



LAREDO COLLEGE DISTRICT

Laredo, Texas

The regular meeting of the Laredo College Board of Trustees convened on Tuesday, January 31, 2023, beginning at 6:00 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 (*left the meeting at 8:03 p.m.*)
Erica Benavides Garcia
Cindy Liendo
Mercurio Martinez, Jr.
Tita C. Vela

MEMBERS ABSENT

Esteban Rangel
Karina "Kari" Elizondo

OTHERS

Minita Ramirez, Ph.D.
Rusty Meurer (*participated via Zoom*)
Guillermo R. Garcia
Obed Guerrero
Dianna Miller, Ed.D.
Michael Martinez, D.N.P.
Tracy Humphries
Prakash Mansinghani
Maricela Lopez
Elizabeth Calderon
Sara A. Pompa
Diana Y. Ortiz, Ph.D.
Fred Solis, Ed.D.
Jessica Treviño
David V. Arreazola, Ed.D.
Javier Cano
Craig Wood (*participated via Zoom*)

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Zepeda called the meeting to order. Ms. Leven-Ramos called the roll.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF DECEMBER 16, 2022

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

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

No one signed up for public testimony.

RECOGNITIONS, INTRODUCTIONS OF PERSONNEL, AND NEW PERSONNEL ACTIONS FOR THE MONTH NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR MARKETING & PUBLIC RELATIONS DISTRICT AWARDS - MR. OBED GUERRERO

Ms. Zepeda read a card from the family of the late Carroll E. Summers, Jr. that the Board received.

Mr. Obed Guerrero, Director of Community and Media Relations, presented the 11 awards Laredo College received at the National Council for Marketing & Public Relations conference. Dr. Minita Ramirez, President, presented the department with a certificate of recognition.

ASSOCIATE DEGREE IN NURSING UPDATES AND RANKED AS #1 NURSING PROGRAM IN TEXAS - DR. DIANNA MILLER/DR. MICHAEL MARTINEZ

Dr. Dianna Miller, Dean of Health Sciences, introduced Dr. Michael Martinez, Nursing/Associate Degree Nursing Program Director, who announced:

- ACEN site visit went well and the report will be received later this year.
- Donation received from the Summers' family and various grants the nursing program has received.
- Sixth year ranked as #1 Best RN program in Texas

- NCLEX 100% passing rate

He thanked the Board for their dedication and recognized the program's faculty.

**TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING
APPROVAL STATUS FOR
VOCATIONAL NURSING –
DR. DIANNA MILLER/MS.
TRACY HUMPHRIES**

Dr. Dianna Miller, Dean of Health Sciences, introduced Ms. Tracy Humphries, Vocational Nursing Program Director/Instructor, who reported on the accomplishments of the program for the past year. She announced that, after a site visit, the program is fully approved with zero recommendations. She recognized the program's faculty.

Dr. Ramirez presented the A.D.N. and V.N. departments with certificates of recognition for their outstanding work and commitment to the program and their students.

**LEADERSHIP WOMEN 2023
– DR. MINITA RAMÍREZ**

Dr. Ramirez provided information on Women's Leadership of Texas and announced that Dr. Veronica Martinez, Associate Vice President of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness, and Ms. Hortencia Gonzalez, Allied Health/Diagnostic Imaging Program Director, have been selected as this year's Leadership Women class. Dr. Ramirez presented Ms. Gonzalez with a certification of recognition; Dr. Martinez was not in attendance.

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

Dr. Ramirez, President, introduced the new hires and promotions for the month: Paul E. Bretzger, Computer Aided Drafting & Design Instructor; Yalimar Villarreal, Academic Success Coach; Christopher A. Jones, Psychology Instructor; Alejandra Hernandez; Financial Aid Coordinator (South); Jose de Jesus Garcia, Career Navigator (South); Maria Paola Arellano, Counseling/Disability Services Assistant; and Arturo Arriaga, Assessment Assistant /GED Examiner (South).

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

Mr. Prakash Mansinghani, Faculty Senate President:

- Welcomed and congratulated the newly elected Board members
- Congratulated the Nursing team on their accomplishments
- Announced the Faculty Senate will have a booth at the LC Fun Fest
- Updated on the Faculty Senate backpack drive
- Announced the Center of Teaching Excellence and Learning workshops
- Thanked the Board and Administration for working together

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

Ms. Maricela Lopez, Associated Student Organization President, reported on: welcome week comedian presentation, student services fair, Community College Day trip at the Capitol, and student leadership academy workshop.

