



LAREDO COLLEGE DISTRICT

Laredo, Texas

The regular meeting of the Laredo College Board of Trustees convened on Thursday, May 2, 2019, beginning at 6:05 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
Jackie Leven-Ramos, Vice President
Henry S. Carranza, Ph.D., Secretary
Cynthia Mares
Jorge "JD" Delgado
Lupita Zepeda
Esteban Rangel
Tita C. Vela

MEMBERS ABSENT

Michelle De La Peña

OTHERS

Ricardo J. Solis
Rusty Meurer
Suzanne Ramirez
Abigail De Leon
Marisela Rodriguez
Rodney Rodriguez
Linda Ramirez
Prakash Mansinghani
Vanessa Puente
Wilma Guzman
Joya Viduarri
Cesar E. Vela Jr.
Fred Solis
Robert Porter
Homer Paez

CALL TO ORDER

Judge Martinez called the meeting to order. Dr. Carranza called the roll. A quorum of the members was present.

Ms. Leven-Ramos recognized the following individuals as being present: Dr. Ricardo Solis, College President; Mr. Prakash Mansinghani, Faculty Senate President; Ms. Vanessa Puente, Associated Student Organization President; and Ms. Joya Vidaurri, Classified Staff Council President.

**APPROVAL OF THE
MINUTES FOR BOARD
RETREAT OF MARCH 23,
2019 AND REGULAR BOARD
OF TRUSTEES MEETING OF
MARCH 28, 2019**

Ms. Mares moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rangel; motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

No one signed up for public testimony.

**RECOGNITIONS,
COMMUNICATIONS, AND
INTRODUCTIONS**

Ms. Suzanne Ramirez, LC Palomino Pride Team Sponsor, recognized the Team and Ms. Lizandra Campos, coach, for their recent competition win and thanked the Board for their support.

Dr. Ricardo J. Solis, President, informed the Board about his and Ms. Abigail De Leon's visit to Sweet Briar College. Ms. De Leon earned a full-ride scholarship to Sweet Briar College in Virginia. Ms. De Leon presented a slideshow of her visit to Sweet Briar College. Dr. Solis and the Board recognized her parents in the audience. Dr. Solis noted that this opportunity for an LC student will be yearly.

Dr. Ricardo Solis introduced the following new employees: Ms. Glenda Rangel, Career Navigator-South; Ms. Sarai Hernandez, Faculty Secretary-Computer Technology; and Ms. Veronica Ortega, Faculty Secretary-Nursing A.D.N./B.S.N.

Dr. Marisela Rodriguez, Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs, announced that she just received notification that LC's vocational nursing program is ranked Number 5 out of 76 schools. Dr. Ricardo Solis noted that LC is Number 1 in Texas community colleges.

Dr. Rodney Rodriguez, Executive Director of Strategic and External Initiatives, presented LC's new marketing campaign.

FACULTY SENATE REPORT

Ms. Linda Ramirez, Business Professor/Co-Chair of Faculty Senate Elections Committee, presented the results of the Faculty Senate elections – Mr. Prakash Mansinghani, President; Dr. Cin Bickel, Secretary; Ms. Leticia Cantu, Senator At-Large; Dr. Joseph Crabtree, Senator At-Large; and Mr. Armando Moreno, Senator At-Large. Ms. Ramirez introduced the new Faculty Senate President, Mr. Prakash Mansinghani.

Mr. Mansinghani reported on: (1) new faculty senate president term is for two years; (2) new faculty senate vice president is Dr. Hillary Gleason, who will serve out the term that he vacated; (3) a Faculty Senate meeting and luncheon for faculty who recently received tenure and retirees is scheduled for tomorrow; (4) Mr. Pablo Martinez, Full Professor of Psychology, is LC's NISOD award recipient; (5) Budget Workshop - TASB recommendations and adjunct pay; (6) faculty ranks and titles recommendation; (7) tenure; (8) office hours; and (9) Honorlock software.

ASSOCIATED STUDENT ORGANIZATION REPORT

Dr. Ricardo Solis recognized Ms. Vanesa Puente for her service as A.S.O. President. Ms. Puente thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve as A.S.O. President. She introduced Ms. Vilma Guzman, new A.S.O. President. Judge Martinez presented Ms. Puente with a gift. Ms. Guzman reported that A.S.O. officers are looking forward to working to promote student success during their 2019-2020 term.

CLASSIFIED STAFF COUNCIL REPORT

Ms. Joya Viduarri, Classified Staff Council President, reported on: (1) monthly meetings; (2) budget, TASB recommendations; and (3) outreach to community agencies.

