



**LAREDO COLLEGE DISTRICT**  
Laredo, Texas

The special meeting of the Laredo College Board of Trustees convened on Thursday, August 7, 2025, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Adolfo C. and Maria de Jesus De La Garza Building Room 101 at the Fort McIntosh Campus, West End Washington Street, Laredo, Texas.

**1. CALL TO ORDER** Mr. Rangel called the meeting to order.

**2. ROLL CALL** Ms. Leven-Ramos called roll.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Esteban Rangel, President  
Ernestina “Tita” Cantu Vela, Vice President  
Jackie Leven-Ramos, Secretary  
Cindy Liendo, Parliamentarian  
Erica Benavides Garcia  
Mercurio Martinez, Jr.  
Adriana Alexander  
Lizzy Newsome (*arrived at 6:05 p.m.*)  
Karina “Kari” Elizondo

OTHERS

Minita Ramirez, Ph.D.  
Rusty Meurer  
Patricia Barrera  
Maria Elena Morales  
Cesar Vela

MEMBERS ABSENT

—

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

**4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

**4.A. PRESENTATION BY MS. PATRICIA BARRERA, TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR, ON THE 2025 TRUTH-IN-TAXATION CALCULATIONS – MS. PATRICIA BARRERA**

Ms. Patricia Barrera, Webb County Tax Assessor Collector, and Ms. Maria Elena Morales, Chief Deputy for Tax Assessor Collector, presented the Truth in Taxation calculations and tax rates for the upcoming fiscal year.

Mr. Rangel acknowledged the presence of Ms. Newsome.

Mr. Cesar Vela, Vice President of Finance & Administration, noted that Administration is proposing the no new revenue rate of \$0.229249, and by adopting this rate, no public hearings are needed. He also noted that the debt service rate would be \$0.34470, and the M & O rate would be \$0.194779 for a total of \$0.229249.

**4.B. TAKE ACTION ON TAX RATE TO DISCUSS, TAKE A RECORD VOTE, SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING AND MEETING TO ADOPT A TAX RATE – MS. PATRICIA BARRERA**

Mr. Rusty Meurer, College Attorney, recommended the following motion – “move that the Laredo College Board of Trustees approve the proposed 2025 property tax rate in the value of \$0.229249 per \$100 valuation as presented by the Webb County Tax Assessor Collector, Ms. Patricia Barrera; Ms. Maria Elena Morales; and Mr. Cesar Vela, and schedule the meeting to adopt the property tax rate. The meeting to adopt would take place on August 20, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.”

Ms. Leven-Ramos so moved. Ms. Liendo seconded the motion. A record vote was taken.

FOR the proposal  
Esteban Rangel  
Jackie Leven-Ramos  
Ernestina "Tita" Cantu Vela  
Cindy Liendo  
Erica Benavides Garcia

Mercurio Martinez, Jr.  
Adriana Alexander  
Lizzy Newsome  
Karina Elizondo

AGAINST the proposal  
—

PRESENT and not voting.  
—

NOT PRESENT  
—

Motion passed.

**5. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 6:27 p.m., Mr. Martinez moved to go into executive session on the following items:

- Agenda Item 5.A. – Closed Session Discussion Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 and 551.074 Concerning Laredo College President's 2024 – 2025 Annual Evaluation
- Agenda Item 5.B. – Closed Session Discussion Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 and 551.074 Concerning Laredo College President's Employment Contract

Ms. Vela and Ms. Benavides Garcia seconded the motion; motion passed.

The Board reconvened to open session at 7:56 p.m. Mr. Rangel noted that no action was taken during executive session.

**6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

**6.A. LAREDO COLLEGE  
PRESIDENT'S 2024 – 2025  
ANNUAL EVALUATION**

Ms. Leven-Ramos moved to approve the 2024 – 2025 annual evaluation of the Laredo College President as presented in executive session. Ms. Liendo seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**6.B. LAREDO COLLEGE  
PRESIDENT'S  
EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT**

Ms. Vela moved to amend the Laredo College President's employment contract by increasing the compensation and benefits as discussed in executive session, effective September 1, 2025. Ms. Alexander seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**7. NEXT MEETING DATE:**

Wednesday, August 20, 2025, 6:00 p.m. – Regular Monthly Board Meeting

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:01 p.m., Ms. Leven-Ramos, Ms. Liendo, and Mr. Martinez moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Elizondo and Ms. Benavides Garcia seconded the motion; motion passed.