



LAREDO COLLEGE DISTRICT
Laredo, Texas

The special meeting of the Laredo College Board of Trustees convened on Thursday, July 13, 2023, 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.

1. CALL TO ORDER Ms. Zepeda called the meeting to order.

2. ROLL CALL

Ms. Zepeda called roll.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Lupita Zepeda, President
Jorge “JD” Delgado, Vice President
Jackie Leven-Ramos, Secretary
Erica Benavides Garcia
Cindy Liendo
Esteban Rangel (*arrived at 6:23 p.m.*)
Tita C. Vela

OTHERS

Minita Ramirez, Ph.D.
Rusty Meurer
Guillermo Garcia
Cesar E. Vela, Jr.
Mr. Hector Perez
Ms. Nora Murillo
Mr. Albert Chavez
Jessica Treviño
Jose Hernandez

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mercurio Martinez, Jr.
*(participated via telephone conference call –
as per Texas Government Code Sec.
551.122, a Board member participating
by telephone conference call is considered
absent from the meeting for purposes of
Section 130.0845, Education Code)*
Karina “Kari” Elizondo

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.

3. PUBLIC TESTIMONY No one signed up for public testimony.

4. INTRODUCTION OF NEW LAREDO COLLEGE POLICE CHIEF – DR. MINITA RAMÍREZ

Dr. Minita Ramirez, President, asked if the Board could defer this item to later on during the meeting. Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to defer this item to the end of the meeting agenda. Mr. Delgado seconded the motion; motion carried.

5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

**5.A. APPROVAL OF
UPDATED
ORGANIZATIONAL
CHART – DR. MINITA
RAMÍREZ**

Dr. Ramirez presented revisions to the Laredo College organizational chart. Mr. Delgado moved to approve as presented. Ms. Leven-Ramos seconded the motion; motion carried (Ms. Zepeda voted against).

**5.B. APPROVAL OF
UPDATED DEFERRED
MAINTENANCE
CONSTRUCTION
PROJECTS – MR. CESAR
VELA**

Mr. Cesar Vela, Vice President of Finance and Administration, presented the construction projects to be approved using the deferred maintenance fund. Mr. Delgado so moved. Ms. Leven-Ramos seconded the motion. Mr. Rusty Meurer, College Attorney, recommended the following motion for the recommendation for approval of the competitive sealed proposal method – “approve the use of \$500,000 from the

deferred maintenance fund exterior repairs to building P-14 and P-34/35 and to approve the competitive sealed proposal procurement method as the method that provides the best value to the College for securing construction on these projects”. Mr. Delgado moved to approve the use of \$500,000 from the deferred maintenance fund for the projects presented. Mr. Martinez seconded the motion; motion carried. Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to “accept the competitive sealed proposal procurement method as the method that provides the best value to the College for securing construction contracts for these projects”. Ms. Liendo and Mr. Delgado seconded the motion; motion carried.

Mr. Hector Perez and Ms. Nora Murillo from the Imaginarium of South Texas thanked the Board for their support of the construction of the building for their use. They provided a summary of services that the Imaginarium will offer at the college.

5.C. APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF COMPUTERS FOR INTERNAL REFRESH PROGRAM – MR. CESAR VELA/MR. ALBERT CHAVEZ

Mr. Albert Chavez, Associate Vice President of Information Technology, asked the Board to approve the purchase of computer equipment in order to replace office computers older than four years at the main and south campuses for a total of \$245,017.26. He answered questions from the Board.

Ms. Zepeda acknowledged the presence of Mr. Rangel.

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

5.D. APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO THE COMMERCIAL LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN LAREDO COLLEGE AND THE LAREDO CHILDREN’S MUSEUM, INC. D/B/A IMAGINARIUM OF SOUTH TEXAS – MR. CESAR VELA

Mr. Vela asked the Board to approve an amendment to the Commercial Lease Agreement between Laredo College and the Imaginarium of South Texas. He went over the amendments.

Ms. Murillo and Mr. Perez provided information on the services that will be offered at the LC location. Mr. Delgado moved “that the Laredo College Board of Trustees approve of the amendment to the Commercial Lease Agreement with the Imaginarium of South Texas, authorize the College President to execute the amendment, and authorize the College President to approve the Dinosaur Dig Exhibit construction contract and design and construction plans before the construction of the Exhibit begins”. Ms. Leven-Ramos and Mr. Rangel seconded the motion; motion carried.

5.E. APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO THE 2023-2024 LAREDO COLLEGE ACADEMIC CALENDAR – DR. FRED SOLIS

Ms. Jessica Treviño, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management, presented the recommended revisions to the LC 2023-2024 academic calendar. Mr. Rangel moved to approve the revisions as presented. Mr. Delgado seconded the motion. Ms. Treviño answered questions from the Board. Motion carried.

