



LAREDO COLLEGE DISTRICT

Laredo, Texas

The regular meeting of the Laredo College Board of Trustees convened on Thursday, February 23, 2023, beginning at 5:31 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
(arrived at 5:34 p.m.)
Cindy Liendo
Mercurio Martinez, Jr.
Esteban Rangel *(arrived at 6:26 p.m.)*
Tita C. Vela

OTHERS

Minita Ramirez, Ph.D.
Rusty Meurer
Carmelino Castillo
Gabriel Lozano
Brenda Martinez
Prakash Mansinghani
Maricela Lopez
Marisela Rodriguez Tijerina, Ed.D.
Fred Solis, Ed.D.
Jessica Treviño
Albert Chavez

MEMBERS ABSENT

Erica Benavides Garcia
Karina “Kari” Elizondo

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.

**APPROVAL OF THE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR
BOARD MEETING OF
JANUARY 31, 2023**

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

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

No one signed up for public testimony.

**RECOGNITIONS,
INTRODUCTIONS OF
PERSONNEL, AND NEW
PERSONNEL ACTIONS FOR
THE MONTH
LAREDO COLLEGE AT
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DAY
AT THE TEXAS STATE
CAPITOL – MR. CARMELINO
CASTILLO**

Mr. Carmelino Castillo, Associate Vice President of Student Life & Engagement, presented a video of Laredo College’s visit to Community College Day. Some of the students who attended shared their experience of the visit.

Ms. Vela noted that the students also volunteered their time at a recent WBCA event and presented the group and the other students who volunteered with a token of appreciation.

Ms. Zepeda acknowledged the presence of Ms. Leven-Ramos.

**TEXAS WORKFORCE
COMMISSION JOBS AND
EDUCATION FOR TEXANS
(JET) GRANT – MR. GABRIEL
LOZANO/MS. SANDRA**

Mr. Gabriel Lozano, Director of Grants, announced that the college received \$336,300 from the JET Grant. Ms. Brenda Martinez, Director of Continuing Education Department, reported that with this grant, the Continuing Education Department will be able to purchase three state-

CORTEZ/MS. BRENDA
MARTINEZ

of-the-art truck driving simulators for the Professional Truck Driving Program.

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

Dr. Minita Ramírez, President, introduced the new hires and reorganizations for the month: Paola Ovalle, Clerk Typist Student Life (South); Pedro Rivera, Director of Student Life; Juan F. Flores, Graphic Web and Social Media Specialist; Melissa D. Martinez, Faculty Secretary A.D.N./BSN (South); Diana M. Saucedo, Faculty Secretary Emergency Medical Services (South); Rebecca Blevins, CRM Coordinator (Customer Relations Management); Catherine A. Cuellar, Global Import, Export and Logistics Center Coordinator; Denise A. Flores, Workforce Development Center Director; Miguel E. Flores, Senior Workforce Development Coordinator; Nydia R. Garcia Peña, Professor of Logistics/Distribution Management/Department Chairperson; Javier A. Gutierrez Jr., Employer Initiatives Associate Director; Albert Hernandez, Director of Veteran Services Center; Gabriel E. Lozano, Director of Grants; Tekuani M. Perez, Assistant Professor of Cybersecurity/Computer Sciences and Technology Director; Julio Reyes, Director of Recruitment & Dual Enrollment; and Salvador Sciaraffa III, Career Services Associate Director.

FACULTY SENATE REPORT
– MR. PRAKASH
MANSINGHANI

Mr. Prakash Mansinghani, Faculty Senate President/Professor of Government, reported on faculty retiree luncheon, Faculty Senate elections, and his Faculty Senate term ending.

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

Ms. Maricela Lopez, Associated Student Organization President, reported on student activities – CPR training, Fun Fest, Rocky Peter performance, student services fair at LC South, Ed Mabrey performance, and club fairs.

