

**MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BLINN COLLEGE**

**Student Center Building – Conference Center
Blinn College, 1007 Walter Schwartz Way (formally West Second Street)
Brenham, Texas**

Special Retreat Meeting, Tuesday, October 28, 2008, 5:30 p.m.

The Board of Trustees convened at 5:35 p.m. in the Student Center Conference Center with the following members present: Mr. Atwood C. Kenjura, President, presiding; Mr. Leon B. Toubin, Vice President; Mr. Don Jones, Secretary; Dr. Henry J. Boehm, Jr., Mr. L.J. Lacina, Jr., Mr. Norwood Lange and Mr. Steve Westbrook.

Board members not present: None.

Members of the college staff in attendance were: Dr. Daniel J. Holt, President; Dr. John D. Harris, Dr. Debra R. LaCour and Dr. Van Miller, Vice Presidents; Ms. Cathy Boeker, Executive Administrator of External Affairs; Dr. Donald E. Voelter, Chancellor; Mr. Rick Church, Ms. Linda Flynn, Mr. Claude Free, Ms. Karry Forsythe, Ms. Jami Ingram, Mr. Jeff Jenkins, Mr. Kris Kapchinski, Mr. Robert Lovelidge, Mr. Gus Mutscher, Mr. Joe Al Piccone, Mr. David Rehr, Mr. Darrell Reimer, Mr. Steven Spurlin, Mr. Jeff Tilley and Dr. Michel Zuch.

Also registered as in attendance were: Mr. John Baker, Mr. Steve Beaird, Mr. Kevin Bosse, Mr. Tommy Lange, Ms. Dee McIntyre, Mr. Alan Nieschwietz, *Brenham Banner-Press*; Mr. Luther Poehlmann, Mr. Mark Poehlmann, Ms. Felicia Rehr, Mr. Gary Weiss, Mr. Don Wilhelm, Ms. Darla Winklemann and Mr. Nathan Winklemann.

ITEM 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Kenjura.

ITEM 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

All public comments were made during Item 4. Open Discussion on College Athletic Programs.

ITEM 3. ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no administrative announcements.

RETREAT ITEM:

ITEM 4. OPEN DISCUSSION ON COLLEGE ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

The Board, college staff and members of the community engaged in an informal discussion on the various college athletic programs.

Mr. Don Wilhelm advocated that the college's athletic programs provide community outreach, enhance student life on campus and have a positive economic impact on the community. Mr. Wilhelm distributed to the Board: a list of the Athletic Director's Honor Roll for Spring 2008, a letter from the Brenham Independent School District Help One Student To Succeed (HOSTS) Coordinators, and an information packet on Buccaneer athletics (copies of these documents are attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). Mr. Wilhelm also suggested the possibility of corporate sponsorships for the facilities be explored.

Mr. Steve Beaird thanked the Board for serving the college and the community. Mr. Beaird asked the Board if they were considering across the board cuts or if they were targeting specific programs. Dr. Holt responded that it was unknown at this point. Mr. Beaird then asked Dr. Voelter for his opinion on the matter. Dr. Voelter stated that athletic programs are expensive and that the value is difficult to measure but that state appropriations are received for the contact hours generated as a result of the programs.

Mr. Luther Poehlmann stated that the overhead administrative costs for the college was too high and suggested that the Board look at cutting staff to help with expenses. Dr. Holt responded to Mr. Poehlmann's comment with information from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board which shows that the college is below the average for administrative costs as compared to other Texas Community Colleges.

Mr. Nathan Winkelmann told the Board that he feels as though athletics has already given enough by not having a sole Athletic Director position since the duties are split among three coaches. Mr. Winkelmann expressed to the Board that he sees the athletic program as the marketing part of the college and asked that the community get involved. He also suggested that a committee be formed to address the funding problems and that the Board look at a long range plan for athletic facilities through corporate dollars and foundation fundraising.

Mr. Brad Franchione discussed: the media exposure that the college receives from athletic programs; the value of athletic training such as work ethic and time management; and other positive aspects of the college football program (a handout listing these points is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). Mr. Franchione asked the Board for their support and offered to do whatever he could to help the situation. He then responded to questions from the Board.

Mr. David Rehr noted that while the college does have facility needs, the coaches have not complained and have always worked with what they have and are grateful for the support from the Board and the Administration. Mr. Rehr also asked for the opportunity to capitalize on athletics and for the opportunity to respond before decisions regarding the future of programs are made.

ITEM 5. RECESS FOR CLOSED SESSION (AS AUTHORIZED BY GOV'T. CODE, SEC. 551.101)

The public was recessed for a closed session at 7:30 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION:**ITEM 6. 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*)
- (C) CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY RELATIVE TO PENDING OR CONTEMPLATED LITIGATION (*GOV'T. CODE, SEC. 551.071*)

ITEM 7. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION

The public session was reconvened at 8:20 p.m.

ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS:**ITEM 8. REVIEW AND 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

On a motion by Dr. Boehm, seconded by Mr. Lange, the Board voted to employ new faculty and professional staff on one-year contracts for the remainder of the 2008-09 school year (a copy of the lists of persons employed is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).


ITEM 9. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Kenjura thanked those in attendance for their support and input. Dr. Holt stated at this point it did not appear that any significant changes would be taking place regarding the various athletic programs or associated scholarships. Mr. Winkleman offered resources as needed from the Buccaneer Alumni Lettermen Association.

On a motion by Mr. Lange, seconded by Mr. Lacina, the meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.



 Mr. Atwood C. Kenjura
 President



 Mr. Don Jones
 Secretary