

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BLINN COLLEGE**

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

**Regular Meeting, Tuesday, June 16, 2015, 6:30 p.m.**

The Board of Trustees convened at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room with the following members present: Mr. David Sommer, President, presiding; Mr. Douglas R. Borchardt, Vice President; Mr. Atwood Kenjura, Secretary; Mrs. Stacy Aschenbeck; Mrs. Theodora "Teddy" V. Boehm and Mr. Richard Powell.

Visiting Board member: Mrs. Carolyn D. Miller, CPA

Members of the College staff in attendance were: Dr. Ana M. "Cha" Guzmán, Interim District President; Ms. Kelli Shomaker, Senior Vice President, Finance and Administrative Services/CFO; Dr. Dennis Crowson, Senior Vice President, Student Services; Mrs. Cathy Boeker, Associate Vice President, Government and Public Affairs; Dr. Joseph Kirkland, Interim Vice President for Instruction for Academic Programs; Mr. Joe Baumann; Mr. Richard Bray; Mr. Thomas Brazzel; Mr. Rick Church; Ms. M. Elia Flores; Mr. Max Hibbs; Dr. Michelle McGehee; Ms. Susan Meyers; Mr. Richard O'Malley; Dr. Greg Phillips Mrs. Rebecca Ruffino and Mr. Jeff Tilley.

Also registered as in attendance were: Mr. T. Edward Clee, community member; Mrs. Carolyn D. Miller, CPA, former member of the Blinn College Board of Trustees; Mr. Patrick Crank, Brenham Banner-Press; Ms. Mary-Janet Reyes, KWHI; Mr. Joel Romo, community member and Mr. B. Leon Toubin former member of the Blinn College Board of Trustees.

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

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

**ITEM 2. READING OF RESOLUTIONS IN APPRECIATION OF LEON B. TOUBIN AND CAROLYN D. MILLER FOR THEIR SERVICE ON THE BLINN COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Mr. Sommer read the Resolution of Appreciation of Leon B. Toubin, for his service on the Blinn College Board of Trustees (a copy of the Resolution is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). Mr. Sommer also read the Resolution of Appreciation of Carolyn D. Miller, CPA, for her service on the Blinn College Board Trustees (a copy of the Resolution is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

### **ITEM 3. OTHER RECOGNITIONS BY THE BOARD PRESIDENT**

Mr. Sommer recognized Mr. Borchardt for his service as Board President and presented him with a plaque. He also thanked Dr. Guzmán for her service as Interim District President.

### **REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND OTHER NON-ACTION ITEMS:**

#### **ITEM 4. INTERIM DISTRICT PRESIDENT ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Dr. Guzmán distributed a report of items that she has worked on during her time at Blinn College to the Board (a copy of the report is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). She spoke to the Board regarding academic success data and identified areas of needed improvement. She reviewed her communications with the local companies who have recently experienced layoffs. Positive responses have been received. Dr. Guzmán thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve Blinn college and she said she has enjoyed her time with the college. Mr. Sommer thanked everyone for their work on the recent successful SACSCOC reaccreditation report.

Dr. Guzmán reviewed recent and upcoming events (copies of the announcements and upcoming events are attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

### **DISTRICT UPDATES**

- We are in the midst of our New Student Orientations on both the Brenham and Bryan campuses. These orientation sessions are going very well, and are providing interested students a convenient opportunity to learn about Blinn College, receiving academic advising and registering for classes.
- The Texas A&M Engineering Academy at Blinn - Brenham has accepted 65 students for the upcoming fall semester. After receiving all the applications from interested students, we identified 117 students who had completed the necessary mathematics courses to qualify for the program. We then sent those students' applications to Texas A&M, which ultimately selected the 65 participants.
- House Bill 505 has been signed by the Governor. This bill prevents a cap being placed on the number of hours students can enroll while they are high school. We are currently looking at how this will affect us; it could give us the opportunity to offer marketable skills certificates and technical workforce offerings via dual credit.
- Each Saturday this month, the Star of the Republic Museum is hosting hands-on youth learning programs. They have offered children's courses on knot tying and creating corn husk dolls, and they will offer basket weaving and beating and weaving. These activities are free to the public.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Bryan Campus New Student Orientation, June 24
- Summer I Finals, July 2
- Summer II Classes Begin, July 7
- Brenham Campus New Student Orientation, July 8
- Texas Association of Community Colleges President's Summer Conference, July 8-11, Horseshoe Bay
- Bryan Campus New Student Orientation, July 9
- Alumni & Friends Association Meeting, July 9

- Brenham Campus New Student Orientation, July 14
- Bryan Campus New Student Orientation, July 16
- Brenham Campus New Student Orientation, July 17
- Association of Community College Trustees Governance Leadership Institute, Aug. 2-5, Washington, D.C.

