



LAREDO COLLEGE DISTRICT
Laredo, Texas

The regular meeting of the Laredo College Board of Trustees convened on Thursday, February 22, 2024, beginning at 6:04 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. Leven-Ramos called roll.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Lupita Zepeda, President
Jorge "JD" Delgado, Vice President
Jackie Leven-Ramos, Secretary
Erica Benavides Garcia
Cindy Liendo
Mercurio Martinez, Jr.
Esteban Rangel (*arrived at 6:11 p.m.*)
Ernestina "Tita" Cantu Vela (*arrived at 6:06 p.m.*)

OTHERS

Minita Ramirez, Ph.D.
Rusty Meurer
Juliana Kelley
Ana Gisela "Gigi" Pérez Alemán
Heriberto Hernandez, Ed.D.
Federico Solis, Jr., Ed.D.
Jessica Treviño

MEMBERS ABSENT

Karina "Kari" Elizondo (*participated via Zoom*)

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.

Ms. Zepeda acknowledged the presence of Ms. Vela.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF JANUARY 31, 2024

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

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

5. RECOGNITIONS, INTRODUCTIONS OF PERSONNEL, AND NEW PERSONNEL ACTIONS FOR THE MONTH

5.A. INTRODUCTION OF PERSONNEL/PERSONNEL ACTIONS – DR. MINITA RAMÍREZ

Dr. Ramirez, President, introduced the new hires and promotions for the month: Diana Costilla, Instructional Lab Technician Cosmetology; Leonardo Gonzalez, Information Security Analyst; Veronica A. Garcia, Sergeant; Luis A. Montemayor, Fire Science Instructor; Keisha A. Calderon, Wildlife Technician; and Briana P. Castro Workforce Navigation Specialist.

6. FACULTY SENATE REPORT – MRS. JULIANA KELLEY

Mrs. Juliana Kelley, Faculty Senate President, reported on: December graduation ceremony, new department senators, department highlights in the Math Department and Natural Sciences Department, and Memorial brick project.

Ms. Zepeda acknowledged the presence of Mr. Rangel.

7. LAREDO COLLEGE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION REPORT – MS. ANA GISELA "GIGI" PÉREZ ALEMÁN

Ms. Ana Gisela "Gigi" Pérez Alemán, Student Government Association President, reported on: Strategic Planning Committee, El Cenizo Book Drive, Hearts and Hooves, Mr. South Texas Luncheon, WBCA parades, Texas Junior College Student Government Association Region VI website, Fun Fest, and TACHE State conference.

Ms. Leven-Ramos made a motion to move policies BBD(LOCAL) and BG(LOCAL) from Agenda Item 8.G. from consent agenda to discussion and possible action. Mr. Rangel seconded the motion; motion carried.

Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to defer policies CJ(LOCAL) and DEAB(LOCAL) from Agenda Item 8.H. to a later date. Mr. Rangel seconded the motion; motion carried.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Agenda Item 8.A. – January 2024 Financial Report
- Agenda Item 8.B. – November 2023 Quarterly Investment Report
- Agenda Item 8.C. – Approval of Contract for Moving Services
- Agenda Item 8.D. – Approval to Purchase Equipment for Media Center Department
- Agenda Item 8.E. – Approval of Matching Funds Required for a Grant Application to the U.S. Department of Justice – Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program to be Submitted for Laredo College by the Grants Department. The U.S. Department of Justice - Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Application Requires \$12,500 in Cash Matching Funds over a Three-Year Grant Period.
- Agenda Item 8.F. – Approval to Continue Providing the Dual Enrollment Program at No Cost

Ms. Liendo seconded the motion. Mr. Rangel amended his motion to approve the following items under Consent Agenda in addition to Agenda Items 8.A. – 8.F.

