

**MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BLINN COLLEGE**

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

Regular Meeting, Tuesday, March 20, 2007

The Board of Trustees convened at 7 p.m. in the Board Room with the following members present: Mr. Steve M. Westbrook, President, presiding; Mr. Atwood C. Kenjura, Vice President; Mr. Norwood Lange, Secretary; Mr. Don Jones, Mr. L.J. Lacina, Jr. and Mr. Leon Toubin.

Board members not present: Dr. Henry J. Boehm, Jr.

Members of the college staff in attendance were: Dr. Donald E. Voelter, President; Mr. John D. Barkman, Dr. John D. Harris, Dr. Daniel J. Holt, Dr. Debra R. LaCour and Dr. Barbara L. Pearson, vice presidents; Mr. Scott Baehren, Ms. Pat Baughman, Dr. Blanche Brick, Ms. Sandra Chumchal, Mr. Tex Davis, Ms. Jackie Dayoc, Mr. Robert Henrichsen, Mr. Greg Hinze, Mr. Dennis Kocich, Ms. Margie Kovar, Ms. Barbara Moore, Mr. Gus Mutscher, Mr. Brad Nies, Dr. Thena Parrott, Mr. Joe Al Picone, Mr. Doug Pierce, Mr. Brant Poe, Mr. Darrell Reimer, Mr. Guadalupe Reyes, Ms. Athena Russell, Ms. Ann Weir and Dr. Michel Zuch.

Also registered as in attendance were: Ms. Susan Pritchard, Brenham Community Education; Mr. Russell Koym, Mayor of Sealy; Ms. Carolyn Bilski, Austin County Judge; Ms. Kim Beane, Mr. Allen Kaminski, Ms. Kim Melonek, Ms. Allene Schmitt and Mr. Leroy Zapalac, members of the Sealy Advisory Committee; Mr. Charles Thielemann, Mr. Pat Elliott, Mr. Duane Olney, Mrs. Pat Olney, Ms. Jennifer Fey, President, Brenham Student Government Association; Mr. Frank Wagner, KTTX-KWHI; and Mr. Gary Engel, *Brenham Banner-Press*. Also present were members of the college's livestock judging teams and the theater students.

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

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Westbrook. The pledges and prayer were also led by Mr. Westbrook.

Mr. Brad Nies reviewed the "Excellent" award won by the Blinn College theater students at the Texas Community College Speech and Theater Association Play Festival. He introduced two theater students. Mr. Westbrook expressed congratulations to Mr. Nies and the students.

Mr. Doug Pierce and Mr. Brant Poe recognized students involved in the livestock judging contest and thanked the Board and administration for their support of the livestock judging program. He presented the intercollegiate livestock judging contest first place trophy won by the students at the 75th annual Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo.

ITEM 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Pat Elliott commented on Blinn College tuition as compared to that of Texas A&M University and gave his calculations on the amount of tuition needed to eliminate any property tax for the college district while keeping income the same.

He asked what the relationship of the college is with American Campus communities, what has the college paid that company and what do they claim the college owes them? Mr. Westbrook indicated that he did not have the numbers available but they could be obtained and provided.

Mr. Charles Thielemann recommended that the Board not reduce the number of faculty and low wage staff, but reduce the number of staff making \$75,000 or more. He also recommended the Board reduce the ratio of administration and staff to faculty.

ITEM 3. REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND LIST OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2007

Dr. Daniel Holt, Vice President Business Services, reviewed the standard monthly financial report for the period ending February 28, 2007. He also reviewed a new format for the report he developed to show earned revenue to-date (copies of the list of checks and the financial statement are attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). He answered questions from the Board about specific income and expense categories. He asked the Board to indicate which of the two financial report formats they preferred. There was general agreement that the Board would make a determination on which form to use in the next month.

Mr. Toubin asked questions about the risk of using investment pools for the college's funds during a period in which the interest rates are falling.

ITEM 4. REVIEW AND ACTION TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE FEBRUARY 13 AND MARCH 5, 2007, REGULAR AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

On a motion by Mr. Lange, seconded by Mr. Jones, the Board voted to approve the *Minutes* of the February 13 and March 5, 2007, regular and special meetings.

ITEM 5. REVIEW AND ACTION TO APPROVE ORDER RATIFYING AND APPROVING AMENDED APPOINTMENT OF EARLY VOTING BALLOT BOX PRESIDING JUDGE FOR THE FEBRUARY 24, 2007, SPECIAL BLINN COLLEGE TAX ROLLBACK ELECTION

Mr. Barkman reviewed the circumstances by which it became necessary to find and appoint a replacement for the Early Voting Ballot Box Presiding Judge who resigned due to schedule conflict. He indicated the Election Order provided for the Board President to appoint a replacement by issuing an Order and that it was necessary for the Board to ratify that Order.

On a motion by Mr. Lacina, seconded by Mr. Kenjura, the Board voted to ratify the Order issued by the Board President and approve the appointment of Ms. Lois Holle as the new Early Voting Ballot Box Presiding Judge.