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

Ms. Elizabeth Calderon, Classified Staff Council (CSC) President, introduced herself as the newly elected CSC President and Derrick Crooks as vice president. The following CSC newly elected officers introduced themselves: Claudia Tovar, treasurer; Janai Jaimez, secretary; and Melissa Gonzalez, sergeant-at-arms. Ms. Calderon reported on the blanket collection and donation to Bethany House, and the CSC booth at LC's Fun Fest.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Agenda Item 9.A. – Approval of Lamar Bruni Vergara Environmental Science Center G-MAX
- Agenda Item 9.B. – Approval of Laredo College South Campus Driving Pad Plaque
- Agenda Item 9.C. – FY 2022 Audited Financial Report

- Agenda Item 9.D. – November 2022 Financial Report
- Agenda Item 9.E. – Approval of Annual Cyberbit Cyber Range Licenses
- Agenda Item 9.F. – Approval of Purchase of Truck Driving Simulator for Truck Driving Program
- Agenda Item 9.G. – Approval of a One (1) Year Service Subscription with Dell for Apex Cloud Backup and Disaster Recovery Service

Mr. Delgado asked that Agenda Item 9.A. - *Approval of Lamar Bruni Vergara Environmental Science Center G-MAX* be removed from Consent Agenda and deferred. Mr. Martinez so moved. Ms. Leven-Ramos seconded the motion; motion carried.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

GIFTS, DONATIONS, GRANTS, AND ENDOWMENTS REPORT – DR. DIANA Y. ORTIZ/MS. SARA A. POMPA

Ms. Sara A. Pompa, Associate Director of Donor and Alumni Relations, presented the Donor & Alumni Relations Quarterly Report for FY2022; the Scholarship, Endowment, & Other Gifts 4th Quarter Report FY2022; the Presidential Scholarship; the 2022-2023 Annual Employee Giving Campaign donations as of 01/26/2023; the Carroll E. Summers, Jr. Mr. South Texas – LC Nursing Endowment donations as of 1/26/2023; and the LC 75th Anniversary sponsorships as of 1/26/2023.

APPROVAL OF DONOR REQUESTED REGULAR SCHOLARSHIP MATCHING FUNDS – DR. DIANA Y. ORTIZ/MS. SARA A. POMPA

Dr. Diana Y. Ortiz, Vice President of Institutional Advancement, asked that the Board approve a dollar for dollar match using the scholarship match account for the following:

- The Patsy Gonzalez Upward Bound Scholarship – \$ 10,000 (Donors: Patricia Gonzalez & Carlos E. Garza)
- The Estela G. Perez Scholarship - \$10,000 (Donors: Estela G. Perez and Rolando & Diana Y. Ortiz)
- Presidential Scholarship - \$2,000 (Donor: LULAC COUNCIL NO. 7 – H. Gonzalez)

Dr. Ramirez noted for the record that the item being discussed is Agenda Item 10.B. - *Approval of Donor Requested Regular Scholarship Matching Funds*. Mr. Delgado so moved to approve. Ms. Vela seconded the motion; motion carried.

RATIFICATION OF DONOR REQUESTED ENDOWMENT MATCHING FUNDS – DR. DIANA Y. ORTIZ/MS. SARA A. POMPA

Dr. Ortiz requested that the Board ratify the dollar-for-dollar match for the Carroll E. Summers, Jr. Mr. South Texas LC Nursing Endowment for \$50,000 using TikTok restricted scholarship account. Ms. Leven-Ramos so moved to approve. Mr. Delgado seconded the motion; motion carried.

ADOPT A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON COMMUNITY COLLEGE FINANCE RECOMMENDATIONS – MS. LUPITA ZEPEDA

Ms. Zepeda moved to adopt the resolution supporting the Texas Commission on Community College Finance Recommendations. Ms. Liendo seconded the motion. Mr. Guillermo Garcia, college attorney, recommended that he read the resolution. Ms. Liendo rescinded her second and moved to adopt the resolution. Mr. Delgado seconded the motion. Mr. Garcia read the resolution.