- Agenda Item 8.G. – TASB Board Policy Update 46: Review Updated LEGAL Policies and Act on LOCAL Policies (see list below)

POLICY	ACTION
BBI(LOCAL): BOARD MEMBERS - TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS	Replace
CFE(LOCAL): PURCHASING AND ACQUISITION - VENDOR RELATIONS	Add
CGC(LOCAL): SAFETY PROGRAM - EMERGENCY PLANS AND ALERTS	Replace
CS(LOCAL): INFORMATION SECURITY	Replace
CU(LOCAL): RESEARCH	Add
DAA(LOCAL): EMPLOYMENT OBJECTIVES - EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY	Replace
DEC(LOCAL): COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS - LEAVES AND ABSENCES	Replace
DH(LOCAL): EMPLOYEE STANDARDS OF CONDUCT	Replace
EBA(LOCAL): ALTERNATE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION - DISTANCE EDUCATION	Replace
ECC(LOCAL): INSTRUCTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS - COURSE LOAD AND SCHEDULES	Replace
FA(LOCAL): EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY	Add
FAA(LOCAL): EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY - PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS	Add
FFDA(LOCAL): FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RETALIATION - SEX AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE	Replace
FLB(LOCAL): STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES - STUDENT CONDUCT	Replace
GCB(LOCAL): PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAM - REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION	Replace
- Agenda Item 8.H. – Approve Modifications to the Following Laredo College Board Policies
 - DGA(LOCAL): EMPLOYEE RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES- FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION
 - FI(LOCAL): STUDENT SOLICITATIONS
 - FJ(LOCAL): STUDENT RECORDS
 - FKC(LOCAL): STUDENT ACTIVITIES- REGISTERED STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS
 - FLA(LOCAL): STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES- STUDENT EXPRESSION AND USE OF COLLEGE FACILITIES

Ms. Liendo seconded the motion; motion carried.

8.G. TASB BOARD POLICY UPDATE 46: REVIEW UPDATED LEGAL POLICIES AND ACT ON LOCAL POLICIES – DR. DAVID V. ARREAZOLA

Ms. Leven-Ramos presented an addition to BBD(LOCAL): BOARD MEMBERS – ORIENTATION AND TRAINING, which will include Board members will complete Open Meetings Act training annually. Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to approved. Mr. Delgado seconded the motion; motion carried.

Ms. Leven-Ramos presented an addition to BBD(LOCAL): BOARD MEMBERS – ORIENTATION AND TRAINING, which will include Board members will complete Public Information Act training annually. Mr. Delgado seconded the motion; motion carried.

Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to approve the addition of BG(LOCAL): ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION policy. Mr. Rangel and Mr. Delgado seconded the motion; motion carried.

9. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

9.A. TENURE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL BY LAREDO COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES – DR. HERIBERTO HERNANDEZ

Dr. Heriberto Hernandez, Dean of Workforce Education/Academic Affairs Lead, introduced the tenure candidates listed below:

- Hassan Escamilla, Assistant Professor of Electronic Technology
- Graciela Y. Gonzalez, Medical Assistant Program Director/Assistant Professor
- Alonzo G. Laurel, Assistant Professor of Radiologic Technology/Clinical Coordinator
- Ever E. Lopez, Assistant Professor of History
- Dr. Michael Martinez, Program Director & Assistant Professor of BSN & A.D.N.

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

9.B. APPROVAL FOR OUT-OF-COUNTRY TRAVEL FOR MR. RENE J. MONTEMAYOR AND MR. JULIO REYES, JR. TO SALAMANCA, SPAIN JUNE 3 – 5, 2024, FOR THE HISPANIC ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES 14TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY FOR AN INCLUSIVE AND DIVERSE WORKFORCE – DR. MINITA RAMÍREZ

Dr. Ramirez reported that Mr. Rene Montemayor, Professor of English/Spanish/Speech, and Mr. Julio Reyes, Director of Recruitment & Dual Enrollment, have been selected to attend the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities 14th International Conference in Salamanca, Spain. She asked that the Board approve their out-of-country travel. Mr. Rangel moved to approve. Ms. Vela, Ms. Benavides Garcia, and Mr. Delgado seconded the motion; motion carried.