#### **ITEM 5. BRAZOS COUNTY CAMPUSES UPDATE**

Dr. Sylvia McMullen's written report of the announcements and upcoming events is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*.

- This week, I am attending the Transforming Undergraduate Education in Engineering workshop and the American Society for Engineering Education conference in Seattle. We are co-presenting the Texas A&M Engineering Academy at Blinn alongside Texas A&M and demonstrating to other engineering programs from around the nation how a partnership between a major university and a community college can allow students greater access to an engineering education.
- Campus renovations remain on schedule. On June 15, we cleared the portion of the Administration Building that will be used by the Barnes & Noble Bookstore so Barnes & Noble can begin its construction. We can start seeing work on the outside of the Administration Building, including building a dock on the south side and some island modifications on the north side to make a route for 18-wheelers to access the dock.
- Student Center modifications will continue. We have completed the demolition portion of the project and are in the midst of new construction. The Student Center is still set for completion in August.
- Once the bookstore moves to the Administration Building, we will begin working on the G Building.
- On June 5, our FutureWorks Academy met with a creativity facilitator who walked us through approaching projects from new angles and how to frame our questions differently so we get “outside-the-box” answers.
- Dr. John O. Beaver, Dean of Educational Partnerships, has been named to the Liberal Education and America’s Promise (LEAP) Board of Directors. This national research initiative champions the importance of providing all students access to a diverse education.

#### **ITEM 6. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Mrs. Cathy Boeker reviewed the summary of the 84<sup>th</sup> Session of the Texas Legislature (a copy of the summary is attached to and made a part of these *Minutes*). She informed the Board that an internal communication will be sent tomorrow to summarize the legislative session to the campus community. Additional updates and information can be found on the Government and Public Affairs webpage.

Mr. Borchardt added the disappointment expressed by Texas Community College Trustee Association with the outcome of the Legislative session. Educating legislators will be important before the next session.

Mr. Borchardt thanked Mr. Joel Romo for his work on defeating House Bill 1903.

**ITEM 7. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**

Mr. Richard O'Malley, Executive Director, Facilities, Planning and Construction, reviewed highlights of the written Buildings and Grounds Report (a copy of the Buildings and Grounds report is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). He responded to questions from the Board.

**ITEM 8. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**ITEM 9. REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND LIST OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING MAY 31, 2015**

Ms. Kelli Shomaker reviewed highlights from the financial statements and lists for the period ending May 31, 2015 (copies of the statements are attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). She highlighted outlier information.

Ms. Shomaker distributed information to the Board regarding House Bill 1 (a copy of the information is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

**ITEM 10. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR THE MAY 4, 5 AND 6, 2015, SPECIAL MEETINGS AND THE MAY 19, 2015, REGULAR MEETING**

**ITEM 11. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE ADMINISTRATION TO SEEK AND AWARD BIDS FOR CLEARING AND GRUBBING OF THE 95 ACRE TRACT AT F.M. 2818 AND LEONARD RD. IN BRAZOS COUNTY**

**ITEM 12. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE LOTT, VERNON & COMPANY, P.C., ENGAGEMENT LETTER FOR THE AUDIT OF THE BLINN COLLEGE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING AUGUST 31, 2015**

**ITEM 13. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO ACCEPT A DONATION OF FOUR DIESEL ENGINES, TOOL CHEST AND TOOLS FOR STUDENT TRAINING IN THE WORKFORCE EDUCATION PROGRAM**

On a motion by Mr. Borchardt, seconded by Mr. Kenjura, the Board voted to approve **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 10-13: ITEM 10** - minutes for the May 4, 5 and 6, 2015, special meetings and the May 19, 2015, regular meeting (copies of the minutes are attached and made a part of these *Minutes*); **ITEM 11** - the Administration to seek and award bids for clearing and grubbing of the 95 acre tract at F.M. 2818 and Leonard Rd. in Brazos County; **ITEM 12** - the Lott, Vernon & Company, P.C., engagement letter for the audit of the Blinn College Financial

Statements for the year ending August 31, 2015; and **ITEM 13** - the Administration to accept a donation of four diesel engines, tool chest and tools for student training in the Workforce Education Program, as presented by the Administration.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **ITEM 14. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE ADDITION OF A NEW ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN EDUCATION**

Dr. Kirkland reviewed the need and opportunity to add an Associate of Science Degree in Education. He responded to questions from the Board.