ITEM 6. REVIEW AND ACTION TO RE-AWARD BID FOR THE SALE OF THE COLLEGE'S USED HEWLETT-PACKARD e3000 COMPUTER

Mr. Barkman reported that the company that had been awarded the bid for the purchase of the college's used HP3000 computer backed out of the purchase, claiming that the person who submitted the bid on behalf of the company had no authority to do so. He also reported that the second highest (and only other) bidder was no longer interested, so the college took bids a second time. Only one bid was received in the amount of \$5,000. On a motion by Mr. Kenjura, seconded by Mr. Lange, the Board voted to delay awarding the bid and asked the administration to attempt to market the computer for a higher price.

ITEM 7. REVIEW AND ACTION TO SET PRIORITIES FOR BRENHAM AND BRYAN CAMPUS REPAIR AND RENOVATION PROJECTS FOR THE BALANCE OF THE 2006-07 SCHOOL YEAR

Dr. Voelter reviewed a report on the current status of the budget funds available for repair and renovation projects on the Brenham Campus and reviewed a list of Brenham and Bryan campus construction, renovation and deferred maintenance needs (a copy of the report is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). He recommended that the Board approve the items shown in red on the report. On a motion by Mr. Toubin, seconded by Mr. Lacina, the Board voted to approve roofing repairs for the Brenham campus and the projects recommended for the Bryan campus. Mr. Jones asked that two bids be sought for all the roof repair projects (one with and one without new decks).

ITEM 8. REVIEW AND ACTION TO APPROVE GLOBAL ROOFING AS PROJECT DIRECTOR (ROOF CONSULTANT) TO PREPARE BIDDING DOCUMENTS, RECEIVE BIDS, MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD AND SUPERVISE CONSTRUCTION FOR RENOVATION OF ROOFS

Dr. Voelter recommended the employment of Mr. Dick Tallichet, Global Roof Consultants, Inc. as the project director. Mr. Jones asked that the administration determine who pays for damages in case there is water damage during the repair phase. Dr. Voelter indicated he will determine this.

On a motion by Mr. Kenjura, seconded by Mr. Lange, the Board voted to approve the employment of Dick Tallichet and Global Roof Consultants. A copy of the company's proposal and costs is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*.

ITEM 9. REVIEW AND ACTION TO APPROVE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PROGRAM ON THE SCHULENBURG CAMPUS FOR THE TRANSITION OF LICENSED VOCATIONAL NURSES TO ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSES

Dr. Voelter reviewed the proposed budget for the new Schulenburg campus transition of LVN to ADN program (a copy is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). He noted it was projected that the project would yield a profit at the end of the first two years of the program. Dr. Thena Parrott commented on the nature and need for the program. She answered questions about the potential student enrollment and competition from other colleges in the area. On a motion by Mr. Toubin, seconded by Mr. Lacina, the Board voted to approve an LVN to an ADN transition program on the Schulenburg Campus as proposed.

ITEM 10. REVIEW AND ACTION TO ACCEPT DONATIONS OF EQUIPMENT FOR THE COLLEGE'S NURSING PROGRAMS

Dr. Voelter reviewed a proposed gift of two hospital beds to the college's nursing programs (a copy of the letter on the gift is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). On a motion by Mr. Lacina, seconded by Mr. Lange, the Board voted to accept the gift from Ms. Lucille Buchannan.

ITEM 11. REVIEW AND ACTION TO APPROVE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE TEXAS ENGINEERING AND EXPERIMENT SERVICE (TEEX) FOR OPERATION OF A POLICE ACADEMY

Mr. Guadalupe Reyes reviewed a proposed Memorandum of Agreement with TEEX for the operation of a police academy (a copy is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). The program will provide practical field experience training for the end of the college's two year criminal justice program. He noted that Blinn College currently has 200 criminal justice majors. On a motion by Mr. Kenjura, seconded by Mr. Lacina, the Board voted to approve the agreement.

Mr. Toubin asked Mr. Reyes for his opinion on the prospects for Sealy workforce training program and why the program had not been successful in the past. Mr. Reyes responded that efforts had been delayed by college staff turnover and the fact that the Sealy community has not generated the number of students anticipated.

ITEM 12. REVIEW AND ACTION TO APPROVE REVISIONS TO THE LIST OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE COLLEGE TO: (1) LONE STAR INVESTMENT POOL; (2) TEXPOOL; AND (3) TEXSTAR

On a motion by Mr. Toubin, seconded by Mr. Lange, the Board voted to add Dr. Daniel Holt, the college's new Vice President Business Services, to the list of authorized representatives in place of Mr. John Robertson.

ITEM 13. REVIEW AND ACTION TO APPOINT NEW MEMBERS TO THE BRAZOS COUNTY AND SEALY ADVISORY COMMITTEES TO FILL VACANCIES

On a motion by Mr. Lange, seconded by Mr. Kenjura, the Board voted to appoint Mr. J. Martyn Gunn to the Brazos County Advisory Committee and Mr. Allen Kaminski to the Sealy Advisory Committee.