9.C. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE LAREDO COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION FOR A TOTAL OF \$300,000 IN GRANT FUNDING BY THE LAREDO COLLEGE GRANTS OFFICE FOR THE 2024-2025 LAREDO COLLEGE POLICE DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT ENHANCEMENT PROJECT TO THE STATE

Mr. Rangel moved to approve the resolution presented. Mr. Delgado seconded the motion. Ms. Zepeda read the motion.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Laredo College finds it in the best interest of the citizens of Laredo and South Texas that the Laredo College Police Department Equipment Enhancement Project be operated for the 2024-2025 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, The Laredo College Board of Trustees approves the submission of a grant application by the Laredo College Grants Office in the amount of \$300,000 to the State of Texas – Office of the Governor – Public Safety Office for the 2024-2025 Laredo College Police Department Equipment Enhancement Project under the following funding programs:

*\$300,000 – FY 2025 Operation Lone Star Grant Program
State of Texas E-Grants Application #5154501*

**OF TEXAS, OFFICE OF
THE GOVERNOR, PUBLIC
SAFETY OFFICE – DR.
DIANA Y. ORTIZ/MR.
GABRIEL LOZANO**

WHEREAS, Laredo College agrees to provide applicable matching funds when required for the said project but no matching funds are required for this grant application as noted by the State of Texas guidelines.

WHEREAS, Laredo College agrees that in the event of loss or misuse of the State of Texas, Office of the Governor funds, Laredo College assures that the funds will be returned to the Office of the Governor in full.

WHEREAS, Laredo College designates Dr. Minita Ramirez - President as the grantee's authorized official. The authorized official is given the power to apply for, accept, reject, alter or terminate the grants on behalf of the applicant agency.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Laredo College Board of Trustees approves the submission of a grant application for a total of \$300,000 in grant funding by the Laredo College Grants Office for the 2024-2025 Laredo College Police Department Equipment Enhancement Project to the State of Texas, Office of the Governor – Public Safety Office.

DULY RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Laredo College on the 22nd day of February, 2024.

Motion carried.

10. INFORMATION ITEMS

**10.A. FEBRUARY 2024
ENROLLMENT REPORT –
DR. FRED SOLIS/MS.
JESSICA TREVIÑO**

Dr. Fred Solis, Vice President of Student Success and Enrollment, presented enrollment sessions, enrollment comparisons, and enrollment distribution for Spring, and continuing education enrollments.

Ms. Jessica Treviño, Associate Vice President of Enrollment Management, provided enrollment updates.

**10.B. NOTIFICATION OF
THE SERVING OF
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES
AT THE LICENSED U.S.
CUSTOMS BROKERS
ASSOCIATION, INC.
(LLUSCBA) SPRING
MIXER AS PER LAREDO
COLLEGE BOARD
COMMUNITY AND
GOVERNMENTAL
RELATIONS POLICY
GDA(LOCAL):
COMMUNITY
EXPRESSION AND USE
OF COLLEGE
FACILITIES-CONDUCT
ON COLLEGE DISTRICT
PREMISES – DR. MINITA
RAMÍREZ**

Dr. Ramírez notified the Board that LLUSCBA has requested to serve alcoholic beverages at a college facility (either Chapel or P-9) for their Spring Mixer on Friday, March 22, 2024. Laredo College is not funding the mixer.

11. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

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

Dr. Ramírez indicated that the reports are in the Board meeting packet.

**11.B. PRESIDENT'S
REMARKS – DR. MINITA
RAMÍREZ**

Dr. Ramírez remarked on the following:

- Fun Fest. AEP is the title sponsor
- LC Fort McIntosh campus Kazen Student Center is a voting site
- Car show at LC South Campus on April 20th. Gonzalez Auto Parts is the title sponsor
- Office of Civil Rights audit report
- TACHE award recipient, Mr. Rene Montemayor

- 12. NEXT MEETING DATE & UPCOMING EVENTS:** Saturday, February 24, 2024, 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – Laredo College Fun Fest
- March 11 – 15, 2024 – Spring Break
- Thursday, March 28, 2024, 6:00 p.m. – Regular Board of Trustees Meeting
- 13. ADJOURNMENT** At 7:16 p.m., Mr. Rangel moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Leven-Ramos and Mr. Delgado seconded the motion; motion carried.