

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BLINN COLLEGE**

**Administration Building, Room 250  
Blinn College, 802 Green Street  
Brenham, Texas**

**Special Meeting, Tuesday, February 12, 2008, 12 Noon**

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 and Dr. Debra R. LaCour, vice presidents; Mr. Scott Baehren, Ms. Linda Flynn, Mr. Dennis Kocich, Ms. Margie Kovar, Mr. Joe Al Picone and Dr. Michel Zuch.

Also registered as in attendance were: Judge Carolyn Bilski, Austin County Judge; Mr. Charles Thielemann and Mr. Alan Nieschwietz, *Brenham Banner-Press*.

**ITEM 1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER**

Mr. Westbrook called the meeting to order.

**ITEM 2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Charles Thielemann stated that he will do all within his power to make the Sealy campus successful including financial support as necessary to students wanting to take dual credit classes.

**ITEM 3. ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENT**

Dr. Voelter reported on the following:

- a. There are 500 prospective students on the Brenham campus today for "Showcase Day."
- b. Mr. Toubin and Mr. Lange have filed for reelection to the Blinn College Board of Trustees.

**ITEM 4. HEAR AND DISCUSS REPORT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SEALY  
CAMPUS**

Mr. Scott Baehren presented an update on the Sealy campus enrollment to-date and answered questions from the Board (a copy of his report is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). Mr. Baehren and Dr. Holt then reviewed revenue and expenditure projections for the Sealy campus and answered questions from the Board (a copy of the financial report is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). He also reviewed the college's marketing efforts for the campus noting the lack of Sealy area radio stations on which advertising could be carried, leaving only the expensive Houston stations.

Dr. Holt commented on the need to market the Sealy and Schulenburg campuses and the requirement for the college to make a serious marketing commitment or close the campus now. He then reviewed the Sealy campus facility lease options that have been proposed to the college by the owner together with examples of comparable lease properties (a copy of his report is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

Mr. Jones expressed concern that the college has lost about \$1,000,000 at Sealy and could lose almost \$200,000 more if it continues the current lease and operation. He pointed out some of the many physical plant needs of the Brenham campus that could have been addressed with the money that has been spent on the Sealy campus.

Mr. Toubin stated his belief that there remains a good potential for the Sealy campus to succeed and the college should make a serious marketing effort beginning immediately for the fall 2008 semester. Mr. Lange expressed concern that the college does not have a commitment of support from the Sealy community. Judge Carolyn Bilski asked permission to address the Board. She stated that Austin County was actively looking at ways to support the college including a maintenance tax or joining the college district if that option was acceptable to the Board. She noted the need for the college to improve its marketing efforts in Austin County. She pledged to assist the college in making its operations in Austin County viable. Mr. Thielemann stated he pledged to seek donations and grants in Austin County to support the Sealy campus.

Dr. LaCour noted that college staff believed a marketing plan was essential. Dr. Harris pointed out the college must in any marketing effort be able to provide what it claims to offer.

**ITEM 5. REVIEW AND ACTION TO ACCEPT GIFT OF A TRAILER FROM THE  
BUCCANEER ALUMNI LETTERMEN ASSOCIATION, INC. FOR USE BY THE  
COLLEGE'S ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT**

On a motion by Dr. Boehm, seconded by Mr. Toubin, the Board voted to accept the gift of a new trailer from the Buccaneer Alumni Lettermen Association. It was indicated that the trailer will be used to carry athletic equipment when teams play games out of town.

**ITEM 6. RECESS FOR CLOSED SESSION (AS AUTHORIZED BY GOV'T. CODE, SEC.  
551.101)**

The public session was recessed for a closed session at 1:37 p.m.

**ITEM 7. 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 8. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION**

The public session was reconvened at 2:01 p.m.

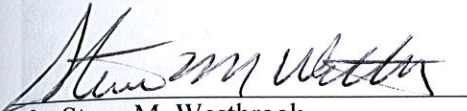
**ITEM 9. REVIEW AND ACTION ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

- (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 accept the resignations of Mr. Clay Redding, speech instructor, Bryan campus, effective May 8, 2008; Ms. Sheri Pappas, Dean Distance Education, Bryan campus, effective February 4, 2008; and Ms. Barbara Moore, Dean, Schulenburg campus, effective September 30, 2008.

**ITEM 10. ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Mr. Lange, seconded by Mr. Toubin, the meeting was adjourned at 2:02 p.m.

  
Mr. Steve M. Westbrook  
President

  
Mr. Norwood Lange  
Secretary