



LAREDO COLLEGE DISTRICT

Laredo, Texas

The regular meeting of the Laredo College Board of Trustees convened on Thursday, February 24, 2022, beginning at 6:03 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 *(arrived at 6:22 p.m.)*
Mercurio Martinez, Jr.
Henry S. Carranza, Ph.D. *(left the meeting at 9:24 p.m.)*
Esteban Rangel
Karina “Kari” Elizondo *(arrived at 6:05 p.m.; left the meeting at 9:30 p.m.)*
Tita C. Vela *(arrived at 6:12 p.m.)*

MEMBERS ABSENT

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OTHERS

Marisela Rodriguez Tijerina, M.S., Ed.D.
Rusty Meurer *(participated via Zoom)*
Obed Guerrero
Fred Solis, Ed.D.
Fatima Ponce
Cesar E. Vela Jr.
Prakash Mansinghani
David V. Arreazola, Ed.D.
Jaime Donjuan
Kristi Lansford
Juan de Dios Ibarra
Andrea Lopez
Diana Ortiz, Ph.D.

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.

**APPROVAL OF THE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR
BOARD MEETING OF
JANUARY 27, 2022**

Judge Martinez 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,
INTRODUCTIONS OF
PERSONNEL, AND NEW
PERSONNEL ACTIONS FOR
THE MONTH**

Ms. Zepeda acknowledged the presence of Ms. Elizondo.

**LAREDO COLLEGE’S
WASHINGTON BIRTHDAY
CELEBRATION
ASSOCIATION PARADE
PARTICIPATION – MR. OBED
GUERRERO**

Mr. Obed Guerrero, Community and Media Relations Director, provided photos of Laredo College’s float that participated in the Washington’s Birthday Celebration Association Grand Parade.

**NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR
MARKETING & PUBLIC
RELATIONS PARAGON
AWARDS NOMINATION – MR.
OBED GUERRERO**

Mr. Guerrero reported that Laredo College has been nominated in two categories for the National Council for Marketing & Public Relations Paragon Awards. The ceremony will be held in March.

**PRESENTATION GIVEN BY
DUAL ENROLLMENT AT THE
EDUCATE TEXAS MID-
WINTER CONFERENCE – DR.
FRED SOLIS**

Dr. Fred Solis, Vice President of Enrollment & Student Success, announced that Dual Enrollment Director, Mr. Albert Hernandez, along with a team from Lyndon B. Johnson (LBJ) High School gave a presentation to over 70 higher education institutions at the Educate Texas Mid-Winter Conference to share best practices LC and LBJ use for the early college program.

Ms. Zepeda acknowledged the presence of Ms. Vela.

**COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS
TRUSTEES (CCATT)
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
ROSTER – DR. MARISELA
RODRIGUEZ TIJERINA**

Dr. Marisela Rodriguez Tijerina, Interim President, recognized Ms. Lupita Zepeda for her appointment to the legislative committee.

**INTRODUCTION OF
PERSONNEL/PERSONNEL
ACTIONS – DR. MARISELA
RODRIGUEZ TIJERINA**

Dr. Rodriguez Tijerina introduced the promotions and new hires for the month: Maria de Jesus Chapa, Faculty Secretary for the Bachelor's of Applied Science in Organizational Leadership; Jorge A. Dimas, Advising and Transfer Coordinator; Amanda Flores Del Toro, Academic Coaching and Mentoring Coordinator; and Fabiola Rodriguez, Career Coordinator.

**ASSOCIATED STUDENT
ORGANIZATION REPORT**

Ms. Fatima Ponce, Associated Student Organization President, reported on: 1) spirit of giving event; 2) students accepted to the national conference of undergraduate research are Maria Cervantes Abrego, Eduardo Barberena, Tania Ortiz, Manuel Peralta, Raquel Puig; 3) Eduardo Barberena – accepted and participated in the Easton Tech Poster Competition; and 4) Elizabeth Robles – accepted into a summer internship for undergraduate research at Corpus Christi Army Depot.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Rangel moved to approve all of the following items under Consent Agenda.

