

**MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BLINN COLLEGE**

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

Regular Meeting, Tuesday, January 15, 2008

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; Dr. Henry J. Boehm, Jr., Mr. Don Jones, Mr. L.J. Lacina, Jr. and Mr. Leon Toubin.

Board members not present: None.

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. Linda Bow, Mr. Brian Burk, Mr. Dennis Crowson, Mr. Tex Davis, Mr. Claude Free, Ms. Rebecca Garlick, Mr. Bob Haberman, Mr. Dennis Kocich, Ms. Margie Kovar, Mr. Spencer Lofland, Ms. Barbara Moore, Mr. Gus Mutscher, Mr. Brad Nies, Dr. Greg Phillips, Mr. Joe Al Picone, Dr. Milton Radke, Mr. Guadalupe Reyes, Ms. Athena Russell, Mr. Daniel Villanueva and Ms. Ann Weir.

Also registered as in attendance were: Mr. David Sommer, Chairman Blinn College Foundation; Mr. C.H. Harvey, Mr. Charles Thielemann; Mr. Waldo Moeller, Mr. Wesley Brinkmeyer and Mr. Dustin Bohac, Brenham Economic Development Foundation; Ms. Grace Crawford and Mr. Nathan Winkelmann, Blinn College Foundation; Mr. Charles Crawford, Ms. Kim Melonek, Sealy Economic Development Corporation; Ms. Teddy Boehm, Ms. Karen Voelter, Mr. Brett Coghlan and Chase Coghlan, Boy Scout Troop 577; Student members of Blinn College Theater Arts Program; Mr. Frank Wagner, KTTX-KWHI; and Mr. Alan Nieschwietz, *Brenham Banner-Press*.

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 led by Mr. Westbrook.

ITEM 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Brad Nies, of the Blinn Theater program, introduced four drama students who had won awards at a recent play festival.

Mr. Charles Thielemann distributed handouts to the Board members. Mr. Thielemann commented about his belief that the Brenham campus in Washington County must be the priority for the college and urged the Board to plan ahead and not to enter into "panic spending" at the end of the year.

Mr. C.H. Harvey complimented the Board and the college on their work.

ITEM 3. REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND LIST OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2007

Dr. Holt reviewed the financial statement and list of checks for the period ending December 31, 2007 (copies of the list of checks and the financial statement are attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

ITEM 4. REVIEW AND ACTION TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE DECEMBER 18, 2007, REGULAR AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

On a motion by Dr. Boehm, seconded by Mr. Lange, the Board voted to approve the *Minutes* of the December 18, 2007, regular meeting (a copy is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

ITEM 5. REVIEW AND ACTION TO AWARD BID #560-1 FOR THE RENOVATION OF THE MAINFRAME COMPUTER AREA AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEM IN THE CLASSROOM BUILDING ON THE BRENHAM CAMPUS

Dr. Holt reviewed the bids and reminded the Board this was a rebid of this project. He recommended the bid be awarded to the low bidder, Toromont Energy Systems of Houston. On a motion by Mr. Lacina, seconded by Mr. Jones, the Board voted to accept the low bid from Toromont Energy Systems of Houston, Texas, in the amount of \$109,905.00. A copy of the bid tabulation is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*.

ITEM 6. REVIEW AND ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE ADMINISTRATION TO DISPOSE OF THREE SURPLUS COLLEGE AUTOMOBILES VIA PUBLIC AUCTION

Dr. Holt reviewed the authorization to dispose of three surplus automobiles. On a motion by Mr. Toubin, seconded by Mr. Kenjura, the Board voted to approve the authorization as recommended.

ITEM 7. REVIEW AND ACTION TO INCREASE KINESIOLOGY COURSE FEES FOR THREE BRYAN OFF-CAMPUS KINESIOLOGY FACILITIES DUE TO INCREASED RENT BEING CHARGED TO THE COLLEGE

Dr. Holt reviewed the proposed fee increases in the amount of \$5.00 for kinesiology courses in Bryan facilities for which the rent paid by the college has been increased. On a motion by Mr. Lange, seconded by Dr. Boehm, the Board approved the fees as recommended to be effective with the fall 2008 semester. A list of the affected courses is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*.

ITEM 8. REVIEW AND ACTION TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO THE BRAZOS COUNTY AND SCHULENBURG ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Dr. Pearson reviewed and recommended appointments of two new members to the Brazos County Advisory Committee. She recommended Ms. Maritza Hoffman and Dr. Alicia Dorsey as new members and the reappointments of Dr. J. Martyn Gunn, Mr. Royce Hickman, Mr. Thomas Hilde, Sister Alice Warrick and Mr. Mike Wright, who all will serve two-year terms through December 2009 (a copy of the list is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). On a motion by Dr. Boehm, seconded by Mr. Kenjura, the Board voted to approve the appointments and reappointments as recommended.

