

**MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BLINN COLLEGE**

**Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Park
Star of the Republic Museum
23200 Park Road 12
Washington, Texas 77880**

Retreat, Tuesday, February 23, 2016, at 5:45 p.m.

The Board of Trustees convened at 5:45 p.m. at the Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Park, Star of the Republic Museum, with the following members present: Mr. David Sommer, President, presiding; Mr. Douglas R. Borchardt, Vice President; Mrs. Stacy Aschenbeck; Mrs. Theodora “Teddy” V. Boehm; Mr. Charles R. Moser; and Mr. Richard Powell. Ms. Nancy Berry and Ms. Ann Horton arrived at 6:14 p.m.

Board members not present: Mr. Atwood Kenjura, Secretary.

ITEM 1. DINNER WAS SERVED AT 5:45 P.M.

ITEM 2. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by President Sommer. President Sommer welcomed everyone and thanked the museum staff for their hospitality.

ITEM 3. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM

- A) Consider All Matters Incident and Related to the Issuance and Sale of “Washington County Junior College District Combined Fee Revenue Bonds, Series 2016” Including the Adoption of a Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Such Bonds

Ms. Kelli Shomaker, CFO/Sr. Vice President Finance and Administrative Services, introduced Mr. Steven Adams, CFA, Managing Director, Specialized Public Finance, Inc. Mr. Adams reviewed the process related to the issuance and sale of Washington County Junior College District Combined Fee Revenue Bonds, Series 2016. (A copy of the Resolution is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). He also reviewed the rating results as well as the bid results. (A copy of Mr. Adams' PowerPoint presentation is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). Mr. Adams recommended the bid be awarded to Fidelity Capital Markets at 3.17%. Mr. Adams responded to questions from the Board.

On a motion by Trustee Moser, seconded by Trustee Powell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Issuance and Sale of “Washington County Junior College District Combined Fee Revenue Bonds, Series 2016”, including the adoption of a Resolution authorizing the issuance of such bonds.

ITEM 4. BOARD TECHNOLOGY TRAINING

Mr. Michael Welch, Blinn College's Dean, Academic Technology Services Department, and Mr. George Pate, Client Systems IT Technician I, reviewed the basic settings and features of the Trustees' new iPad Pros. Mr. Welch reviewed the new Board Portal, One Note, with the Trustees. Dr. Mary Hensley, District President/CEO, asked that staff follow-up with each Board member to provide individual assistance with access to their new technology.

ITEM 5. STRATEGIC PLANNING DISCUSSIONS

Mr. Joe Baumann, Dean of Institutional Effectiveness and Enrollment Management, gave the Board an update on the existing strategic plan. He then reviewed the 4th quarter update from December 2015. (A copy of the 4th quarter update is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). He responded to questions from the Board. He then reviewed the summary of the 4th quarter results as well as the overall progress

made related to the current strategic plan, 2013 - 2016. (A copy of the Progress Report is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

Mr. Baumann led the Board in an exercise to identify the college's strengths and challenges. Below are the strengths and challenges identified:

<u>Strengths</u>	<u>Challenges</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growing Bryan enrollment with Texas A&M University (TAMU) transfers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding - tax base
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good transfer rate with other 4-year universities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 85th Legislative effect on community college system
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good academic reputation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workforce training
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workforce training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Divisiveness - different between campuses (disconnect between Bryan and Brenham campuses)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athletics (draw for enrollment, college feel, offer education opportunities for 1st generation students) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athletics (cost, share athletic activities with Bryan campus)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ag Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to TAMU programs/facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilities (expansion and upkeep dated)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waller County
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty - care about teaching 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sealy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small class size 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post Office Campus (Dental Hygiene)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engaged Board 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retirement of part-time faculty
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong President 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changing demographics (meeting their needs)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distance Learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase Foundation work on Bryan, Sealy and Schulenburg campuses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student community service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand needs of the community
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reputation/community goodwill 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of Advisors to serve student body
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direction of Foundation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competition (dual credit/tuition and fees)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texas A&M Engineering Academy (TEAM) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislative education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong marketing/communication department (press releases) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grants
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong media partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenues/expenses by campus
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More proactive administration 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic impact 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Space for community events 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislative education starting to acknowledge need for funding 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recent success in procuring grants 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large companies to assist with grants 	

The Board participated in a prioritization activity for the strengths and challenges.

Mr. Baumann then facilitated discussions among the Board regarding funding needs from the Foundation. The identified needs are listed below:

<u>Small <\$10,000</u>	<u>Medium \$10,000 - \$100,000</u>	<u>Large \$100,000 plus</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mini grants for faculty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scholarships - all campuses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brenham Science Building
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Bonuses" for faculty for high student enrollment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bryan campus outdoor space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bryan Dental Hygiene faculty
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multicultural speaker series 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Converting Hodde Computer room to multi-purpose room 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kruse Center
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bryan West campus
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ag Facility
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sealy (land or new location)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tech facility in Waller
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finish update of Spencer Field
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welding/engineering, etc. training space in Bryan

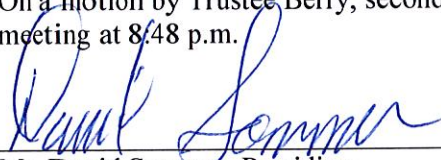
Dr. Hensley suggested that staff gather information on the above ideas, prioritize them and bring them back to the Board for review and discussion. Ms. Karen Buck distributed lists of requests for Foundation funds from the instructional areas (a copy of the list is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

Mr. Mel Waxler, Executive Vice President and General Counsel, discussed activities related to enhancing relationships and shared information for Blinn College's Legislative Delegation and the members of the Texas House and Senate. Mr. Waxler gave the Board a tour of a new website with information related to the preparation for the 85th Legislative Session. (A copy of the website page is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). He responded to questions from the Board.

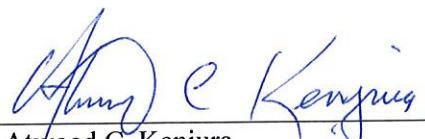
Mr. Baumann summarized prioritization of the strengths and challenges and discussed next steps. He reviewed possible dates for the next Board retreat. The next retreat will likely be held April 5, 2016 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Park, Star of the Republic Museum.

ITEM 6. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Trustee Berry, seconded by Trustee Horton, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m.



 Mr. David Sommer, Presiding
 President



 Mr. Atwood C. Kenjura
 Secretary