



LAREDO COLLEGE DISTRICT

Laredo, Texas

The retreat of the Laredo College Board of Trustees convened on Saturday, August 20, 2022, beginning at 8:10 a.m. at the Falcon Bank Community Room (7718 McPherson Rd., Laredo, Texas 78045).

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Lupita Zepeda, President
Jorge "JD" Delgado, Vice President
Cynthia Mares
Mercurio Martinez, Jr.
Henry S. Carranza, Ph.D. (*left at 10:53 a.m.*)
Esteban Rangel
Karina "Kari" Elizondo (*arrived at 9:32 a.m.*)
Tita C. Vela (*arrived at 8:18 a.m.*)

OTHERS

Minita Ramirez, Ph.D.
Rusty Meurer
Guillermo Garcia
Marisela Rodriguez Tijerina, Ed.D.
David V. Arreazola, Ed.D.
Cesar E. Vela, Jr.
Fred Solis, Ed.D.
Diana Y. Ortiz, Ph.D.
David Brenner (*participated via Zoom from 9:23 a.m. - 9:59 a.m.*)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jackie Leven-Ramos, Secretary

WELCOME – MS. LUPITA ZEPEDA

Ms. Zepeda thanked Falcon Bank for hosting the LC Board Retreat and she thanked everyone for taking time from their Saturday to attend the retreat.

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Zepeda called the meeting to order. Mr. Delgado 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.

EVENTS THAT LAREDO COLLEGE SPONSORS – MS. LUPITA ZEPEDA

Ms. Zepeda referred the item to Dr. Minita Ramirez, President. Dr. Ramirez noted that as requests for sponsorships begin, in an effort to avoid duplication of sponsorships by Laredo College, all requests will be channeled through the Development Office. Also, she asked if tickets are requested to events and you cannot attend, please notify the office.

ATTENDANCE AT BOARD MEETINGS – MS. LUPITA ZEPEDA

Ms. Zepeda referred the item to Mr. Rusty Meurer, College Attorney. Mr. Meurer went over the Open Meetings Act regarding attendance via phone call and via video conference.

Ms. Zepeda acknowledged the presence of Ms. Vela.

Discussion followed. Mr. Meurer answered questions from the Board.

LAREDO COLLEGE BUDGET UPDATE – MR. CESAR VELA

Mr. Cesar Vela, Vice President of Finance, provided an update of the FY 2023 Proposed Budget – planning factors, general operating revenues, sources of revenue, general operating expenditures,

expenditures by classification, tax rate, and FY 2023 annual operating budget. He answered questions from the Board.

Mr. Delgado moved to bring up Agenda Item – *Discussion and Procedural Training on Grievance Processes*. Dr. Carranza seconded the motion; motion carried.

DISCUSSION AND PROCEDURAL TRAINING ON GRIEVANCE PROCESSES – MR. RUSTY MEURER/MS. VERONICA CARDENAS/ MR. DAVID BRENNER

Dr. Ramirez introduced Mr. David Brenner from Burns Anderson Jury & Brenner. Mr. Brenner presented Laredo College’s Level III grievance process and procedures. Discussion followed on the process. Mr. Meurer and Mr. Guillermo Garcia, attorney, answered questions from the Board.

Mr. Meurer presented information on Employee Complaints and Grievances – LC grievance policies; United States and Texas constitutions; interpretation; role of Laredo College Board of Trustees and Laredo College members; and LC Board Policy DGBA(LOCAL).

REVIEW PARLIAMENTARY DECORUM, PROCEDURES, AND COMMUNICATION WITH THE COLLEGE PRESIDENT – MR. RUSTY MEURER/DR. MINITA RAMÍREZ

Mr. Meurer presented information on parliamentary procedures and communications - why parliamentary procedures are used at Board meetings; Robert’s Rules of Order: common courtesy, common sense, decorum, justice and fairness, role of presiding officer, general rules of debate, and reconsidering a motion; and using technology during meetings.

Mr. Garcia presented information on governance; role of Board of trustees; Board responsibilities; individual Board member and Board as a whole; communications: Board and administration and Board and employees; responding to citizens’ concerns: participation in and out of Board meetings; and submission of a topic for Board agenda.

SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS COMMISSION ON COLLEGES (SACSCOC) UPDATE – DR. DAVID ARREAZOLA

Dr. David Arreazola, Vice President of Compliance and Risk Management, presented SACSCOC updates - principles of accreditation Section 4, activities since last reaffirmation, LC’s SACSCOC liaison Geoffrey Klein, and fifth year interim report.

UPDATE ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS – DR. MARISELA RODRIGUEZ TIJERINA

Dr. Marisela Rodriguez Tijerina, Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs, presented information on Fall to Spring retention rates; pandemic effects; how to increase retention and engagement; community colleges in improving retention rates; CLASS; Center of Teaching Excellence and Learning; diversity, equity, and inclusion; and new and re-design of future academic programs.

Lunch break.

ENROLLMENT UPDATE – DR. FRED SOLIS

Dr. Fred Solis, Vice President of Student Success and Enrollment, presented Fall 2022 registration vs. Fall 2021 registration and Quarter 4 2022 registration vs. Quarter 4 2021 registration. Discussion took place on enrollment and dual credit.

UPDATE ON PLANS FOR THE 2022 – 2023 ACADEMIC YEAR – DR. MINITA RAMÍREZ

Dr. Ramirez reported that the 88th legislative session is the week of January 9, 2023. TACC has submitted legislative requests for all community colleges. She spoke about retention, graduation rates, outcome based funding, and upcoming LC Board elections.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – DR. MINITA RAMÍREZ

Dr. Ramirez made the following announcements: deadline to file for LC Board election is Monday, Fall Fest at LC South on October 22nd from

4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., FunFest in February, 75th Gala being scheduled for March 24th with possible golf tournament on March 25th, 75th birthday celebration on September 28th, and Dr. Sara Carrasco’s memorial service today with a bench dedication on Thursday at 10:00 a.m. She thanked everyone for attending the investiture.

Ms. Zepeda recognized that Ms. Elizondo had previously joined the retreat at 9:30 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

At 12:51 p.m., Mr. Delgado moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Elizondo seconded the motion; motion carried.