



LAREDO COLLEGE DISTRICT

Laredo, Texas

The special meeting of the Laredo College Board of Trustees convened on Wednesday, June 30, 2021, beginning at 1:02 p.m. in the Samuel A. Meyer Board Room located at the Elpha Lee West Building Room 105 at the Fort McIntosh Campus. Due to health and safety concerns related to the COVID-19 Coronavirus and pursuant to Governor Greg Abbott's Temporary Suspension of Open Meetings Laws issued on March 16, 2020, some of Laredo College Board members participated via Zoom videoconference.

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Lupita Zepeda, President
Jorge "JD" Delgado, Vice President
Jackie Leven-Ramos, Secretary
Cynthia Mares *(participated via Zoom)*
Mercurio Martinez, Jr.
Henry S. Carranza, Ph.D.
Esteban Rangel
Karina "Kari" Elizondo *(participated via Zoom)*

Tita C. Vela

MEMBERS ABSENT

—

OTHERS

Ricardo J. Solis, Ph.D.
Rusty Meurer
Michael Gonzalez
Dr. Tayo Penosen

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Zepeda called the meeting to order. Ms. Leven-Ramos called the roll. Ms. Zepeda announced that a quorum of the members was present, that this meeting was duly called, and that notice of this meeting was posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Mr. Michael Gonzalez, Senior Director of External Affairs, noted that there is one individual present for public comment.

Ms. Zepeda provided information from the Board Policy BDB(LOCAL) to clarify the topics presented under public testimony.

"An individual's comments to the Board shall not exceed three minutes per meeting. When there are six or less speakers scheduled, the Board President may extend each speaker's time to five minutes. Time may not be ceded from one speaker to another. The Board President may also limit the total amount of time for public testimony but not to less than thirty minutes. The speaker may not speak on personnel or student matters that refer to individuals by name or title. After a speaker's comments, the Board President shall make whatever response, if any, or take whatever action, if any, is deemed appropriate to handle the matter. Such response or action may include the following: 1) referring the matter to the College President for action or for further recommendations, 2) referring the matter to a later meeting or to a Board committee for further discussion or study, indicate that the matter shall be taken under advisement. If the Board President determines that a person has not attempted to resolve a matter administratively, the person shall be directed to the appropriate policy for attempted resolution before bringing the matter to the Board."

Dr. Tayo Penosen addressed the Board on Dr. Ricardo J. Solis' accomplishments.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE
ACTION
ACCEPTING THE
RESIGNATION OF THE
COLLEGE PRESIDENT**

Ms. Zepeda read aloud the letter submitted by Dr. Ricardo J. Solis.

June 30, 2021

Dear Laredo College Board of Trustees,

After five remarkable years of presidential service and pursuant to our recent discussions, I hereby submit my resignation and separation from the presidency of Laredo College effective August 31st, 2021.

However, I plan to only remain active in my presidential role through July 15th for the purpose of fulfilling established goals and strategic plans, assisting in every possible manner with a smooth transition with the new LC interim president. Thereby, I will be utilizing my earned and documented accrued vacation time during my period of absence while not returning, including up to the remainder of my official separation of August 31st. During my vacation period, if the Board President or interim President request my assistance, I will unquestionably make myself available.

Leading Laredo College has been an extraordinary and transformational experience. I feel privileged to have been a part of such a professional college team and will immensely miss all my colleagues.

Certainly, I take this opportunity to convey to you, the Laredo College Board of Trustees, how pleased I am to have served as the CEO of one of the most responsive, innovative and the top ranked community college in Texas. I look forward to continuing this relationship for many years to come.

With appreciation and best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

*Dr. Ricardo J. Solis
President*

Judge Martinez moved to “regrettably and reluctantly accept his resignation”. Mr. Delgado seconded the motion; motion carried.

Dr. Ricardo J. Solis, President, thanked everyone for all their work and support.

**PRESENTATION TO
COLLEGE PRESIDENT**

Mr. Michael Gonzalez presented Dr. Ricardo Solis a memento from the Laredo College Alumni & Friends Association.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

Ms. Zepeda reminded the Board that this is the last Zoom meeting for the Board members; meetings will be in person or via telephone conference call. Zoom will still be available for public viewing.

Ms. Zepeda noted the next meeting dates:

Thursday, July 1, 2021, 4:00 p.m. – Special Board of Trustees Meeting

Thursday, July 29, 2021, 6:00 p.m. – Regular Board of Trustees Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

At 1:37 p.m., Dr. Carranza moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Leven-Ramos seconded the motion; motion carried.