

**MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BLINN COLLEGE**

**Board Room
Third Floor, Administration Building
Blinn College, 802 Green Street
Brenham, Texas**

Regular Meeting, Tuesday, October 21, 2014, 6:30 p.m.

The Board of Trustees convened at 6:31 p.m., in the Board Room with the following members present: Mr. Atwood C. Kenjura, Vice President, presiding; Mr. David Sommer, Secretary; Mrs. Theodora "Teddy" V. Boehm; Mrs. Carolyn D. Miller, CPA; Mr. Richard Powell and Mr. Leon B. Toubin.

Board members not present: Mr. Douglas R. Borchardt, President

Members of the College staff in attendance were: Dr. Harold Nolte, District President; Dr. Sylvia McMullen, President, Brazos County Campuses; Ms. Kelli Shomaker, Senior Vice President, Finance and Administrative Services/CFO; Dr. Dennis Crowson, Senior Vice President, Student Services; Dr. Cynthia Griffith, Vice President, Instruction for Technical and Workforce Education; Ms. Cathy Boeker, Associate Vice President, Government & Public Affairs; Mr. Joe Baumann; Mr. Richard Bray; Mr. Mordecai Brownlee; Ms. Jennifer Bynum; Ms. Megan Costanza; Mr. Joseph Engle; Ms. M. Elia Flores; Ms. Rebecca Garlick; Dr. Joseph Kirkland; Ms. Angela Lawrenz; Dr. Diane Lovell; Ms. Susan Myers; Mr. Richard O'Malley; Mr. John Schaffer; Mr. Jeremy Thomas; Mr. Jeff Tilley and Dr. Mary Barnes-Tilley.

Also registered as in attendance were: Mr. Kyle Cunningham, Brenham Banner-Press; Mr. Sam Peshek, The Eagle and Ms. Mary Janet Reyes, KWHI and Dr. J. David Thompson, Thompson & Horton LLP.

ITEM 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN AND TEXAS FLAGS

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Kenjura. The pledge was led by Mr. Powell and the prayer was given by Mr. Powell.

REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND OTHER NON-ACTION ITEMS:

ITEM 2. DISTRICT PRESIDENT ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Nolte reviewed upcoming events and other administrative announcements (copies of the presentation, announcements and upcoming events are attached and made a part of these *Minutes*):

- **SENATOR CORNYN**
 - Senator John Cornyn visited the Brenham Campus earlier this month to tour our W.J. "Bill" Rankin Agricultural Complex and learn more about the Agricultural Sciences Program.
 - Earlier that week, we had announced that our Agriculture Club volunteered more than 1,100 hours to helping Washington County Fair go off without a hitch this year.

- **DR. JEKYLL & MR. HYDE**
 - The Brenham Campus Theatre Program presented "Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde" October 16-19 at the Dr. W.W. O'Donnell Performing Arts Center. The production marked Blinn's sixth entry into the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, a national

theatre program of more than 18,000 students from colleges and universities across the nation. We have previously won Kennedy awards for acting, design and technical execution and hope for additional honors this year.

- **SEALY CAMPUS SCHOLARSHIPS**

- The Sealy Campus recently awarded two Sealy Campus students and a Sealy High School student scholarships for use toward classes at Blinn-Sealy.
- First-year students Amanda Cowart and Trey Bartholomaus and Sealy High School junior Selest Gonzales were selected to receive funds after submitting a letter of recommendation and a personal statement detailing their educational and professional aspirations.
- Scholarships such as these are designed to help students who would otherwise not attend Blinn-Sealy.

- **DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARD WINNER**

- Humanities Professor Essie Childers was recently honored with the College Reading and Learning Association's (CRLA) Distinguished Teaching Award for her lifelong commitment to education. An educator for 28 years, Childers was recognized as a professional who exemplifies teaching and learning as a lifelong journey. The CRLA noted that Childers provides her students with a clear model of enthusiastic, knowledgeable and compassionate teaching and encourages them to persevere and achieve interdependence.