On a motion by Mrs. Boehm, seconded by Mr. Powell, the Board voted to approve the addition of a new Associate of Science Degree in Education, as presented by the Administration.

#### **ITEM 15. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO UPDATE THE 2013-16 STRATEGIC PLAN**

Mr. Joe Baumann, Dean, Institutional Effectiveness and Enrollment Management, reviewed the need for an update to the 2013-2016 Strategic Plan. He described the process under which a new priority of planned growth and the goals and objectives to support the new priority were added.

Mr. Sommer wanted to ensure that the updated plan be communicated to the entire college.

On a motion by Mr. Kenjura, seconded by Mrs. Boehm, the Board voted to approve an update to the 2013-2016 Strategic Plan, as presented by the Administration.

#### **ITEM 16. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE ADMINISTRATION TO SEEK REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR A CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK (CMAR) CONTRACTOR FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE BATTING CAGE PROJECT ON THE BRENHAM CAMPUS TO BE PAID FOR WITH DONATED FUNDS**

Mr. O'Malley reviewed the need to issue a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for a Construction Manager at Risk the (CMAR) for the batting cage project.

Mr. O'Malley responded to questions from the Board. The process to secure bids and complete a design was discussed. He feels that CMAR method will maximize dollars in the facility.

Mr. Rich Church, Softball Coach, expressed concern about the cost per square foot. He wants to maximize the facility. The Board asked how the project could be sped up.

On a motion by Mr. Kenjura, seconded by Mrs. Aschenbeck, the Board voted to authorize the Administration to seek and award RFQs for a CMAR contractor for the construction of the batting cage project on the Brenham Campus, to be paid for with donated funds, as presented by the Administration.

**ITEM 17. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE NOTICE EXERCISING THE OPTION TO RENEW DEPOSITORY CONTRACT**

Mr. Borchardt excused himself from the meeting to remove any conflict of interest.

Ms. Kelli Shomaker reviewed the reason the Administration would like to exercise the option to renew the depository contract with Brenham National Bank for one year (a copy of the Contract is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

On a motion by Mr. Powell, seconded by Mrs. Boehm, the Board voted to approve the Notice Exercising the Option to Renew Depository Contract renewal for one year, as presented by the Administration. Mr. Borchardt did not vote.

**ITEM 18. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE STIPEND FOR HIGH SCHOOL FACULTY TEACHING DUAL CREDIT**

Dr. Greg Phillips, Dean of Instructional Administration, discussed a proposal to approve a \$500 stipend for high school faculty to teach dual credit (a copy of the justification and comparative costs is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). Dr. Guzmán discussed the positive impacts of increasing the number of high school faculty teaching dual credit.

Dr. Phillips and Dr. Guzmán responded to questions from the Board. The Board questioned why students from different districts are paying different fees. Dr. Phillips explained the options available to the Independent School Districts.

On a motion by Mr. Borchardt, seconded by Mrs. Aschenbeck, the Board voted to approve a \$500 stipend per semester per course for high school faculty teaching dual credit with a minimum of 4 students, as presented by the Administration.

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

The public was recessed for a break at 7:57 p.m.

The public was recessed for closed session at 8:08 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

**ITEM 19. 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**
- ii. CONSIDER THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT AND DUTIES OF DR. MARY HENSLEY, SOLE FINALIST FOR COLLEGE PRESIDENT**
- iii. DISCUSSION OF FUTURE APPOINTMENT FOR AT-LARGE, POSITION 1, OF THE BLINN COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION**

The public session was reconvened at 9:50 p.m.

**ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS:**

**ITEM 20. ACTION ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS:**

**(A) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ANY ITEMS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION**


On a motion by Mr. Borchardt, seconded by Mr. Powell, the Board voted to hire Dr. Mary Hensley as District President/CEO of Blinn College and to authorize the Board President to finalize and enter into a three-year employment contract with her beginning July 1, 2015, under the terms discussed in closed session.

On a motion by Mr. Kenjura, seconded by Mrs. Boehm, the Board voted to adopt a Resolution appointing Mr. Charles R. Moser as a member of the Blinn College Board of Trustees to replace Mrs. Carolyn D. Miller, CPA, in At-Large Position 1, until the next regularly scheduled Trustee Election in May, 2017.

**ITEM 21. ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Mrs. Aschenbeck, seconded by Mrs. Boehm, the Board meeting was adjourned at 9:53 p.m.

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. David Sommer, Presiding  
 President

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Atwood Kenjura  
 Secretary