



LAREDO COLLEGE DISTRICT

Laredo, Texas

The regular meeting of the Laredo College Board of Trustees convened on Thursday, November 3, 2022, beginning at 6:01 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 6:24 p.m.*)
Mercurio Martinez, Jr.
Henry S. Carranza, Ph.D.
Tita C. Vela

OTHERS

Minita Ramirez, Ph.D.
Rusty Meurer
Rosemary Aguero-Riojas
Marisela Rodriguez Tijerina, Ed.D.
Prakash Mansinghani
Carmelino Castillo, Jr.
Maricela Lopez
Elizabeth T. Calderon
Fred Solis, Ed.D.
Heriberto Hernandez
Horacio Salinas, Jr., Ph.D.
Albert Chavez
Guillermo Garcia
Michael Y. Kim
Kristal Lansford

MEMBERS ABSENT

Esteban Rangel
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.

**APPROVAL OF THE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR
BOARD MEETING OF
SEPTEMBER 29, 2022**

Mr. Martinez moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Leven-Ramos; motion carried.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

No one signed up for public testimony.

**RECOGNITIONS,
INTRODUCTIONS OF
PERSONNEL, AND NEW
PERSONNEL ACTIONS FOR
THE MONTH**

**YEARS OF SERVICE
RECOGNITIONS – DR. MINITA
RAMÍREZ**

Dr. Minita Ramirez, President, acknowledged Dr. Carranza’s six years of service to the Board as his term is expiring. Ms. Zepeda presented a gift of appreciation to Dr. Carranza.

**CONTINUED PARTNERSHIPS
WITH UNITED
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL
DISTRICT FOR NEW EARLY
COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOLS
AT ALEXANDER HIGH
SCHOOL AND UNITED HIGH
SCHOOL – DR. MINITA
RAMÍREZ**

Dr Ramirez announced that UISD approved early college high schools at Alexander High School and United High School.

**2022 ANNUAL LOUIS
STOKES MIDWEST
REGIONAL CENTER OF**

Ms. Rosemary Aguero-Riojas announced that LC student, Valeria Rivera, was selected to present her research at the Louis Stokes Midwest

**EXCELLENCE CONFERENCE
POSTER COMPETITION –
MS. ROSEMARY AGUERO-
RIOJAS**

Regional Center of Excellence Conference in October. She was presented a certificate of appreciation on behalf of the Board and President.

**TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION
COORDINATING BOARD
TEXAS TRANSFER
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON
THE DISCIPLINE OF
KINESIOLOGY/EXERCISE
SCIENCE APPOINTEE, DR.
ARMANDO PEREZ – DR.
MARISELA RODRIGUEZ
TIJERINA**

Dr. Marisela Rodriguez Tijerina, Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs, announced that the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board appointed Dr. Armando Perez to serve on the Transfer Advisory Council for kinesiology and exercise science. He was presented a certificate of appreciation on behalf of the Board and President.

**INTRODUCTION OF
PERSONNEL/PERSONNEL
ACTIONS – DR. MINITA
RAMÍREZ**

Dr. Ramírez introduced the new hires and promotions for the month: Clarissa K. Aguilar, Property Inventory Specialist; Roxanna Estrada, Copy/Mail Services Clerk; Daniel Medina, Student Center Attendant; Michelle Mares, Faculty Secretary for A.D.N./B.S.N.; Brenda Diaz, Scholarship Coordinator; Rosa Rios, Continuing Education Secretary; Reuben Rodriguez, Human Resources Technician (Records); Jessica C Trevino, Associate Vice President of Enrollment Management; Jacob D Brulloths, South Campus Librarian; Jose Angel Flores, Master Electrician; Raul Gonzalez, HVAC Technician; and Kassandra Vargas, Teacher Assistant Camilo Prada Child Development Center.

**FACULTY SENATE REPORT
– MR. PRAKASH
MANSINGHANI**

Mr. Prakash Mansinghani, Faculty Senate President, congratulated Ms. Maricela Lopez on being elected the Associated Student Organization President and bid Dr. Carranza farewell. He reported on: Board of Trustees candidate forums; Faculty Senate committees (Ad Hoc, Faculty Senate Finance, and Virtual Office Hours); and Fall 2022 & Spring 2023 Faculty Senate goals.

**ASSOCIATED STUDENT
ORGANIZATION REPORT –
MS. MARICELA LOPEZ**

Mr. Carmelino Castillo, Jr., Associate Vice President for Student Life and Engagement, introduced and gave a brief bio of the newly elected 2022-2023 Associated Student Organization President, Ms. Maricela Natalie Lopez. Ms. Lopez provided an update on the latest student activities: Fall Fest and PTK Leadership conference.

Ms. Zepeda acknowledged the presence of Ms. Mares.

Dr. Ramírez asked to return to Agenda Item 5.A. - YEARS OF SERVICE RECOGNITIONS.

**YEARS OF SERVICE
RECOGNITIONS – DR. MINITA
RAMÍREZ**

Dr. Ramírez acknowledged Ms. Mares' 30 years of service to the Board as her term is expiring. Ms. Zepeda presented a gift of appreciation to Ms. Mares.

