorgas Hall, Texas Southmost College. Board members present were Mr. Chester Gonzalez, Chairman, Ms. Rosemary Breedlove, Vice Chair, Mr. Eduardo A. Campirano, Secretary, Mr. David Oliveira, Ms. Dolly Zimmerman and Mr. Roman "Dino" Esparza. Absent was Dr. Roberto Robles. 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 5:40 p.m.

1 **Executive Session** as provided by Government Code, Chapter 551.072

Personnel

Hiring of Assistant Vice President for
Administration and Partnership Affairs

Real Estate

Contract and Resolution for Purchase of Fort
Brown Villa II, Unit 8C, Brownsville, Texas
Contract and Resolution for Purchase of Fort
Brown Villa II, Unit 1E, Brownsville, Texas
Discussion and Possible Action on Lot 1 Block
1, Lots 1-9 Block 2 and Lots 1-10, Block 4
University Park
Discussion and Possible Action on Los
Tomates Banco #122, 84.15 Acres

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

The Board reconvened in Regular Session at 6:37 p.m.

2 Consideration and possible action on matters discussed in Executive Session**Personnel
Hiring of Assistant Vice President
for Administration and Partnership Affairs**

Dr. John Ronnau, Vice President for Administration and Partnership Affairs, stated that staff recommends hiring Mr. Julio A. Ledezma as Assistant Vice President for Administration and Partnership Affairs. He stated that Mr. Ledezma previously served as Facilities Coordinator and Assistant Director for Scheduling and Course Inventory as well as a part-time faculty member in the School of Business. He holds a Bachelor's of Business Administration and a Master's in Educational Technology from UTB/TSC. The Board welcomed Mr. Ledezma to his new position.

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to hire Mr. Julio A. Ledezma as Assistant Vice President for Administration and Partnership Affairs; seconded by Mr. Oliveira; motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration and possible action on
Contract and Resolution for Purchase of
Fort Brown Villa II, Unit 8C, Brownsville, Texas**

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to approve the contract and resolution for the purchase of Fort Brown Villa II, Unit 8C, Brownsville, Texas in the amount of \$38,000; seconded by Ms. Breedlove; motion carried unanimously. Exhibit "A"

**Consideration and possible action on
Contract and Resolution for Purchase of
Fort Brown Villa II, Unit 1E, Brownsville, Texas**

A motion was made by Mr. Esparza to approve the contract and resolution for the purchase of Fort Brown Villa II, Unit 1E, Brownsville, Texas in the amount of \$37,000; seconded by Ms. Zimmerman; motion carried unanimously. Exhibit "B"

3 Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting**Consideration and possible action on
Minutes of Regular Meeting September 15, 2005**

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 15, 2005, as presented; seconded by Ms. Breedlove; motion carried unanimously.

4 Speakers to Agenda Items and Public Discussion

There were no speakers.

5 Board Briefing

Marine Biology Research at UTB/TSC

Dr. Ruth Ann Ragland, Vice President for Academic Affairs, introduced Dr. David Hicks, Assistant Professor of Biology to make a presentation on Marine Biology research at UTB/TSC. Dr. Hicks gave a progress update on the research being conducted as part of the Bahia Grande Restoration Project. Dr. Hicks reported that he is currently working on a research project with Asian green mussels. Asian green mussels are not native to the area but they were introduced to the east Gulf Coast and it is only a matter of time before they arrive in our area. Dr. Hicks' research will focus on finding their environmental tolerance and developing control methods.

He also reported progress on research regarding fish-hunting cone snails. Dr. Hicks showed video of a cone snail hunting its prey.

6 Academic Affairs Partnership Committee

Consideration and possible action on Associate of Science in Technology

Ms. Breedlove reported that the Academic Affairs Partnership Committee met on October 18 and discussed the following items:

- Ms. Linda Fossen, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Planning, reported that the Fall 2005 enrollment is a record 13,189 a 14% increase over last fall's enrollment.
- Dr. Veronica Galvan-Carlan and Dr. Renee Rubin, of the School of Education, presented details of their new \$4.8 million grant from the U. S. Department of Education. The grant will provide instruction and mentoring for 900 early childhood day care providers and families. More than 8,000 children will benefit from this grant over a three-year period.
- Mr. Jay Phillips, Dean of Developmental and General Education, discussed a proposal for a College of General Studies. The proposed College would result from a reorganization of the current Office of Developmental and General Education. Its purpose would be to provide an academic home for students who are undecided regarding their majors.

- Dr. Ruth Ann Ragland, Vice President for Academic Affairs, reported that UTB/TSC now offers 21 Master's degrees, 36 Bachelor's degrees, 29 Associates degrees and 24 Certificates.
- Dr. Peter Gawenda, Director of the Bachelor of Applied Arts Program, presented a proposal for a new Associate of Science in Technology degree. This degree would allow students who have received certificates or completed college level workforce programs to earn an associates degree in technology. The degree proposal requires students to take the 48-hour General Education core and then complete an additional 18 semester credit hours in a workforce education concentration.

