

**MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BLINN COLLEGE**

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

Special Meeting, Tuesday, September 8, 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 C. Kenjura, Secretary; Mrs. Stacey Aschenbeck; Mrs. Theodora "Teddy" V. Boehm; Mr. Charles Moser; and Mr. Richard Powell.

ITEM 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Sommer.

ITEM 2. REVIEW OF PROPOSAL TO ADOPT A 2015 TAX RATE THAT EXCEEDS THE EFFECTIVE RATE

Mrs. Cathy Boeker, Associate Vice President, Government and Public Affairs, read the following statement regarding the proposed 2015 tax rate:

"Each year, the Washington County Appraisal District calculates an effective rate for each taxing entity. This rate is designed to give the taxing entity essentially the same property tax revenue as the prior year. The 2015 effective rate for Blinn College was calculated to be \$0.0557 per \$100 valuation, which would have resulted in an assessment of \$55.70 in annual taxes for Blinn College on each \$100,000 worth of property.

The Board voted to propose a tax rate of \$0.0601, which is estimated to yield \$1,798,045 in property tax revenue, approximately \$114,834 in additional revenue from the effective rate. This would equate to \$60.10 in annual Blinn College taxes for a Washington County Taxpayer on each \$100,000 worth of property, which is \$4.40 more per \$100 valuation per year than if the effective tax rate had been adopted.

Two of the three required notices have been published in the newspaper with the third scheduled for September 9th. Additionally, the appropriate notices have been posted on the College's website in accordance with the Tax Code."

ITEM 3. SECOND PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2015 TAX RATE INCREASE

Mr. Pat Elliott, concerned citizen, addressed the Board and expressed concern over the proposed tax rate. He felt that very few taxpayers in Washington County utilize the services of Blinn College. He expressed concern about the property values in Washington County and encouraged the Board to vote no to the property tax increase.

Ms. Billie Ogg, concerned citizen, asked the Board to consider the people who live on a fixed income and asked if there was another way to raise additional revenue, such as taxing other counties.

Ms. Lynn Harris, concerned citizen, expressed her concern that the taxpayers in Washington County support the Bryan Campus. She wished to see the City of Bryan pay taxes as well.

ITEM 4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF DATE, TIME AND PLACE FOR VOTE ON PROPOSED 2015 TAX RATE INCREASE

Mr. Sommer announced that the vote on the proposed 2015 tax rate increase will take place on Tuesday, September 15, 2015, at 6:30 p.m., in the Board Room on the third floor of the Administration Building, Brenham, Texas.

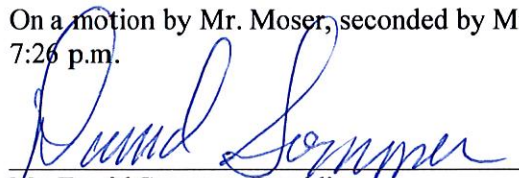
ITEM 5. PRELIMINARY MASTER PLAN FOR THE BRYAN WEST CAMPUS (F.M. 2818 AND LEONARD RD.)

Mr. Richard O'Malley, Executive Director, Facilities, Planning and Construction, introduced several representatives from Kirksey Architects. Mr. Steve Durham, Executive Vice President, Collegiate Team Leader, Kirksey Architects, reviewed the process of developing the master plan for the Bryan West Campus. (A copy of the PowerPoint Presentation is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). He reviewed the natural landscape of the 95 acres. Mr. Scott Wilkinson, Executive Vice President, Commercial Team Leader, Kirksey Architects, reviewed the preliminary site layout and the plans to utilize the natural topography to the College's benefit. Mr. Gary Machicek, Vice President, Project Designer, Kirksey Architects, reviewed current plans for phase one of the project. He reported that programming meetings are in progress. He discussed possible building designs that would be sustainable, as well as, complement the site.

The group from Kirksey Architects responded to questions from the Board regarding the natural ponds, flooding risks, building size, traffic flow, building style, and cost. A final plan is scheduled for presentation to the Board in November. Dr. Hensley, District President/CEO, Blinn College, thanked the architects and college staff for their hard work on this project. Dr. Hensley asked that the presentation be shared with her so that it can be distributed to the Trustees.

ITEM 6. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Moser, seconded by Mr. Borchardt, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m.



Mr. David Sommer, Presiding
President



Mr. Atwood C. Kenjura
Secretary