CONSENT AGENDA

MARCH 2019 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT – MR. CESAR VELA

Ms. Mares moved to approve the items under Consent Agenda. Dr. Carranza seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

FEBRUARY 2019 QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT – MR. CESAR VELA

APPROVAL FOR PURCHASE OF NURSING EQUIPMENT – MR. CESAR VELA

RATIFICATION OF CAMPUS LOGIC AGREEMENT FOR FINANCIAL AID SERVICES – MR. CESAR VELA

**CONTRACT EXTENSION
APPROVAL WITH ESTRADA
HINOJOSA & COMPANY,
INC. FOR FINANCIAL
ADVISORY SERVICES – MR.
CESAR VELA**

**CONTRACT EXTENSION
APPROVAL WITH GARZA,
GONZALEZ & ASSOCIATES
FOR FINANCIAL AUDIT
SERVICES – MR. CESAR
VELA**

**APPROVAL OF MATCHING
FUNDS FOR JET GRANT –
DR. NORA GARZA**

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE
ACTION**

**APPROVAL OF PROPOSED
MODIFICATION TO BOARD
POLICY CLA(LOCAL):
FACILITIES PLANNING -
FACILITIES STANDARDS –
MS. JACKIE LEVEN-RAMOS**

Ms. Leven-Ramos noted that the Program/Policy Committee met to discuss the modifications being presented. The committee is proposing to modify the naming of facilities criteria. Discussion followed. Judge Martinez called for the vote. Ms. Zepeda, Mr. Delgado, Ms. Leven-Ramos, Dr. Carranza voted in favor of modifying the policy; Ms. Vela, Ms. Mares, and Mr. Rangel voted against. Judge Martinez abstained. The item did not pass due to no majority vote. Discussion followed. Judge Martinez changed his vote to favor the modification. Mr. Meurer noted that this item can be brought back by rescinding the motion and then a motion to approve the modification needs to be done again. Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to rescind the motion. Dr. Carranza seconded the motion; motion carried. Ms. Mares and Ms. Vela voted against. Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to approve the modifications as presented. Judge Martinez asked those in favor; motion passed. Ms. Vela, Ms. Mares, Mr. Rangel voted against.

**APPROVAL OF PROPOSED
MODIFICATION TO BOARD
POLICY DC(LOCAL):
EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES –
MS. JACKIE LEVEN-RAMOS**

Ms. Leven-Ramos noted that the Program/Policy Committee met to discuss the modifications being presented. The committee is proposing to modify the final hiring authority to the President. Discussion followed. Ms. Mares called for the question. Mr. Rangel moved to approve the modification as presented. Dr. Carranza seconded the motion; motion carried. Ms. Vela and Ms. Mares voted against.

**APPROVAL OF PROPOSED
MODIFICATION TO BOARD
POLICY DLC(LOCAL):
EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE
- PROMOTION AND
DEMOTION – MS. JACKIE
LEVEN-RAMOS**

Ms. Leven-Ramos noted that the Program/Policy Committee met to discuss the modifications being presented and if approved, another policy will need to be brought to the Board for approval next month. This modification is similar to the previous item where the Board is giving final hiring authority to the President. Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to approve the modification. Dr. Carranza seconded the motion; motion carried. Ms. Vela and Ms. Mares voted against.

**APPROVAL OF CHANGE
ORDER FOR JOAQUIN
CIGARROA FACILITIES
MASTER PLAN PHASE III
PROJECT – MR. CESAR VELA**

Mr. Cesar Vela, Chief Financial Officer, asked that the Board approve a change order in the amount of \$773,583.30 for complete change-out of ventilation exhaust fans and components, chiller air-handler coils, and associated control system components and software and a time extension of 252 days for the Joaquin Cigarroa Building. The new completion date will be November 30, 2019. The funds will come from Phase III contingency. Ms. Mares moved to approve the change order as presented. Mr. Rangel seconded the motion. Mr. Vela answered questions from the Board. Ms. Mares called for the question. Motion carried unanimously.

**FACILITIES MASTER PLAN
PHASE III MARAVILLO GYM
PROJECT - MR. CESAR VELA**

- A. RELEASING THE MARAVILLO GYM PROJECT FROM A CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK PROJECT (LEYENDECKER CONSTRUCTION, INC.) TO A LAREDO COLLEGE MANAGED PROJECT.
- B. REALLOCATING APPROXIMATELY \$450,000 FROM THE MARAVILLO GYM PROJECT TO THE LEWIS ENERGY ACADEMIC FITNESS CENTER
- C. THE PURCHASE OF GYM EQUIPMENT FOR THE LEAC FITNESS CENTER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$261,252.00 FROM LIFE FITNESS.
- D. THE PURCHASE OF NEW FLOORING FOR THE LEAC FITNESS CENTER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$45,310.12 FROM SPORT PRO SURFACING.

