

**MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BLINN COLLEGE**

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

Regular Meeting, Tuesday, April 21, 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. Douglas R. Borchardt, President, presiding; Mr. Atwood Kenjura, Vice President; Mr. David Sommer, Secretary; Mrs. Theodora "Teddy" V. Boehm; Mr. Richard Powell and Mr. Leon B. Toubin.

Board members not present: Mrs. Carolyn D. Miller, CPA

Members of the College staff in attendance were: Dr. Ana M. "Cha" Guzmán, Interim District President; Dr. Sylvia McMullen, President, Brazos County Campuses; Ms. Kelli Shomaker, Senior Vice President, Finance and Administrative Services/CFO; Dr. Dennis Crowson, Senior Vice President, Student Services; Ms. Cathy Boeker, Associate Vice President, Government & Public Affairs; Dr. Joseph Kirkland, Interim Vice President for Instruction for Academic Programs; Dr. Jimmy Adams; Mr. Joe Baumann; Ms. Kris Beckendorf; Mr. Bryn Behnke; Ms. Linda Bow; Dr. Rochelle Bradley; Mr. Richard Bray; Mr. Michael Brewster; Dr. Blanche Brick; Ms. Karen Buck; Dr. Marcelo Bussiki; Ms. Lisa Caton; Ms. Barbara Corbisier; Ms. Megan Costanza; Mr. Joseph Engle; Ms. Annette Ferguson; Ms. Sarah Flisowski; Ms. M. Elia Flores; Mr. Nathan Giesenschlag; Ms. Anna Hall; Ms. Leslie Janac; Dr. Linda Jones; Dr. Nathan Krueger; Ms. Mary Lange; Ms. Angela Lawrenz; Dr. Ginny Machann; Ms. Michelle Marburger; Ms. Rocksann Marburger; Dr. Michelle McGehee; Ms. Erin Mellinger; Dr. Cheryl Metz; Ms. Susan Meyers; Ms. Yvonne Moore; Mr. Brice Mund; Mr. Richard O'Malley; Mr. John O'Neill; Dr. Barbara Pearson; Mr. Doug Pierce; Mr. Steve Rathbone; Mr. Jacob Ripple; Ms. Rebecca Ruffino; Mr. John Schaffer; Mr. Johnnie Schroeder; Mr. Keith Thomas; Mr. Jeff Tilley; Ms. Debbie Watson and Ms. Kristin Westbrook.

Also registered as in attendance were: Ms. Stacy Aschenbeck, Precinct 4 candidate for Blinn College Board of Trustees; Mr. Kevin Clement, Bryan citizen; Mr. Patrick Crank, Brenham Banner-Press; Ms. Deborah Goss, Precinct 4 candidate for Blinn College Board of Trustees; Mr. Bill Oliver, WTAW; Ms. Mary-Janet Reyes, KWHI and Mr. David Reynolds, Precinct 1 candidate for Blinn College Board of Trustees.

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

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Borchardt. The prayer was given by Mr. Sommer and the pledge was led by Mr. Sommer.

REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND OTHER NON-ACTION ITEMS:

ITEM 2. READING OF A RESOLUTION FOR THE 2015 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP CHEER AND DANCE TEAMS

Mr. Borchardt read a Resolution for the 2015 National Championship Cheer and Dance teams (a copy of the Resolution is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). Coach Sarah Flisowski thanked the Board for their support of programs that provide opportunities for students that they might not otherwise have.

ITEM 3. AGRICULTURAL DIVISION UPDATE

Mr. Borchardt read a Resolution recognizing the accomplishments of the Blinn College Livestock Judging team (a copy of the Resolution is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). Mr. Doug Pierce, Professor, Agriculture & Applied Technologies, thanked the Board for their investment. Mr. Johnnie Schroeder, Professor, Agriculture & Applied Technologies, recognized The Agriculture Mechanics Judging Team. He invited the Board to attend the upcoming Blinn College Agricultural Mechanics Project Show on April 29, 2015. Mr. Bryn Behnke, Assistant Dean-BAK Division, spoke about the activities of the Agriculture Club.