Ms. Breedlove recognized Dr. Gawenda efforts in continuing to increase the educational opportunities at UTB/TSC for working students.

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to approve the Associate of Science in Technology as presented; seconded by Mr. Esparza; motion carried unanimously. Exhibit "C"

7 Business Affairs Partnership Committee

Consideration and possible action on Wellness, Recreation and Kinesiology Complex

Mr. Campirano reported that the Business Affairs Partnership Committee met on October 17 and discussed four budget amendments pertaining to last year's budget. Amendment #05-011 pertains to the General Fund, #05-012 to the Unexpended Plant Fund, #05-013 to the Auxiliary Fund and #05-014 to the Renewals and Replacements Fund. Mr. Campirano reported that the purpose of the amendments is to close out the books on the previous fiscal year. He stated that none of the amendments affect the fund balance.

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to approve the TSC Budget Amendments #05-011, #05-012, #05-013 and #05-014 as presented; seconded by Mr. Esparza; motion carried unanimously. Exhibit "D"

Mr. Campirano reported that the Committee also heard a presentation by Ms. Veronica Mendez, Assistant Vice President for Construction, regarding the Bond construction projects.

In addition, the committee heard a report on the recommendation for selection of Construction Manager at Risk for the Wellness, Recreation and Kinesiology Complex.

8 Student Affairs Partnership Committee

Report

Ms. Zimmerman reported that the Student Affairs Partnership Committee met on October 4 and discussed the following items:

- Mr. Daniel Huntley, Athletic Director, provided an overview of the Athletics Department and discussed options for expansion of athletics at UTB/TSC. The recommendations are in keeping with those made earlier by the Futures Commission Student Life Task Force.
- Ms. Hector Iracheta, Director of Student Health Services, provided an update on the health services provided by the department. He also explained how the new \$20 Medical Services Fee is being utilized.

9 Wellness Center Project

**Consideration and possible action on
Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of
“Texas Southmost College District Wellness Center
Revenue Bonds, Series 2005; Entering Into a Purchasing Contract
and a Paying Agent/Registrar Agreement; Approving an Official
Statement; and Authorizing and Approving Other Matters Related Thereto”**

Dr. Ronnau gave a brief overview of the Wellness Recreation and Kinesiology Complex project. He stated that in March 2004, the students voted to assess a fee upon themselves in order to construct a recreation, wellness, and fitness facility. He reminded the Board that the schematic design for this facility was approved at their last meeting. The combined facility will meet the needs of both the students for wellness and recreation and for Kinesiology education. He stated that combining resources will allow for the construction of a facility with additional program elements that could not have been afforded otherwise.

Dr. Ronnau reported that the bonds to construct this facility are being sold through Texas Southmost College. He introduced Anne Burger Entekin, the District's financial advisor from First Southwest Company, to report on the outcome. Mr. Paul Martin, from Winstead, was also in attendance.

Ms. Entekin reported that the District was able to secure an interest rate of 4.6005%. This rate is lower than the initial estimate of 5.8201%. She stated that by securing a lower interest rate, the District will have considerable savings in debt service. These funds will be available for maintenance and operations of the facility.

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to adopt the resolution authorizing the issuance of the bonds for the Wellness Recreation & Kinesiology Complex as presented; seconded by Mr. Esparza; motion carried unanimously. Exhibit "E"

10 Bond Projects

Bond Projects Update

Dr. Ronnau reported that planning and programming is well underway for the bond projects. The Wellness Recreation and Kinesiology Complex is in design development. He reported that four other projects are currently being programmed. The remaining two projects are scheduled to begin programming this fall.

Dr. Ronnau introduced Ms. Veronica Mendez, Assistant Vice President for Construction, to provide an overview of the proposed process for selecting architects and construction managers.

Consideration and possible action on Process for Selecting Architects and Construction Managers for Bond Projects

Ms. Mendez stated that since the programming process is underway, staff is currently preparing for the next steps of the construction process, which are architect and contractor selection. The architect and contractor teams are crucial for the success of each project. Staff is proposing to choose methods in which the District leads the teams. She also stated that the District should choose a delivery method that would allow for developing conceptual cost estimates early in the process.

Ms. Mendez presented a map of the proposed locations for each bond project. She stated that staff is recommending to issue one request for proposals for all of the bond projects and choose architects and construction managers according to the expertise needed for each project.

A motion was made by Ms. Zimmerman to Approve the Process for Selecting Architects and Construction Managers for Bond Projects as presented; seconded by Ms. Breedlove; motion carried unanimously. Exhibit "F"

Consideration and possible action on Selection of Construction Manager at Risk for Wellness, Recreation and Kinesiology Complex

Ms. Mendez reported that staff requested proposals for construction manager at Risk for the Wellness, Recreation and Kinesiology Complex. Three firms were invited to

present their proposal for the WRKC, SpawGlass Construction, Skanska USA and J. E. Dunn/Terry Ray Construction. Interviews were conducted by the Board Bond Advisory Committee for the Wellness, Recreation and Kinesiology complex. The meeting was well attended and included Trustees, students, staff, faculty and project management team members.