ITEM 9. HEAR REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BLINN COLLEGE FOUNDATION AND CONSIDERATION OF ACTION IN SUPPORT OF A WORKFORCE TRAINING PROJECT IN BRENHAM

Mr. David Sommer, Chairman of the Blinn College Foundation, announced the receipt of a \$1,000,000 anonymous gift to the Blinn College Foundation to provide a facility and program for Blinn College to provide workforce training in Washington County. He introduced Dr. Milton Radke, grants administrator for the college, who gave a PowerPoint presentation on the "Blinn College Technology Institute" (a copy of his presentation is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

Mr. Kenjura commented on the importance and need for workforce education in Washington County. Dr. Boehm thanked Dr. Radke and others for their work in bringing the donation and project about. On a

motion by Mr. Kenjura, seconded by Dr. Boehm, the Board voted to support the workforce training project.

ITEM 10. REPORTS

- **SEALY CAMPUS**
- **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**
- **SERVICE LEARNING**
- **ENROLLMENT FOR THE SPRING SEMESTER 2008**

Mr. Scott Baehren gave a report on the Sealy campus. He noted that enrollment is not as great as had been anticipated. He discussed the upcoming facility lease renewal and recommended the campus be given another year and one-half to continue to work toward enrollment growth.

Dr. Holt reported on a newly compiled list of deferred mechanical equipment repairs and replacements. He indicated these projects will be brought to the Board in groups to seek bids for repair and replacement. A copy of the deferred mechanical building maintenance list is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*.

Dr. Greg Phillips gave a PowerPoint presentation on the College's service learning program which he coordinates (a copy of his presentation is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). The Board asked several questions and thanked Dr. Phillips for his work in making the program a success.

Dr. Harris gave a report on spring semester enrollment. He noted that only the Brenham campus enrollment is down at this point (a copy of his report is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). Ms. Ann Weir reported on the flood in one of the new apartment buildings due to a broken hot water pipe. She indicated all 46 beds in the unit had to be taken off line in order to make the needed repairs. She also noted some loss of enrollment due to the college's new GPA requirement for students to continue living in college housing.

ITEM 11. ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Voelter reported on the following:

- a. A meeting with the Hearne area officials regarding a request for more Blinn courses;
- b. The college will celebrate its 125th birthday on March 28, 2008;
- c. The Texas Department of Criminal Justice graduation will be held in January at the prison units;
- d. The Schulenburg Advisory Committee meeting identified several possible projects;
- e. The Washington County Chamber of Commerce Banquet will be held on January 22;
- f. A gift of \$500 was given to the college from Mr. Waldo Moeller for an electronic message board;
- g. A new endowed scholarship was established in the name of Judy and Larry Holt -- Still Creek Ranch Scholarship; and
- h. Mr. Steve Westbrook was recently given an award by the American Football Coaches Association for his participation in the FBI Child ID program.

The meeting was recessed for a break at 8:38 p.m.

ITEM 12. RECESS FOR CLOSED SESSION (AS AUTHORIZED BY GOV'T. CODE, SEC. 551.101)

The public session was recessed for a closed session at 8:48 p.m.

ITEM 13. 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 14. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION

The public session was reconvened at 9:35 p.m.

ITEM 15. 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. Kenjura, the Board voted to accept the resignations of Dr. Nancy Faulk, chemistry instructor, Bryan campus, effective December 31, 2007; and Dr. David Capehart, Academic Advisor, Bryan campus, effective January 15, 2008.

On a motion by Dr. Boehm, seconded by Mr. Lange, the Board voted to employ faculty and professional staff on one-year contracts for the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year (a copy of the list of persons employed is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

On a motion by Mr. Lacina, seconded by Mr. Toubin, the Board voted to approve a settlement with American Campus Communities in accordance with terms of agreement as prepared by the college's attorneys.

Mr. Westbrook read an announcement of several pending administrative changes including the naming of Dr. Donald E. Voelter as the sole and final candidate for the position of college chancellor and Dr. Daniel Holt as the sole and final candidate for the position of college president. He noted that final action on the appointments is anticipated to take place at the February 19, 2008, meeting of the Board of Trustees (a copy of the announcement is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

ITEM 16. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Dr. Boehm, seconded by Mr. Kenjura, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.


 Mr. Steve M. Westbrook
 President


 Mr. Norwood Lange
 Secretary