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

No report.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Agenda Item 9.A. – January 2023 Financial Report
- Agenda Item 9.B. – November 2022 Quarterly Investment Report
- Agenda Item 9.C. – Approval of Lamar Bruni Vergara Environmental Science Center Construction Project Guaranteed Maximum Price (G-Max)
- Agenda Item 9.D. – Approval to Purchase Laptop Computers Using the Accelerating Student Success Grant
- Agenda Item 9.E. – Approval to Extend TouchNet Application Subscription Program Agreement for Use with TouchNet's Mobile Bill Payments and Mobile Marketplace
- Agenda Item 9.F. – Approval to Renew Annual Oracle Software License and Support Contract
- Agenda Item 9.G. – Approval of AT&T Dedicated Internet Circuit (ADI) & IPFLEXable Reach Telephone Service
- Agenda Item 9.H. – Approval for Purchase of Computer Equipment for Public Relations and Media
- Agenda Item 9.I. – Approval to Purchase Equipment for the Industrial Technology Program
- Agenda Item 9.J. – Approval of Budgeted Cash Matching Funds Required for the 2023 Texas Workforce Commission JOBS AND EDUCATION FOR TEXANS (JET) Grant Application
- Agenda Item 9.K. – Ratification for the Purchase of Box Truck for Central Receiving and Property Inventory
- Agenda Item 9.L. – Approval to Purchase Cloud-Based Fundraising & Donor Management Software
- Agenda Item 9.M. – Approval of Updates on Lab Fees and Student Liability Insurance Fees

Agenda Item 9.N. – TASB Board Policy Update 44: Review Updated LEGAL Policies and Act on LOCAL Policies (see list below)

POLICY	ACTION
BBB(LOCAL): BOARD MEMBERS – ELECTIONS	Replace
FLBE(LOCAL): STUDENT CONDUCT – ALCOHOL AND DRUG USE	Replace
GDA(LOCAL): COMMUNITY EXPRESSION AND USE OF COLLEGE FACILITIES – CONDUCT ON COLLEGE DISTRICT PREMISES	Replace

Mr. Delgado and Ms. Leven-Ramos seconded the motion. Ms. Vela recommended finding funds for the Environmental Science Center multi-purpose room. Mr. Delgado also agreed. Dr. Ramirez noted for the record that the project is on hold until funds are identified. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION
TENURE
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL BY LAREDO COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES – DR. MARISELA RODRIGUEZ TIJERINA

Dr. Marisela Rodriguez Tijerina, Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs, introduced the tenure candidates listed below:

- Brenda Garcia
- Hortencia D. Gonzalez
- Jeannette Johnson
- Cynthia Y. Rodriguez
- Sandra Sanchez

Mr. Delgado moved to approve the tenure recommendations presented. Mr. Martinez and Ms. Leven-Ramos seconded the motion; motion carried.

MINOR REORGANIZATION OF THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS DIVISION – DR. MARISELA RODRIGUEZ TIJERINA

Dr. Rodriguez Tijerina presented the reorganization of the academic affairs division. Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to approve the reorganization as presented. Mr. Delgado seconded the motion; motion carried.

CONSIDER ADOPTING A BOARD POLICY APPLICABLE TO LAREDO COLLEGE VOLUNTEERS – MS. JACKIE LEVEN-RAMOS

Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to defer this item. Ms. Liendo seconded the motion; motion carried.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT REPORT – DR. FRED SOLIS/MS. JESSICA TREVIÑO

Ms. Zepeda acknowledged the presence of Mr. Rangel.
Dr. Fred Solis, Vice President of Student Success and Enrollment, and Ms. Jessica Treviño, Associate Vice President of Enrollment Management, presented the Enrollment Update (Spring 2023 2nd Start, registration and advising, and 2023 – 2024 terms).

TEXAS GOVERNOR'S ORDER REGARDING THE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA SOFTWARE AND LAREDO COLLEGE'S DRAFT POLICY – DR. MINITA RAMÍREZ/MR. ALBERT CHAVEZ

Dr. Ramirez reported on the letter received from Governor Abbott regarding banning the use of specific social media by State agencies. Mr. Albert Chavez, Associate Vice President of Information Technology, presented the Governor's timeline and requirements to take action.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS
CAMPUS POLICE, PERSONNEL, AND TRAVEL REPORTS – DR. MINITA RAMÍREZ

The reports were provided for information purposes. Dr. Ramirez noted that the Campus Police reports will be restructured. She updated the Board on the Community College Day visit and the new finance structure bill.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS – DR. MINITA RAMÍREZ

Dr. Ramirez commented on: funding for facility needs, LC Fun Fest, Laredo Licensed U.S. Customs Brokers Association (LLUSCBA) check presentation, Viva George book signing, LC float at WBCA parades,

and Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities quarterly meeting.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

Thursday, March 2, 2023; 5:30 p.m. – Special Board of Trustees Meeting

Saturday, March 4, 2023; 9:00 a.m. – Board Retreat

Thursday, March 30, 2023; 6:00 p.m. – Regular Board of Trustees Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

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