



LAREDO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
Laredo, Texas

The special meeting of the Laredo Community College Board of Trustees convened on Tuesday, August 1, 2017, beginning at 5:20 p.m. in the Samuel A. Meyer Board Room located at the Elpha Lee West Building Room 105 at the Fort McIntosh Campus.

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mercurio Martinez Jr, President
Allen Tijerina, Vice President
Cynthia Mares, Secretary
Henry S. Carranza
Gilberto Martinez Jr.
Jackie Leven-Ramos
Tita C. Vela

OTHERS

Ricardo J. Solis
Rusty Meurer, College Attorney
Jose Alfredo Iniguez-Jimenez
Nora Stewart
Patricia Barrera
Luciano Ramon
Cesar E. Vela Jr.

MEMBERS ABSENT

Rene De La Viña
Michelle De La Peña
Cin Bickel, Ex-officio

CALL TO ORDER

Judge Mercurio Martinez Jr., Board President, called the meeting to order. Ms. Mares, Board Secretary, called the roll. A quorum of the members was present.

Judge Martinez congratulated Dr. Gilberto Martinez on his direction of the Beauty and the Beast play.

CONSENT AGENDA

**APPROVAL OF STUDENT
HANDBOOKS FOR: HEALTH
SCIENCES PROGRAMS,
HONORS PROGRAM,
REGIONAL LAW
ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY,
CULINARY ARTS PROGRAM,
AND ELEARNING &
INSTRUCTIONAL
INNOVATION CENTER – MR.
J. ALFREDO INIGUEZ-JIMENEZ**

Judge Martinez brought up Item 8 for action.

Mr. Jose Alfredo Iniguez-Jimenez, Dean of Health Sciences & Dual Enrollment, noted that each year the student handbooks for the different programs need to be brought before the Board for approval. No major changes have been made. Ms. Mares so moved; Mr. Tijerina seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE
ACTION**

**PRESENTATION OF FIRST
DRAFT OF THE FY 2018
PROPOSED BUDGET – DR.
NORA STEWART**

Dr. Nora Stewart, Chief Financial Officer, presented a PowerPoint presentation of the first draft of the Fiscal Year 2018 operating budget and answered questions. The FY2018 revenue budget is \$56,950,204, the FY2018 expense budget is \$56,950,204 with the assumption that \$1,018,301 of equipment will be purchased from FY2017 savings. Ms. Leven-Ramos asked for clarification of the effective tax rate. Dr. Carranza asked to further review the budget items for possible cuts. Dr. Stewart noted that cuts have already been done. Ms. Mares asked to hear the presentation from Ms. Patricia Barrera, Webb County Tax Assessor-Collector.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE
ACTION TO APPROVE THE**

Judge Martinez brought up Items 5 and 6 for discussion and action.

2017 CERTIFICATION OF THE TAX ROLL – DR. NORA STEWART/MS. PATRICIA BARRERA

Ms. Patricia Barrera, Webb County Tax Assessor-Collector, reported the 2017 certified tax roll for LCC is \$12,410,626,370 (freeze adjusted taxable value). The total appraised value is \$16,195,341,461 with exemptions of \$2,945,445,964 and a freeze taxable value (10,581 accounts) of \$839,269,127. Ms. Mares moved to approve the 2017 certified tax roll values. The motion was seconded by Ms. Leven-Ramos; motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE ANTICIPATED COLLECTION FOR 2017 OF 100% – DR. NORA STEWART/MS. PATRICIA BARRERA

Ms. Barrera explained that the anticipated collection of 100% is okay because collections come very close to that percentage. Ms. Mares made a motion to approve the anticipated collection rate for 2017 of 100% and was seconded by Mr. Tijerina; motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON TAX RATE, IF PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL EXCEED THE EFFECTIVE TAX RATE, TAKE RECORD VOTE (TO CONSIDER THE TAX INCREASE) AND SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARINGS – DR. NORA STEWART/MS. PATRICIA BARRERA

Ms. Barrera distributed the 2017 property tax rates for Laredo Community College and a planning calendar. Ms. Barrera explained the tax rates and that a tax increase requires two public hearings which she needs to advertise informing the public there will be a tax increase. She provided the Board with the following dates:

- August 15th - the first public hearing,
- August 22nd - the second public hearing, and
- August 29th - the date to adopt the tax rate.

Discussion followed on the tax increase. Mr. Luciano Ramon, Information Technology Officer, explained the tax rates will allow LCC to operate within a balanced budget. Dr. Carranza made a motion to approve as presented by Ms. Barrera; Ms. Mares seconded. Motion passed; Mr. Tijerina and Ms. Vela voted against. Ms. Barrera asked what time the public hearings will be held. Judge Martinez acknowledged that the public hearings will be held at 5:00 p.m. on August 15th, August 22nd, and August 29th.

APPROVAL OF EQUIPMENT PURCHASES USING FY 2017 SAVINGS – MR. CESAR VELA

Ms. Mares asked who is in charge of safety. Mr. Ramon noted that it now falls under his supervision. Ms. Mares inquired what a Caso for \$11,000 was. Mr. Cesar Vela, Comptroller, noted that it is a scanning system and software. Dr. Martinez moved to approve the equipment purchases as presented; Ms. Mares seconded the motion. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

Tuesday, August 15, 2017, 5:00 p.m. – Public Hearing
Tuesday, August 22, 2017, 5:00 p.m. – 2nd Public Hearing
Thursday, August 31, 2017 – Regular Board Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:50 p.m., Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Tijerina seconded the motion; motion carried.