- Agenda Item 8.A. - January 2022 Financial Report
- Agenda Item 8.B. - November 2021 Quarterly Investment Report
- Agenda Item 8.C. - Approval of HVAC Repairs for the Private David B. Barkeley Cantu Veterans Memorial Chapel
- Agenda Item 8.D. - Approval to Upsize Chill Water Supply Lines for the Cigarroa Science Complex
- Agenda Item 8.E. - Approval of a Three (3) Year License and Support Agreement with Evisions for Argos Reporting, Form Fusion and Intellectcheck Software Subscriptions

Mr. Delgado seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE
ACTION
ADOPT RESOLUTIONS
SUPPORTING
APPLICATIONS TO BECOME
A USAGE-DRIVEN FOREIGN
TRADE ZONE #94
DESIGNATION – DR.
MARISELA RODRIGUEZ
TIJERINA**

Dr. Rodriguez Tijerina reported that Mr. Martin Villarreal from the Webb County Appraisal District presented information on Foreign Trade Zone designations at the Finance & Audit Committee meeting. Mr. Delgado and Mr. Cesar Vela, Vice President for Finance, provided a brief summary. Mr. Rusty Meurer, College Attorney, provided information as well. Mr. Rangel moved to approve:

**AGENDA ITEM 9.A.1. - UNIMEX TRADE & LOGISTICS LLC. LOCATED AT 13604
INTERSTATE 35 FRONTAGE RD., LAREDO TEXAS**

**AGENDA ITEM 9.A.2. - TRANSPLACE MEXICO LOCATED AT 107 ROSS KHALEDI
RD., LAREDO, TEXAS**

Ms. Mares seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

FACULTY SENATE REPORT

Mr. Prakash Mansinghani, Faculty Senate President: 1) thanked the Board for allowing faculty to serve on the Presidential Search Committee; 2) reported on Center of Teaching Excellence and Learning engaging students workshop; 3) highlighted Mr. Alonzo Laurel and Ms. Jessica Rodriguez for their accomplishments; and 4) asked the Board to analyze administration’s recommendation regarding athletics along with costs and what is in the best interest of the college.

**TENURE
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
CONSIDERATION AND
APPROVAL BY LAREDO
COLLEGE BOARD OF
TRUSTEES – DR. DAVID V.
ARREAZOLA**

Dr. David V. Arreazola, Interim Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs and Compliance, introduced the tenure candidates listed below:

- Patricia J. Godines
- Lissa L. Liveson
- Christina Perez
- Claudette Quintanilla
- Dr. Diana C. Ramos
- Cesar Rodriguez
- Nestor R. Serrato
- Leslie E. Solis
- Edwin I. Torres Bazaldua
- Dr. Sheuli Zakia

Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to approve the tenure recommendations presented. Mr. Delgado and Dr. Carranza seconded the motion. Mr. Rangel called for the question. Motion carried unanimously.

**DISCUSS THE ANALYSIS OF
RELEVANT ISSUES
PERTAINING TO SOME OF
THE ATHLETICS
PROGRAMS AND APPROVE
A PROPOSAL FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF
LAREDO COLLEGE
ATHLETICS PROGRAM
INCLUDING A POSSIBLE
REORGANIZATION.
POSSIBLE CLOSED SESSION
DISCUSSION PURSUANT TO
TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE
SECTIONS 551.071 AND
551.074 – LAREDO COLLEGE
ADMINISTRATION**

Judge Martinez moved to table this item until the new president is hired. Ms. Elizondo seconded the motion. Mr. Meurer provided advice on tabling and deferring the item. Judge Martinez amended his motion to defer this item for the new president to address this issue. Ms. Elizondo seconded the amended motion. Discussion followed. Ms. Elizondo noted for the record the motion that was made at the December 7, 2021 Special Board meeting was to “reinstate some of the athletic programs effective 2022-2023 and to direct administration to present an implementation plan’. Judge Martinez seconded the motion. Ms. Leven-Ramos amended the motion ‘to analyze the relevant issues pertaining to some of the athletic programs’. Mr. Delgado seconded the motion; motion passed on the amendment with seven voting in favor.” She stated that reorganization was not part of the motion. Ms. Zepeda called for the vote. Vote was 5-4 against; motion failed.