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
FOR THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON COMMUNITY COLLEGE FINANCE
RECOMMENDATIONS

Whereas, the State of Texas established the Texas Commission on Community College Finance to evaluate community college funding and improve student outcomes through alignment with state postsecondary goals,

Whereas, the Texas Commission on Community College Finance developed their recommendations with input from various stakeholders, including business leaders, lawmakers, college officials, students, and trustees,

Whereas, the recommendations are a historic opportunity to obtain funding to ensure postsecondary student success,

Whereas, the recommendations include performance-based funding based on measurable outcomes,

Whereas, the recommendations include much-needed support for workforce development to produce credentials of value in high-demand fields,

Whereas, the recommendations include support for students enrolling in dual credit programs,

Whereas, the recommendations would provide support to economically and educationally disadvantaged students, as well as adult learners,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Board of Trustees of Laredo College officially declares its support for the recommendations issued to the 88th Texas Legislature by the Texas Commission on Community College Finance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be included in the permanent minutes of this Board.

ADOPTED THIS 31st day of January 2023 by the Board of Trustees of Laredo College.

Signed Ms. Lupita Zepeda, Board President, and Ms. Jackie Leven-Ramos, Board Secretary.

Ms. Zepeda called for the vote; motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:02 p.m., Mr. Delgado so moved to go into executive session on the following items:

- Agenda Item 11.A. – Consultation with Laredo College Attorney to Discuss Former Laredo College Employee’s Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) Complaint, Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071
- Agenda Item 11.B. – Closed Session Discussion Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 and 551.074 to Discuss Recommendation for the Nonrenewal of Employment Contract of a Laredo College Faculty Member Under Board Policy DMAB(LOCAL): TERM CONTRACTS – NONRENEWAL, and Related Legal Issues
- Agenda Item 11.C. – Closed Session Discussion Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 and 551.074 regarding the Termination of an At-Will Laredo College Employee Under Board Policy DM(LOCAL): TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT, and Related Legal Issues
- Agenda Item 11.D. – Closed Session Discussion Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 and 551.074 with Laredo College Attorney Concerning Updates on Pending Litigations Filed Against Laredo College

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

The Board reconvened to open session at 8:02 p.m. Ms. Zepeda noted that no action was taken during executive session.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION NONRENEWAL OF EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT OF A LAREDO COLLEGE FACULTY MEMBER

Ms. Leven-Ramos moved “that the Laredo College Board of Trustees non-renew the employment contract of the Laredo College Faculty member referenced in Agenda Item 11.B.” Ms. Vela and Mr. Martinez seconded the motion; motion carried.

INFORMATION, COMMUNICATIONS, AND PRESIDENT’S REPORTS ENROLLMENT REPORT – DR. FRED SOLIS

Dr. Fred Solis, Vice President of Student Success & Enrollment, informed the Board of the enrollment periods for Spring 2023. He presented the Spring 2023 enrollment numbers, semester credit hours, and contact hours.

Ms. Jessica Treviño, Associate Vice President of Enrollment Management, presented enrollment updates in the Admissions, Recruitment & Dual Enrollment, Financial Aid, Assessment, Registrars, Veteran Services, and Enrollment Management offices.

SAFETY PRESENTATION –
DR. DAVID V.
ARREAZOLA/MR. JAVIER
CANO

Dr. David V. Arreazola, Vice President of Compliance and Risk Management, provided a brief overview of the Safety and Risk Management Department. Mr. Javier Cano, Safety & Risk Manager, provided a safety update (emergency preparedness, trainings held, and campus lighting).

**NOTIFICATION OF THE
SERVING OF ALCOHOLIC
BEVERAGES AT THE
LAREDO THEATER GUILD
INTERNATIONAL
PRODUCTION OF “ANN” AT
THE SHOEBOX THEATER
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. Ramírez informed the Board that the Laredo Theater Guild International (LTGI) will be serving alcohol during designated days of their production of “Ann”.

**CAMPUS POLICE,
PERSONNEL, AND TRAVEL
REPORTS – DR. MINITA
RAMÍREZ**

Dr. Ramírez briefed the Board on the reports that were provided for information purposes.

Mr. Martinez complimented Mr. Vela and his staff for their work on the annual financial report.

Dr. Ramírez noted that AEP/Mr. Tony Arce is assisting the college with the lights around campus. She also informed the Board of:

- WBCA museum is located at the Commander’s House on campus
- upcoming events
- opening day of legislative session
- Community College Day at the Capitol
- Philosophical Society of Texas meeting and induction
- Spring semester (enrollment, meal plan project, transportation)
- upcoming Board retreat

NEXT MEETING DATE:

Thursday, February 23, 2023, 6:00 p.m. – Regular Board of Trustees Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:54 p.m., Mr. Delgado moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Martinez seconded the motion; motion carried.