Mr. Vela noted that this item is a Facilities Master Plan Phase III project but due to funding, the project was not on the list of projects but the gym was brought back due to savings. Only \$1.8 million was allocated to this project and unfortunately, since it is an old facility, it will require more funds to complete. Therefore, the scope of work for the Maravillo Gym is recommended to be reduced to the following items: painting of walls in main gym area, replacing unsafe bleachers, and resurfacing and painting the gym floor. Hence, the Board is asked to approve the following:

- a. Releasing the Maravillo Gym Project from a construction manager at risk project (Leyendecker Construction, Inc.) to a Laredo College managed project.
- b. Reallocating approximately \$450,000 from the Maravillo Gym Project to the Lewis Energy Academic Fitness Center
- c. The purchase of Gym Equipment for the LEAC Fitness Center in the amount of \$261,252.00 from Life Fitness.
- d. The purchase of new flooring for the LEAC Fitness Center in the amount of \$45,310.12 from Sport Pro Surfacing.

Mr. Rangel asked the capacity of the old bleachers and new bleachers. Dr. Ricardo Solis indicated it is 500 capacity for the old bleachers and the new bleachers would be similar. Mr. Rangel moved to approve the item. Ms. Mares seconded the motion. Mr. Vela and Dr. Ricardo Solis answered questions from the Board. Ms. Mares called for the question. Motion carried.

INFORMATION ITEMS

**STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND
FUTURE PROGRAMS - DR.
RICARDO J. SOLIS**

Mr. Delgado reported on his meetings in Austin which he attended along with Dr. Ricardo Solis and Dr. Rodney Rodriguez where they visited three Texas Workforce Commissioners and Vice Chancellor Amy Thomas regarding initiatives/programs such as cybersecurity, health care fields, and funding for the programs.

Mr. Rangel reported on his and Dr. Rodney Rodriguez's visit to South Texas College regarding partnering opportunities in law enforcement.

Dr. Fred Solis, Vice President of Student Success and Enrollment, invited the Board to LC's graduation ceremony on May 10th at 3:00 p.m. at the Sames Auto Arena. Dr. Ricardo Solis announced that the first cohort of the early college will be graduating.

**UPDATE ON LAREDO
COLLEGE FACILITIES
MASTER PLAN PHASE 3
BOND CONSTRUCTION - MR.
ROBERT PORTER**

Mr. Robert Porter, Construction Project Manager, provided an update on the active and completed projects for the Fort McIntosh campus (De La Garza Building, Martinez Fine Arts Center, Yeary Library, Cigarroa Science buildings, cosmetology, campus mall improvements, oil & gas project, roofing {both campuses}, and Maravillo Gym).

Mr. Homer Paez, Assistant Construction Project Manager, provided an update on South campus projects (Billy Hall, Health Sciences building, and HVAC improvements {both campuses}).

**DISCUSS BOARDPAQ, A
SECURE CLOUD BASED
PORTAL FOR MANAGEMENT
OF LAREDO COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Ms. Leven-Ramos provided an overview of the BoardPq software which can be used for Board meetings. Mr. Rangel and Mr. Delgado provided their views on the software. Judge Martinez indicated that this item can be brought to the Board at the next Board meeting for a vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:14 p.m., Judge Martinez announced that the Board would go into executive session for the following item:

- Closed Session Discussion to Conduct the Board Self-Evaluation as Required by Board Policy BCG(LOCAL): Board Internal Organization Board Evaluation and by Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) *Principles of Accreditation*, Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 and 551.074

Ms. Leven-Ramos so moved. Dr. Carranza seconded the motion; motion carried.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

The Board reconvened to open session at 8:45 p.m. Judge Martinez noted that no action was taken in executive session other than Board members completing the self-evaluation form.

BOARD SELF-EVALUATION AS REQUIRED BY BOARD POLICY BCG(LOCAL): BOARD INTERNAL ORGANIZATION BOARD EVALUATION AND BY SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS COMMISSION ON COLLEGES (SACSCOC) PRINCIPLES OF ACCREDITATION

No action taken.

PRESIDENT’S REPORTS CAMPUS POLICE, PERSONNEL, TRAVEL, AND OTHER REPORTS

The reports were provided for information purposes.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

Judge Martinez noted that a Budget Workshop is scheduled for May 3, 2019 and the regular Board meeting on May 30, 2019.

Dr. Ricardo Solis requested to reschedule the next Board meeting to June 6, 2019 instead of May 30, 2019 due to meetings. Mr. Delgado so moved. Mr. Rangel seconded the motion; motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:46 p.m., Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Rangel seconded the motion; motion carried.