



## LAREDO COLLEGE DISTRICT

Laredo, Texas

The special meeting of the Laredo College Board of Trustees convened on Tuesday, September 14, 2021, beginning at 5:35 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

Lupita Zepeda, President  
Jorge "JD" Delgado, Vice President  
Jackie Leven-Ramos, Secretary  
Cynthia Mares  
Mercurio Martinez, Jr.  
Henry S. Carranza, Ph.D.  
Esteban Rangel (*arrived at 5:50 p.m.*)  
Tita C. Vela

#### OTHERS

Marisela Rodriguez Tijerina, Ed.D.  
Rusty Meurer

#### MEMBERS ABSENT

Karina "Kari" Elizondo

### 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

No one signed up for public testimony.

### DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

**ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION APPROVING LAREDO COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD NOMINEES OF CANDIDATES FOR THE WEBB COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS – MS. LUPITA ZEPEDA/DR. MARISELA RODRIGUEZ TIJERINA**

Dr. Marisela Rodriguez Tijerina, Interim President, noted that she received a letter from Mr. Martin Villarreal, Chief Appraiser for Webb County Appraisal District, seeking nominations for candidates to the Webb County Appraisal District Board of Directors. Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to nominate Mr. Delgado to the WCAD Board of Directors. Ms. Mares and Judge Martinez seconded the motion. Mr. Delgado accepted the nomination. Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION PERTAINING TO TEXAS GOVERNOR'S LIFTING OF OPEN MEETINGS ACT SUSPENSION ORDER – MR. RUSTY MEURER**

Mr. Rusty Meurer, college attorney, noted that Governor Abbott's 2020 suspensions of the Open Meetings Act have ended. In summary, there must be a quorum physically present at a meeting if there will be anyone joining via phone or video conference. He explained participation and voting and did point out that members participating by phone are considered absent but their vote does count.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:51 p.m., Ms. Zepeda announced that the Board would go into executive session for the following items:

- Closed Session Consultation with the College District's Attorney Concerning Retaining Special Legal Counsel for Pending Title IX Complaints Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071

- Closed Session Discussion Concerning Former College President's Exit Process Pursuant Texas Government Code Section 551.074 and 551.071

Ms. Leven-Ramos so moved. Mr. Delgado seconded the motion; motion carried. Ms. Zepeda acknowledged the presence of Mr. Rangel.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

**RETAIN SPECIAL LEGAL COUNSEL FOR PENDING TITLE IX COMPLAINTS**

The Board reconvened to open session at 6:54 p.m. Ms. Zepeda noted that no action was taken in executive session.

Judge Martinez moved to approve retaining special legal counsel. Dr. Carranza seconded the motion; motion passed.

**CONCLUSION OF EXIT PROCESS OF FORMER COLLEGE PRESIDENT**

Ms. Mares moved to "instruct interim President to move forward with the conclusion of the exit process as was discussed in executive session". Ms. Leven-Ramos seconded the motion; motion carried.

**NEXT MEETING DATE:**

Thursday, September 30, 2021, 6:00 p.m. – Regular Board of Trustees Meeting

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:56 p.m., Mr. Delgado moved to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Carranza seconded the motion; motion carried.