Dr. Rodriguez Tijerina noted that the implementation plan was presented at the Finance & Audit Committee meeting and at the Program/Policy Committee meeting. Mr. Vela presented the Budgets for Athletics 2020 vs 2023 and Dr. Arreazola presented the Proposed Innovations, and Programs and Services Affected. Mr. Vela, Dr. Arreazola, Dr. Fred Solis, and Dr. Rodriguez Tijerina answered questions from the Board.

Mr. Jaime Donjuan, Tennis Coach; Ms. Kristi Lansford, Softball Coach; and Mr. Juan de Dios Ibarra, Soccer Coach; presented the Proposed 2022-23 NJCAA Division I Sports – Coaching Staff, Strengths of LC Athletics, Student Success Strategies, Recruiting Goals and Strategies, Fundraising Goals and Strategies, Attendance and

Community Engagement Strategies, and Title IX Compliance. They answered questions from the Board.

At 8:05 p.m., Mr. Delgado moved to go into executive session on this item. Dr. Carranza seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

The Board reconvened to open session at 9:18 p.m. Ms. Zepeda noted that no action was taken during executive session.

Ms. Elizondo moved “to adopt Administration’s implementation plan and reinstate athletics”. Dr. Carranza seconded the motion. The vote was 5-4 against; motion failed.

Mr. Rangel moved to instruct staff to come back next month with a new proposal for this item based on discussion in executive session. Mr. Delgado seconded the motion. Mr. Rangel noted for the record that by not approving an implementation plan, certain sports will not be able to be placed on the NJCAA calendar in the fall for participation. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Elizondo stated for the record to administration “that based on December 7 discussion and motion, the implementation plan is the idea to bring some of the athletics programs back. So, I want to see on that implementation plan that an actual, physical sport is coming to our college that is reinstated in accordance to that motion that was taken December 7”.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON FACILITIES MASTER PLAN PHASE III ADDITIONAL POSSIBLE PROJECTS – MR. CESAR VELA/MR. HOMER PAEZ

Mr. Rangel moved to approve the recommendations as presented. Judge Martinez seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL TO ASSIGN THE P-14 PROJECT TO THE FACILITIES MASTER PLAN PHASE II CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK – MR. CESAR VELA/MR. ORLANDO ZEPEDA

Mr. Rangel moved to approve to assign the P-14 project to the Facilities Master Plan Phase II Construction Manager at Risk. Ms. Elizondo seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE GUARANTEED MAXIMUM PRICE (GMAX) OF THE RAQUEL GONZÁLEZ AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY CENTER DIESEL SHOP EXPANSION PROJECT – MR. CESAR VELA

Mr. Rangel moved to defer this item until next month. Ms. Leven-Ramos and Mr. Delgado seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BUDGETED CASH MATCHING FUNDS REQUIRED FOR THE U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION WOMEN’S BUSINESS CENTER - MINORITY SERVING INSTITUTIONS GRANT APPLICATION – DR. NORA R. GARZA

Mr. Delgado moved to approve the cash matching funds. Mr. Rangel seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

RATIFICATION OF DONOR REQUESTED ENDOWMENT AND REGULAR SCHOLARSHIP MATCHING FUNDS – MS. SARA A. POMPA

Mr. Delgado moved to ratify the cash matching funds. Mr. Rangel seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF DONOR REQUESTED ENDOWMENT AND REGULAR SCHOLARSHIP MATCHING FUNDS – MS. SARA A. POMPA

Mr. Delgado moved to approve the cash matching funds. Mr. Rangel seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

TASB BOARD POLICY UPDATE 42: REVIEW UPDATED LEGAL POLICIES AND ACT ON LOCAL POLICIES – DR. DAVID V. ARREAZOLA

Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to adopt the revisions to the LOCAL policies presented (listed below).