ITEM 4. VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS DIVISION UPDATE

Dr. Marcello Bussiki, Academic Dean, Visual & Performing Arts, introduced the Blinn College Saxophone Quartet. The group provided a brief performance.

ITEM 5. INTERIM DISTRICT PRESIDENT ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Guzmán reviewed her written Interim District President Administrative Announcements (copies of the announcements and upcoming events are attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

DISTRICT UPDATES

- The second annual Boots & Blue Jeans for Blinn College raised \$15,000.00 in scholarships for Sealy campus students on March 31, 2015, an increase of \$5,000.00 over last year's inaugural event.
- Congratulations to Visual & Performing Arts Instructor Brad Nies, Natural Sciences Instructor Linda Richardson, and Humanities Instructor Ann Voelkel. These three outstanding faculty members were recognized with the 2015 National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) Excellence Award in recognition of their dedication to student success.
- The Schulenburg campus recently hosted an information session regarding the new call center training program that will qualify graduates for customer service representative and help desk jobs with Fortune 500 companies. The program is scheduled to begin in May and is offered in partnership with Connected Nation with the goal of creating new jobs in Fayette County.
- The Livestock Judging Team finished its season last month by winning the Houston Intercollegiate Junior & Senior Livestock Judging Contest. The team won first place in three of the four national events, while taking second at the other. Coaches Joe Rathmann and Brice Mund were named national coaches of the year. Payton Warmke, Brody

Halfmann, Quest Newberry and Chama Martin were named to the 2015 Livestock Judging All-America team, giving Blinn more honorees than any other school in the nation.

- Forty-two Blinn College students received all-state music honors this year from the Texas Community College Band Directors Association (TCCBDA) and Texas Two-Year College Choral Directors Association (TTCCDA). Thirty-six Blinn students were named to the TCCBDA all-state band, while six students earned all-state choir recognition. Both the all-state band and all-state choir performed at the recent Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) Conference in San Antonio.
- Budget hearings will take place May 6-7, with each division/department invited to speak about its initiatives and goals and tie those into its budget request. These meetings will give Executive Council a clearer picture of how resources should be distributed.
- I have asked each of our deans to write a concept paper describing their plans to grow their division in Brenham by 200 students.
- We are currently developing new academic and technical sign language certificate programs on the Brenham campus. We have identified an instructor and expect to have the new programs operational by fall and plan to begin marketing these to the public soon.
- We also anticipate introducing a new drafting program on the Brenham campus this fall.
- We held Faculty Hiring Fairs on the Brenham and Bryan campuses April 9, placing particular emphasis on finding part-time instructors. These fairs attracted 45 candidates to the Bryan campus and 13 in Brenham.
- Registration is currently available for both the May Minimester and the Summer I & II semesters.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Lifetime Learning Luncheon - speaker Charles Porter - April 23, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Banquet Room, Student Center, Brenham
- HSC hosting Donor Reception for the Anatomage Table - April 23, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m., Health Science Center
- The Sundown Social - April 25, The Citadel, Brenham (Blinn will be a Texas Pioneer sponsor)
- Schulenburg campus Star Party - April 25, 8:00 p.m.
- American Association of Community Colleges Annual Convention - April 18-21, San Antonio, TX
- Blinn College Professional Association - Brenham - Annual Retirement Luncheon, May 1, 11:30 a.m., Banquet Room, Brenham campus
- Maifest Parade, May 3, 10:30 a.m.
- Elections - May 9
- Annual Blinn College Spring BBQ - Thursday, May 14, 5:00 - 8:00 p.m., Washington-on-the-Brazos State Park
- Community College Association of Texas Trustees (CCATT) 2015 Annual Conference - Saturday, June 6, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., San Antonio

ITEM 6. BRAZOS COUNTY CAMPUSES UPDATE

Dr. McMullen reviewed recent and upcoming activities and events (copies of the power point presentation, announcements and upcoming events are attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