5.F. APPROVAL OF BOARD MEMBER(S) TRAVEL AND REIMBURSEMENT OF REASONABLE TRAVEL EXPENSES AS PER LAREDO COLLEGE BOARD POLICIES BBG(LOCAL): BOARD MEMBERS, COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES, AND BBH(LOCAL): BOARD MEMBERS,

Dr. Ramirez asked for Board representation at the TASB/TACCA Post-Legislative Seminar scheduled for August 4, 2023; therefore, according to LC Board Policy (BBH)LOCAL, requested approval for Board travel and reimbursement for those interested in attending. Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to approve. Mr. Rangel seconded the motion; motion carried.

**CONVENTIONS,
CONFERENCES, AND
WORKSHOPS – DR.
MINITA RAMÍREZ**

4. INTRODUCTION OF NEW LAREDO COLLEGE POLICE CHIEF – DR. MINITA RAMÍREZ

Dr. Ramírez introduced the new LC Police Chief, Mr. Jose Hernandez. His first day of employment was July 10, 2023. Mr. Hernandez introduced himself to the Board and provided his background.

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:54 p.m., Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to go into executive session on the following items:

- Agenda Item 6.A. – Level III Grievance Hearing Filed by a Laredo College Faculty Member as per Board Policy DGBA(LOCAL): PERSONNEL-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS - EMPLOYEE GRIEVANCES. Closed Session Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 and 551.074
- Agenda Item 6.B. – Closed Session Discussion Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 with Laredo College Attorney Concerning a Condemnation Proceeding filed in the Webb County Court at Law No. 1 by the State of Texas Involving Real Property within the Geographic Boundaries of Laredo College District.
- Agenda Item 6.C. – Closed Session Discussion Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 and 551.074 Concerning Laredo College President's 2022 – 2023 Annual Evaluation
- Agenda Item 6.D. – Closed Session Discussion Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 and 551.074 Concerning Laredo College President's Employment Contract

Mr. Delgado seconded the motion; motion carried.

The Board reconvened to open session at 9:32 p.m. Ms. Zepeda noted that no action was taken during executive session and will take appropriate action on items necessary as discussed in closed session.

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

**7.A. LEVEL III
GRIEVANCE HEARING
FILED BY A LAREDO
COLLEGE FACULTY
MEMBER AS PER BOARD
POLICY DGBA(LOCAL):
PERSONNEL-
MANAGEMENT
RELATIONS - EMPLOYEE
GRIEVANCES**

Mr. Delgado moved that the Level III grievance be denied by default due to the grievant not appearing for their grievance hearing. Mr. Rangel seconded the motion and Mr. Martinez; motion carried.

**7.B. CONDEMNATION
PROCEEDING FILED IN
THE WEBB COUNTY
COURT AT LAW NO. 1 BY
THE STATE OF TEXAS
INVOLVING REAL
PROPERTY WITHIN THE
GEOGRAPHIC
BOUNDARIES OF
LAREDO COLLEGE
DISTRICT**

No action was taken on this item.

**7.C. LAREDO COLLEGE
PRESIDENT'S 2022 –
2023 ANNUAL
EVALUATION**

Mr. Delgado moved “that the Board of Trustees approve and adopt the Board’s annual evaluation of the Laredo College President.” Ms. Leven-Ramos seconded the motion; motion carried.

**7.D. LAREDO COLLEGE
PRESIDENT'S
EMPLOYMENT
CONTRACT**

Ms. Leven-Ramos moved “that the Board of Trustees extend the College President’s employment contract by three (3) additional years for a total of five (5) years and that the compensation under the

contract be increased as discussed in executive session.” Mr. Delgado seconded the motion; motion carried.

8. PRESIDENT’S REMARKS – *DR. MINITA RAMÍREZ*

Dr. Ramírez thanked the Board for their confidence and contract extension. She also thanked the LC team for their work towards the mission of the college.

Dr. Ramírez presented each Trustee with a book by Alise Cortez, Ph.D., *Purpose Ignited*, which will be the theme for this coming year. She invited the Trustees to a training by Dr. Cortez on July 31st. Dr. Cortez will also be the speaker for convocation.

9. NEXT MEETING & UPCOMING EVENTS:

Wednesday, August 2, 2023, 6:00 p.m. – Vocational Nursing Pinning Ceremony

Thursday, August 3, 2023, 8:00 a.m. – Orientation, South Campus

Thursday, August 3, 2023, 6:00 p.m. - Special Board of Trustees Meeting

Thursday, August 10, 2023, 5:30 p.m. – Tentative 1st Public Hearing for Tax Rates

Friday, August 11, 2023, Summer Commencement

Monday, August 14, 2023, 8:00 a.m. – Convocation

Thursday, August 24, 2023, 5:30 p.m. – Tentative 2nd Public Hearing

Thursday, August 24, 2023, 6:00 p.m. – Regular Board Meeting

Dr. Ramírez noted that summer commencement will be at the Maravillo Gym.

10. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:40 p.m., Mr. Rangel moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Delgado seconded the motion; motion carried.