BBD(LOCAL): BOARD MEMBERS - ORIENTATION AND TRAINING
CF(LOCAL): PURCHASING AND ACQUISITION
CHA(LOCAL): SITE MANAGEMENT - SECURITY
CHF(LOCAL): SITE MANAGEMENT - WEAPONS
CKD(LOCAL): INSURANCE AND ANNUITIES MANAGEMENT - HEALTH AND LIFE INSURANCE
CM(LOCAL): FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION
DEC(LOCAL): COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS - LEAVES AND ABSENCES
DIAA(LOCAL): FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RETALIATION - SEX AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE
DK(LOCAL): PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
DMD(LOCAL): TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT - RESIGNATION
ECC(LOCAL): INSTRUCTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS - COURSE LOAD AND SCHEDULES
FFDA(LOCAL): FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RETALIATION - SEX AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE
FLB(LOCAL): STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES - STUDENT CONDUCT
GCB(LOCAL): PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAM - REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

Ms. Mares seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE MODIFICATIONS TO LAREDO COLLEGE BOARD POLICIES – DR. MARISELA RODRIGUEZ TIJERINA

Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to approve the modifications to the following LOCAL policies:

Agenda Item 9.K.1. - DJ(LOCAL): ASSIGNMENT, WORK LOAD, AND SCHEDULES
Agenda Item 9.K.2. - DMAA(LOCAL): TERM CONTRACTS - TERMINATION MID-CONTRACT
Agenda Item 9.K.3. - DMAB(LOCAL): TERM CONTRACTS – NONRENEWAL

Ms. Mares seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE MODIFICATIONS TO LAREDO COLLEGE BOARD POLICY BBH(LOCAL): BOARD MEMBERS- CONVENTIONS, CONFERENCES, AND WORKSHOPS – MS. JACKIE LEVEN-RAMOS

Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to defer this item to next month’s meeting. Ms. Mares seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

UPDATE ON STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE – MS. CYNTHIA MARES

Ms. Mares reported on the Student Success Committee meeting held and the information provided at the meeting. Strategies for the next meeting are: setting strategic direction for change – post COVID, guided pathways to increase enrollment, monitor what matters most, and mental health issues.

ENROLLMENT UPDATE – MS. ANDREA LOPEZ

Ms. Andrea Lopez, Associate Dean of Enrollment Management and Student Success, reported on Spring 2022 enrollment, continuing education enrollment, and enrollment services events.

ADVERTISING SURVEY RESULTS – MR. OBED GUERRERO

Mr. Guerrero presented advertising survey results.

RECRUITMENT UPDATE – DR. DIANA ORTIZ

Dr. Diana Ortiz, Associate Dean for Strategic Recruitment, presented November – December recruitment update and recruitment outreach and events.

**HEALTH & SAFETY
OPERATIONS CENTER
UPDATE – DR. DAVID V.
ARREAZOLA**

Dr. Arreazola provided a Health & Safety Operations Center update - Camilo Prada Child Development Center re-opening, cumulative positive case count, contact, and City water issue.

**PLAN OF ACTION FOR
AUDIT FINDINGS – MR.
CESAR VELA**

Mr. Vela provided the audit findings and plan of action. Of the four findings, one has been completed.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION
CLOSED SESSION
DISCUSSION WITH THE
COLLEGE PRESIDENT
PURSUANT TO TEXAS
GOVERNMENT CODE
SECTION 551.074
REGARDING THE
EMPLOYMENT,
REASSIGNMENT, AND
DUTIES OF CERTAIN
EMPLOYEES DUE TO A
REORGANIZATION**

Mr. Rangel moved to defer this item to the next meeting due to the motion passed on Agenda Item 9.C. – *Discuss the Analysis of Relevant Issues Pertaining to Some of the Athletics Programs and Approve a Proposal for the Implementation of Laredo College Athletics Program Including a Possible Reorganization.* Ms. Leven-Ramos seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE
ACTION
EMPLOYMENT,
REASSIGNMENT, AND
DUTIES OF CERTAIN
EMPLOYEES DUE TO A
REORGANIZATION**

Judge Martinez moved to defer this item. Mr. Rangel seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

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

The reports were provided for information purposes.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

Thursday, March 31, 2022, 6:00 p.m. – Regular Board of Trustees Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:02 p.m., Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to adjourn the meeting. Judge Martinez seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.