Ms. Mendez stated that the committee recommends selecting J. E. Dunn/Terry Ray Construction as Construction Manager at Risk for this project.

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to select J. E. Dunn/Terry Ray Joint Venture for Construction Manager for the wellness, Recreation and Kinesiology Complex and authorize staff to enter into a contract for construction manager services. The contract will be presented for ratification in November; seconded by Ms. Breedlove; motion carried unanimously. Exhibit "G"

11 Fourth Quarter Financial and Investment Report

The Fourth Quarter Financial and Investment Reports for TSC were presented by Ms. Melba Sanchez, TSC District Comptroller. The report was for informational purposes only and required no action. **Exhibit "H"**

12 Construction Report

Dr. Ronnau reported the following:

- The former automotive technology shops in Rusteberg are being renovated to provide new space for our visual arts programs.
- The M1 building is being renovated by Larry Lof and his crew for the Biology Department.
- M2 is being renovated by Physical Plant Engineering Technology Department labs.
- The Grand Opening of the Fort Brown Memorial Golf Course is scheduled for November 4th at 11 a.m. The Grand Opening will showcase the new clubhouse and refurbished greens.
- 680 new parking spaces are now available at the University Boulevard parking lot. By December 2005 all 1,200 spaces will be completed.

13 President's Report

Dr. García reported the following:

- Dr. Alfred Richardson, Professor Emeritus and former Biological Sciences instructor, has been awarded the Charles Leonard Weddle Award for 2005 from the Native Plant Society of Texas. The award is in recognition for “Lifetime Achievement in the Field of Texas Native Plants.”
- In 2002, UTB/TSC was awarded a Hispanic Serving Institutions Assisting Communities Program (HSIAC) grant to help businesses start in Brownsville by creating a business incubator. The International Innovation Center (IIC) has been successful and has directly created 415 jobs. UTB/TSC has received another grant of \$600,000 for the HSIAC. The proposed Valley Business Impact Network (VBIN) is a new regional economic development program that will use techniques and resources developed by the IIC to facilitate business development on a regional basis. A new incubator will be developed in Raymondville and existing incubators in Port Isabel and Brownsville will receive a new community outreach program.
- The Department of English and Communication with Teresa Gibson as Program Chair and Dr. Mimosa Stephenson as Arrangements Chair, hosted the Annual Southwest Conference on Christianity and Literature. Twelve UTB/TSC faculty presented. Other participants came from Texas, Oklahoma, Oregon, New York, Pennsylvania, Florida, Tennessee, Indiana, and Missouri. Fifteen members of the English Department served as section chairs, and Dr. Charles Dameron provided the official welcome.
- Earlier this week, UTB/TSC was awarded the Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Constituency Building Communications at the annual UT System Seminar for External Relations. At the presentation Chairman Huffines said:

“This award recognizes UTB/TSC's exceptional work in communicating the value of higher education during the bond election of fall 2004. UTB/TSC used solid research and methodology to focus its efforts on educating residents in and around Brownsville on the impact the University and Community College collaboration has on their community. Their success encouraged the passage of a \$68 million dollar bond package which will help fund capital improvements on campus.”
- The Distinguished Lecture Series Guest this year was world-renowned conservationist Dr. Jane Goodall. The event was October 13th and Dr. Goodall began the day speaking to high school and college students at the Jacob Brown Auditorium. Later that evening she spoke in the Lecture Hall of the Science Engineering Technology Building. The Distinguished Lecture Series is a major fundraiser for the President's Circle Annual Fund. Valley Regional Medical

Center served as the title sponsor for the event. The funds from the event help support important campus educational projects, trips and programs projects for which other funding does not exist.

14 Proposed Meeting Dates

Board of Trustees Meetings:

Thursday, November 17, 2005

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Wednesday, January 18, 2006

Thursday, February 16, 2006

15 Announcements

- Ms. Elena Gonzalez, President of the Cameron-Willacy County Medical Alliance South announced a new scholarship for UTB/TSC Nursing Students. The association is made up of the spouses of physicians who are members of the Texas Medical Association which work in partnership with the Texas Medical Alliance.
- Dr. Ruth Ann Ragland introduced Mr. Ben Reyna as the new Special Assistant to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Mr. Reyna will provide expertise in the areas of criminal justice, homeland security and public policy.
- Ms. Rosemary Martínez, Vice President for Business Affairs, introduced Mr. Chester “Chet” Lewis as the new Associate Vice President for Business Affairs for Financial Services. Mr. Lewis’ responsibilities will include the Budget Office, the Business Office, the Purchasing Department and the Fort Brown Memorial Center.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Gonzalez at 8:35 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 October 20, 2005 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 Mary G. Hernandez, Senior Administrative Associate. 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.