- **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Our Hall of Honor Luncheon will be Saturday, as we induct Charles Moser, Henry Boehm, Sr., Mike Hopkins, Sr., Sudie Stark and Walter Thielemann into the Hall of Honor.
- Night at Star of the Republic Museum will be November 1, and visitors are welcome any time between 7 and 9 p.m. This family-friendly event brings the Museum's exhibits to life and is designed for museum visitors of all ages.
- On October 23, the Schulenburg Campus will host a partial eclipse viewing beginning at 5 p.m., followed by a Star Party where visitors can view the constellations at 7 p.m. at the Schaefer Observatory. A second Star Party will be held at 7:30 p.m. November 15.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct. 21	Marimba Recital, O'Donnell Performing Arts Center, 7 p.m.
Oct. 22	Homecoming Dance, Janis Sneed Banquet Room, 8 p.m.
Oct. 22	Student Concerto Competition, O'Donnell Performing Arts Center, 7 p.m.
Oct. 23	Bryan Campus Writing Center Workshop: Formal Academic Writing, 5 p.m.
Oct. 23	Homecoming Talent Show, Sneed Banquet Room, 7:30 p.m.
Oct. 24	Homecoming Pep Rally, Student Center, 4 p.m.
Oct. 24	Blinn Professional Association Fish Fry, Rankin Agriculture Complex, 5:30 p.m.
Oct. 24	Volleyball vs. Laredo, P.E. Building, 6 p.m.
Oct. 25	Alumni and Friends Association Annual Meeting, Brenham Student Center, 9:30 a.m.
Oct. 25	Letterman Annual Meeting, Brenham Student Center, 10:30 a.m.
Oct. 25	Hall of Honor Luncheon, Brenham Student Center, 11:30 a.m.
Oct. 25	SLA Community Fall Festival, Bryan Student Center, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Oct. 25	Volleyball vs. Coastal Bend, P.E. Building, 1 p.m.
Oct. 25	Football vs. Navarro, Cub Stadium, 3 p.m.
Oct. 25	'Rocky Horror Picture Show' Screening, CPC 105, 7 p.m.
Oct. 26	'Carmina Burana,' O'Donnell Performing Arts Center, 6 p.m.
Oct. 27	'Carmina Burana,' O'Donnell Performing Arts Center, 7 p.m.
Oct. 29	10 th Court of Appeals Session, Bryan Student Center, 9:30 a.m.
Oct. 30	Volleyball vs. Trinity Valley, P.E. Building, 6 p.m.
Oct. 30	Faculty Recital, O'Donnell Performing Arts Center, 7 p.m.
Nov. 3	Bryan Writing Center Workshop: Using Words Effectively, noon.
Nov. 3	Men's Basketball vs. Houston Community College, P.E Building, 7:30 p.m.
Nov. 5	Women's Basketball vs. Temple, P.E. Building, 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 10-11	Bryan CIRT Sexual Harassment/Rape Prevention Training, 2:30 p.m.
Nov. 11	Bryan Writing Center Workshop: MLA Tips, noon.
Nov. 14	Student Vocal Recital, Brenham Schmidt Building, 7 p.m.
Nov. 14	Men's Basketball vs. Texas Southern Club, P.E. Building, 7:30 p.m.
Nov. 15	Women's Basketball vs. McLennan, P.E. Building, 2 p.m.
Nov. 18	Board of Trustees Meeting, Brenham Administration Building, 6:30 p.m.
Nov. 18	Men's Basketball vs. Victoria College, P.E. Building, 7:30 p.m.
Nov. 22	Women's Basketball vs. Bossier Parish, P.E. Building, 4 p.m.
Nov. 29	Men's Basketball vs. Lone Star-Cy-Fair, P.E. Building, 7:30 p.m.

ITEM 3. BRAZOS COUNTY CAMPUSES UPDATE

Dr. McMullen reviewed administrative announcements and campus events (a copy of the announcements are attached and made a part of these *Minutes*):

- **CAMPUS PLANNING**
 - Traffic and Parking Taskforce Update – Report on possibilities of remote parking and easing of traffic congestion.
 - Plans for 2015, including review of the schedule and management of the facilities.
 - Progress of the Engineering Academy.
- **FALL GRADUATION**
 - Our first Fall graduation will be hosted in Bryan on December 19, with a reception beforehand in the Barbara L. Pearson Banquet Room.
- **ANTIGONE**
 - The Bryan Campus Theatre Program hosted Antigone October 16-18 in the Barbara L. Pearson Banquet Room. Like the Brenham Campus showing of Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde, this play will be the Bryan Campus entry into the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival.
- **ELECTION FORECASTING**
 - Dr. Jean-Philippe Faletta and Dr. and Mrs. Jon Taylor presented the election forecasting model to Blinn College students and faculty on the College's Brenham and Bryan Campuses Monday, describing the data they use to make their predictions and describing the key factors in this year's elections. Faletta, an Associate Professor of Political Science at St. Thomas, and Taylor, St. Thomas' Political Science Chair, are noted experts on campaigns, elections and politics and have written numerous articles on the science of election forecasting. They have made several previous appearances on the Brenham Campus, but this was their first visit to Bryan.
- **PROFESSOR NAMED PRESIDENT OF PSYCHOLOGY HONOR SOCIETY**
 - Dr. Katherine Wickes, Social Sciences Department Head for Psychology, Anthropology and Assessment, was installed as National President of Psi Beta for 2014-15 during the recent national convention of the American Psychological Association held in Washington, D.C.
 - Wickes has served as advisor for the Blinn College - Bryan Campus chapter of Psi Beta for nine years. She served as the Southwestern Regional Vice President on the Psi Beta National Council in 2011-12 and 2012-13, and as President-Elect in 2013-14. She will serve on the council an additional year as Past President in 2015-16.

- **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- Oct. 23 Bryan Campus Writing Center Workshop: Formal Academic Writing, 5 p.m.
- Oct. 25 SLA Community Fall Festival, Bryan Student Center, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- Oct. 25 'Rocky Horror Picture Show' Screening, CPC 105, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 29 10th Court of Appeals Session, Bryan Student Center, 9:30 a.m.
- Nov. 3 Bryan Writing Center Workshop: Using Words Effectively, noon.
- Nov. 10-11 Bryan CIRT Sexual Harassment/Rape Prevention Training, 2:30 p.m.
- Nov. 11 Bryan Writing Center Workshop: MLA Tips, noon.