UPDATES

- Campus renovations continue on schedule. Services at the Tejas Center are now fully operational, and construction has begun in the Administration Building and the Student Center. Temporary Food Services have been set up in Room E-120 and a new trailer on the north side of campus.
- Mr. Paul Hill, former director of Mission Operations at the NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center in Houston, has accepted a position as a faculty member/lecturer as part of an interagency personnel agreement between Blinn and NASA. In addition to his duties as a member of the faculty, Mr. Hill will utilize his unique experiences to participate in curriculum development and conduct space-related outreach to highlight NASA programs and promote science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education.
- Mr. Ryan Crocker, former U.S. Ambassador and dean of the George Bush School of Government & Public Service, spoke April 20 in the Barbara L. Pearson Banquet Center about the rule of the U.S. in the Middle East as part of Blinn's Distinguished Lecture Series.

STUDENTS PRESENT AT WORLD'S LARGEST CHEMISTRY CONFERENCE

- Eleven Blinn students recently displayed their research findings at the world's largest chemistry conference in Denver, Colorado. The students teamed with instructors Dr. Lee Don Bienski, Dr. Beverly Clement and Dr. Adalberto Gallegos to present three unique scientific posters at the American Chemical Society's National Meeting and Exposition in Denver, which drew an estimated 15,000 visitors March 22-26, 2015.
- The students' posters describe how they explored flavonoids in ash tree leaves, tested commercial and wild mushrooms for specific toxins and analyzed properties of molecules dissolved in vegetable oils.
- The students were required to conduct months of research and submit an abstract detailing their findings to be reviewed by industry professionals before they earned an invitation to the conference.

HEALTH SCIENCE STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN 'DISASTER DAY' SIMULATION

- More than 100 Blinn College Health Science students participated in a disaster simulation in partnership with Texas A&M in which they learned to manage a large-scale crisis situation. Students from Blinn's nursing, radiology and physical therapist assistant programs assumed roles as healthcare providers treating more than 700 simulated patients inside the gymnasium of Central Baptist Church in College Station, alongside students from Texas A&M University's Health Science Center.

GIVE KIDS A SMILE

- At this year's "Give Kids a Smile Event", Blinn Dental Hygiene provided free dental services for more than 70 local children without access to regular dental care. Since the inaugural event in 2009, Give Kids a Smile has provided 441 cleanings, 431 fluoride treatments, 399 X-rays, 1,184 sealants and 448 exams, totaling \$130.00.

ITEM 7. 84TH SESSION OF THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE UPDATE

Ms. Cathy Boeker reviewed the progress of the 84th session of the Texas legislature (copies of the following bills are attached to and made a part of these *Minutes*). She discussed the following items:

- **Budget:** The differences in the House and Senate versions of the Budget will need to be worked in the Conference Committee which is expected to be named sometime during the next few days. The conference committee will be made up of 5 House members and 5 Senators and have historically included the Chairs and Vice Chairs of each budget committee, the chairs of the subcommittees/workgroups on Article II (Health and Human Services) and Article III (Education), and two additional appointees for a total for 10 members.
- **Concealed Carry on Campus:** SB 11 by Senator Birdwell has been voted out of Senate and is headed over to the House. Attempts to amend the bill to include provisions that would allow public institutions of higher education to "opt-out" were defeated. HB 937 by Representative Fletcher has also been voted out of the House Homeland Security and Public Safety Committee and is in Calendars waiting to be brought to the Floor for consideration. The Texas Area of Community College's (TACC) expressed its opposition to the bill and submitted written testimony indicating that if the bill were to pass, Community Colleges would ask that a local option for "opting out" of the bill's provisions be included.

OTHER ISSUES:

- HB 61 by Representative McClendon - Relating to a single common course numbering system for public institutions of higher education in this state has been heard and has been left pending in committee.
- HB 197 by Representative Price - Relating to requiring a public institution of higher education to post information regarding mental health resources on the institution's Internet website has been voted on favorably by the House and has been sent over to the Senate.
- HB 505 by Representative Rodriguez - Relating to a prohibition of limitations on the number of dual credit courses or hours in which a public high school student may enroll has been voted on favorably by the House and has been sent over to the Senate.