**CLASSIFIED STAFF
COUNCIL REPORT – MS.
ELIZABETH T. CALDERON**

Ms. Elizabeth T. Calderon, Interim Classified Staff Council President, reported on Fall Fest. Organization elections will take place next year.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Agenda Item 9.A. – September 2022 Financial Report
- Agenda Item 9.B. – August 2022 Quarterly Investment Report, and FYE 2022 Annual Investment Report
- Agenda Item 9.C. – Approval of Contract with Texas Multi-Chem for Annual Sports Complex Field Turf Program
- Agenda Item 9.D. – Ratification of Spectrum Internet Services and EPL-Ethernet Private Line
- Agenda Item 9.E. – Approval for Purchase of Tactical Equipment for Campus Police
- Agenda Item 9.F. – Approval of Change Order for Computer Solutions Fiber Optic

Upgrade Project

- Agenda Item 9.G. – Procurement Process Approval for Deferred Maintenance Construction Projects
- Agenda Item 9.H. – Ratification of the Cisco Smartnet Hardware Maintenance Renewal
- Agenda Item 9.I. – Approval of Contract for Elevator Maintenance Renewal
- Agenda Item 9.J. – Approval of Scholarship Matching Funds as Per Donor Request
- Agenda Item 9.K. – Approval for Building Lease with the United States Border Patrol

Mr. Delgado seconded the motion; motion carried.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

APPROVAL FOR OUT-OF-COUNTRY TRAVEL FOR MS. JESSICA C. TREVINO AND MS. ANDREA LOPEZ TO TORONTO ONTARIO CANADA FOR THE STRATEGIC ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE AS PER BOARD POLICY CJ(LOCAL): TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT – DR. FRED SOLIS

Dr. Fred Solis, Vice President of Student Success & Enrollment, asked the Board to approve the out-of-country travel for Ms. Jessica C. Trevino, Associate Vice President of Enrollment Management, to Toronto, Ontario, Canada for the Strategic Enrollment Management Conference. Ms. Andrea Lopez will not be able to attend the conference. Mr. Delgado moved to approve the travel. Ms. Leven-Ramos seconded the motion; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE 2023 – 2024 LAREDO COLLEGE ACADEMIC CALENDAR – DR. FRED SOLIS

Dr. Solis presented the 2023 – 2024 Laredo College Academic Calendar which has been coordinated with the school districts. Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to approve the calendar as presented. Mr. Delgado seconded the motion; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN (ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE) PROGRAM – DR. MARISELA RODRIGUEZ TIJERINA/MR. HERIBERTO HERNANDEZ

Dr. Rodriguez Tijerina asked the Board to approve two new programs. Mr. Heriberto Hernandez, Dean of Workforce Education, presented the new engineering technician program, its mission, and stackable awards. Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to approve the program as presented. Mr. Delgado seconded the motion; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT (ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE) PROGRAM – DR. MARISELA RODRIGUEZ TIJERINA/MR. HERIBERTO HERNANDEZ

Mr. Hernandez presented the new construction management program, its mission, and stackable awards. He answered questions from the Board. Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to approve the program as presented. Mr. Delgado seconded the motion; motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:53 p.m., Mr. Delgado moved to go into executive session on the following items:

- Level III Grievance Hearing Filed by a Professional Employee as per Board Policy DGBA(LOCAL): PERSONNEL-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS - EMPLOYEE GRIEVANCES. Closed Session Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 and 551.074
- Discussion to Review the Board Self-Evaluation Results 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. Closed Session Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 and 551.074

Ms. Leven-Ramos seconded the motion; motion carried.

The Board reconvened to open session at 8:33 p.m. Ms. Zepeda noted that no action was taken during executive session.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

LEVEL III GRIEVANCE HEARING FILED BY A PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEE

Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to “deny the grievance and the relief requested”. Ms. Mares seconded the motion; motion carried.

REVIEW THE BOARD SELF-EVALUATION RESULTS 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

Mr. Delgado moved to approve the Board self-evaluation results. Dr. Carranza seconded the motion; motion carried.

PRESIDENT’S REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS CAMPUS POLICE, PERSONNEL, AND TRAVEL REPORTS – DR. MINITA RAMÍREZ

Dr. Ramírez went over the reports. She reported on upcoming events, MOU signing on dual admissions program with Texas A&M - Corpus Christi, Thanksgiving luncheons, and the LC 75th anniversary gala.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ARTS, AND MATHEMATICS OPEN HOUSE NOVEMBER 10, 2022 – DR. HORACIO SALINAS

Dr. Horacio Salinas, Dean of Arts & Sciences, announced the STEAM open house on November 10th which will bring awareness and provide information.

LAREDO COLLEGE WEBSITE UPDATE – MR. ALBERT CHAVEZ

Mr. Albert Chavez, Associate Vice President of Information Technology, noted that the redesigned LC website was launched on October 15th. He provided an overview of the website.

NOTIFICATION OF THE SERVING OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AT FRIENDS OF LAREDO COLLEGE HOLIDAY PARTY AS PER LAREDO COLLEGE BOARD COMMUNITY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS POLICY GDA(LOCAL): COMMUNITY USE OF COLLEGE DISTRICT FACILITIES - CONDUCT ON COLLEGE DISTRICT PREMISES – DR. MINITA RAMÍREZ

Dr. Ramirez notified the Board of a reception for donors which will serve alcoholic beverages will be scheduled at a date to be determined.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

Thursday, December 15, 2022, 6:00 p.m. – Regular Board of Trustees Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:55 p.m., Mr. Delgado moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Leven-Ramos seconded the motion; motion carried.