ITEM 4. REPORTS:

- **QUALITY ENHANCEMENT PLAN:** Dr. Mary Barnes-Tilley, Assistant Academic Dean, Social Science, and Co-Director of the QEP team and Mr. Jeremy Thomas, Dean of Student Success, and Co-Director of the QEP team, reviewed the status of the QEP (a copy of the update is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). Dr. Barnes-Tilley shared photos of faculty and staff who have accepted the QEP challenge.
- **RECRUITING ACTIVITIES:** Ms. Jennifer Bynum, Director, Prospective Student Relations, gave an overview of the Blinn College recruitment goals, events and activities. She reviewed in detail the various recruiting events. She also discussed educational partnerships (a copy of the power point presentation is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).
- **TECHNICAL & WORKFORCE EDUCATION OVERVIEW:** Dr. Cynthia Griffith reviewed the programs of the Technical and Workforce Education Division (a copy of the power point presentation is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). She reviewed the current organization chart of the division. Dr. Griffith shared that there is an effort to increase the number of students enrolled in technical programs. The goals of the division for the Fall of 2014, Spring 2015 and long-term goals were reviewed. A great deal of success has been achieved and more will continue to be achieved.
- **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:** Mr. O'Malley reviewed the written buildings and grounds report (a copy of the report is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

ITEM 5. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ITEM 6. REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND LIST OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2014 AND FINAL FY2015 BUDGET PRESENTATION

Ms. Shomaker reviewed highlights from the financial statement and list of checks for the period ending September 30, 2014 (copies of the financial statement and list of checks are attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). She also reviewed the final FY2015 Budget.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

ITEM 7. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 9, 2014, WORKSHOP MEETING; THE SEPTEMBER 23, 2014, REGULAR MEETING AND THE SEPTEMBER 29, 2014, SPECIAL MEETING

ITEM 8. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE ADMINISTRATION TO SEEK AND AWARD REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS FOR AN EXECUTIVE SEARCH FIRM TO ASSIST THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES IN THE SEARCH FOR A NEW DISTRICT PRESIDENT OF BLINN COLLEGE

On a motion by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Boehm, the Board voted to approve **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 7-8: ITEM 7** - minutes for the September 9, 2014, Workshop Meeting; the September 23, 2014, Regular Meeting and the September 29, 2014, Special Meeting (copies of the minutes are attached and made a part of these *Minutes*); and **ITEM 8** - the Administration to seek Requests for Proposals for an executive search firm to assist the Board in the search for a new District President of Blinn, as presented by the Administration.

RECESS FOR CLOSED SESSION (AS AUTHORIZED BY GOV'T. CODE, SEC. 551.101)

The public was excused for closed session at 7:36 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION:

ITEM 10. CLOSED SESSION:

- (A) REAL PROPERTY (GOV'T. CODE, SEC. 551.072)**
 - i. DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE PURCHASE, EXCHANGE OR LEASE OF REAL PROPERTY FOR THE BRENHAM, BRYAN, SCHULENBURG AND SEALY CAMPUSES**
- (B) PERSONNEL MATTERS (GOV'T. CODE, SEC. 551.074)**
 - i. DELIBERATE THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, EVALUATION, REASSIGNMENT, DUTIES, DISCIPLINE OR DISMISSAL OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES OR OFFICERS**
- (C) CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY (GOV'T. CODE, SEC. 551.071)**
 - i. CONSULTATION WITH LEGAL COUNSEL CONCERNING MATTERS ON WHICH THE ATTORNEY'S DUTY TO THE COLLEGE UNDER THE TEXAS DISCIPLINARY RULES OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT CLEARLY CONFLICT WITH THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS LAW**
- (D) GIFTS AND DONATIONS (GOV'T. CODE, SEC. 551.073)**
 - i. DELIBERATIONS REGARDING GIFTS AND DONATIONS**

ITEM 11. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION

The public session was reconvened at 9:31 p.m.

ITEM 12. ACTION ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS:

- (A) REVIEW AND ACTION TO LEASE REAL PROPERTY IN BRYAN, TEXAS**

No action was taken.

ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS:**ITEM 9. CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION TO DECLARE EXPECTATIONS TO REIMBURSE EXPENDITURES WITH PROCEEDS OF FUTURE DEBT**

Ms. Kelli Shomaker reviewed a Resolution to Declare Expectations to Reimburse Expenditures with Proceeds of Future Debt (a copy of the Resolution is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). On a motion by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mr. Sommer, the Board voted to adopt the Resolution Declaring Expectation to Reimburse Expenditures with Proceeds of Future Debt, as presented.

ITEM 13. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Sommer, seconded by Mrs. Boehm the Board Meeting was adjourned at 9:33 p.m.



Mr. Atwood Kenjura, Presiding
Vice President



Mr. David Sommer
Secretary