STATUS OF BLINN COLLEGE SPECIFIC BILLS:

- SB 793 by Senator Kolkhorst - Relating to the administration of the Blinn Junior College District - Referred to Senate Higher Education Committee on March 2 - No movement.
- SB 2042 by Senators Kolkhorst & Schwertner - Relating to the board of trustees of the Blinn Junior College District - Permission to introduce granted on April 13; referred to Senate Higher Ed Committee on April 13.
- HB 1903 by Representative Raney - Relating to the distribution of funds to campuses in the Blinn Junior College District service area - voted on favorably as substituted by the House Higher Ed Committee on April 15, and has been sent to Calendars. The bill substitute exempts campuses with less than 1,000 students.

ITEM 16. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE ADMINISTRATION TO SPEND AN ADDITIONAL \$300,000.00 ON THE CONSTRUCTION IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE PROPOSED 2015 BRYAN CAMPUS RENOVATION PROJECT

Mr. O'Malley explained the reason for a 6% higher bid result. The two main reasons for the increase are loading dock and HVAC improvements (a copy of the spreadsheet summarizing the Renovation Project is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

On a motion by Mr. Kenjura, seconded by Mr. Sommer, the Board voted to authorize the Administration to spend an additional \$300,000.00 from Bond proceeds on the construction improvements for the proposed 2015 Bryan Campus renovation project, as presented by the Administration.

ITEM 17. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON USE OF CONTINGENCY FUNDS TO PURCHASE PARKING MANAGEMENT AND ENFORCEMENT SYSTEM SOFTWARE, EQUIPMENT, INSTALLATION AND SALARY ADJUSTMENT TO ONE CURRENT POSITION

Mr. John O'Neill, Director, Strategic Initiative, Business Services, reviewed the need for parking management and enforcement system software, equipment, installation and salary adjustments. He discussed the process used to arrive at the recommendation. He described current manual process and associated inadequacies. The functionality of the requested system was reviewed. He responded to questions from the Board. The presentation was presented to Executive Council and Student Government Association (a copy of the presentation is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

On a motion by Mr. Sommer, seconded by Mrs. Boehm, the Board voted to authorize the Administration to use contingency funds for the purchase of parking management and enforcement system software, equipment and installation, not to exceed \$233,000.00 and to upgrade one position for the remainder of FY15 at a cost of \$2,580.00, related to implementation and continued support.

- Mr. Kenjura read prepared comments regarding the current issues facing Blinn College (a copy of his comments are attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

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

The public was recessed for a break at 7:55 p.m.

The public was recessed for closed session at 8:04 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION:**ITEM 18. CLOSED SESSION:**

- (A) **REAL PROPERTY (GOV'T. CODE, SEC. 551.072)**
 - i. **DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE PURCHASE, EXCHANGE OR LEASE OF REAL PROPERTY FOR THE BRENHAM, BRYAN, SCHULENBURG AND SEALY CAMPUSES**

- (B) **PERSONNEL MATTERS (GOV'T. CODE, SEC. 551.074)**
 - i. **DELIBERATE THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, EVALUATION, REASSIGNMENT, DUTIES, DISCIPLINE OR DISMISSAL OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES OR OFFICERS**
 - ii. **DISCUSSION OF BLINN COLLEGE DISTRICT PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES**

ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS:**ITEM 19. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION**

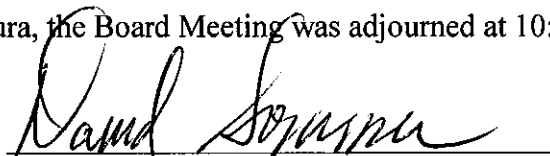
The public session was reconvened at 10:57 p.m.

ITEM 20. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Toubin, seconded by Mr. Kenjura, the Board Meeting was adjourned at 10:58 p.m.



Mr. Douglas Borchardt, Presiding
President



Mr. David Sommer
Secretary