ITEM 14. REPORTS:

- REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF THE OPERATION OF THE SEALY CAMPUS
- COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAM UPDATE
- BLINN COLLEGE FOUNDATION UPDATE
- PROPOSAL FOR CHINESE EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM
- POSSIBLE CHANGES TO THE COLLEGE'S STATE DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA

Mr. Scott Baehren reported on the operation of the Sealy Campus. He began by introducing several persons from Austin County who came in support of the Sealy campus. A report on Sealy campus operations to-date was distributed to the Board (a copy is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

Mr. Kenjura expressed concern that the enrollment has not grown this academic year and asked why that was the case. Mr. Baehren stated he had surveyed students and found that they chose to go to other colleges and Blinn campuses when they can't get all the courses they need at the Sealy campus. Mr. Jones asked questions about the budget. Mr. Toubin asked how many students were taking 12 or more hours at Sealy. Mr. Baehren estimated it was fewer than 15 students. Mr. Toubin asked about plans for workforce education and where Sealy High School students are going for additional education or training. Mr. Baehren indicated many are going to four year schools. Mr. Toubin expressed concern that the Sealy community has not come forward with support. Mr. Westbrook noted that the attendance of Sealy citizens indicated support.

Ms. Athena Russell, the college's new program manager of workforce education, reviewed the initial efforts on her part to develop workforce training in Sealy. She is meeting with the businesses and industries in the Sealy area to determine their training needs and will work to put courses together for multiple small employers. She indicated that she expects there will be good growth.

Mr. Russell Koym, Mayor of Sealy, spoke to the Board. He noted he is a 1962 graduate of Blinn College. He indicated a willingness to try to find ways to financially support the college and to work to get more students on the Sealy campus. He noted that Sealy is going to grow (the town and the college) in the next few years.

Austin County Judge, Ms. Carolyn Bilski, spoke on behalf of the campus and the value of workforce training that will be offered there.

Ms. Susan Pritchard, Director of Community Education, gave an overview of the program. She distributed a copy of her report and the Spring 2007 course schedule (copies are attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). Mr. Westbrook thanked her for her report and her work in the community.

Ms. Jackie Dayoc, Director of Resource Development, reported on the resources and recent actions of the Blinn Foundation. A copy of her financial report is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*. Mr. Toubin stated that he would like to see the Blinn Foundation have its own budget.

Dr. Harris reviewed a summary of a proposal to establish an exchange program with China (a copy of his proposal is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

Dr. Voelter reviewed proposed legislation to move small portions of the Blinn College service area in Fayette and Lee counties into the Austin Community College District and to move small portions of Bastrop, Milam and Williamson counties into the Blinn College service area (a copy of the proposed bill and map is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

ITEM 15. ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Voelter reported on the following:

- a. Announced an anonymous gift of \$9,000 to help pay the cost of issuing the refunds on the tax rebates as a result of the tax rollback election.
- b. The college's Dental Hygiene program passed the reaffirmation program.
- c. Announced the last will and testament of Myrtle Ehrig directed that the Arthur H. Ehrig and Myrtle Ehrig Scholarships previously established in 1997 be consolidated into one scholarship to be named the Arthur H. Ehrig and Myrtle Ehrig Endowed Scholarship.
- d. Reviewed the current bill for state appropriations and also a possible timetable for the Legislature to pass an appropriations bill. He noted that the Board may need to consider increasing tuition at the April meeting.
- e. Funding to purchase the national championship rings for the Buccaneer football team has been raised entirely through private donations.
- f. The college has received a \$221,000 skills development fund grant to train workers in Navasota for Netherlin Homes.

ITEM 16. RECESS FOR CLOSED SESSION (AS AUTHORIZED BY GOV'T. CODE, SEC. 551.101)

The public session was recessed at 10:32 p.m.

ITEM 17. CLOSED SESSION

- (A) **EVALUATION AND EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONNEL (GOV'T. CODE, SEC. 551.074)**
- (B) **DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE PURCHASE, EXCHANGE OR LEASE OF REAL PROPERTY IN BRENHAM, BRYAN AND SCHULENBURG (GOV'T. CODE, SEC. 551.072)**

ITEM 18. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION

The public session was reconvened at 10:46.m.

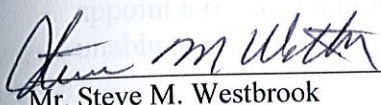
ITEM 19. ACTION ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

- (A) REVIEW AND ACTION ON FACULTY AND PROFESSIONAL STAFF CONTRACTS
- (B) REVIEW AND ACTION TO PURCHASE, EXCHANGE OR LEASE REAL PROPERTY IN BRENHAM, BRYAN AND SCHULENBURG


The Board voted to accept the resignations of Ms. Lydia Hall, Director Admissions and Records, Bryan campus, effective March 19, 2007; Ms. Jacy Niemeyer, Transcript Analyst, Brenham campus, effective March 23, 2007; and Ms. Paige Osburn, Program Coordinator, Legal Assistant Program, effective at the conclusion of the spring semester, and to employ faculty and professional staff on contracts for the remainder of the 2006-2007 school year (a copy of the list of persons employed is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

ITEM 20. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Lange, seconded by Mr. Lacina, the meeting was adjourned at 10:48 p.m.



Mr. Steve M. Westbrook
President



Mr. Norwood Lange
Secretary