

**MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BLINN COLLEGE**

**Board Room
Third Floor, Administration Building
Blinn College, 802 Green Street
Brenham, Texas**

Regular Meeting, Monday, June 16, 2014, 6:30 p.m.

The Board of Trustees convened at 6:30 p.m., in the Board Room with the following members present: Mr. Douglas R. Borchardt, President, presiding; Mr. Atwood C. Kenjura, Vice President; Mr. David Sommer, Secretary; Mrs. Theodora "Teddy" V. Boehm; Mr. Norwood Lange; Mrs. Carolyn D. Miller, CPA and Mr. Leon B. Toubin.

Board members not present: None.

Members of the College staff in attendance were: Dr. Harold Nolte, District President; Dr. Sylvia McMullen, President, Brazos County Campuses; Ms. Kelli Shomaker, Senior Vice President, Finance and Administrative Services/CFO; Dr. Dennis Crowson, Senior Vice President, Student Services; Dr. Cynthia Griffith, Vice President, Instruction; Ms. Cathy Boeker, Associate Vice President, Government & Public Affairs; Mr. Tony Adam; Ms. Elizabeth Aparicio; Mr. Raul Aparicio; Mr. Dan Artamenko; Ms. Sarah Barland; Ms. Kris Beckendorf; Mr. Mark Bernier; Dr. Rochelle Bradley; Mr. Richard Bray; Dr. Blanche Brick; Dr. Robert Brick; Ms. Erikah Brown; Ms. Karen Buck; Mr. Marcelo Bussiki; Ms. Lisa Caton; Mr. Lawrence Chilton; Mr. Rick Church; Ms. Valerie Clayton; Ms. Barb Corbisier; Ms. Julie Coskey; Ms. Megan Costanza; Ms. Anna Hall-Zieger; Mr. Ronald Hammond; Dr. Charles Heller; Ms. Maina Heming; Mr. Max Hibbs; Mr. Thaddaus Hill; Ms. Jami Ingram; Ms. Tiffany Jenkins; Ms. Donna Jones; Dr. Linda Jones; Ms. Karen Killion; Ms. Mary Lange; Ms. Melissa Layton; Dr. Diane Lovell; Ms. Michelle Marburger; Ms. Tracy Matthies; Dr. Michelle McGehee; Mr. Harvey McIntyre; Ms. Erin Mellinger; Ms. Susan Myers; Mr. Robert Nelson; Mr. Richard O'Malley; Mr. Doug Peck; Mr. Joe Al Picone; Mr. Doug Pierce; Ms. Sami Rahman; Mr. Steve Rathbone; Mr. James Reed; Ms. Joan Richards; Mr. Johnnie Schroeder; Mr. Scott Schumacher; Mr. Jeff Tilley; Ms. Judith Wagner; Mr. Gary Waites; Ms. Debbie Watson; Ms. Kristen Westbrook; Dr. Patricia Westergaard; Dr. Carla Whittaker; Mr. Mark Workman and Ms. Connie Youngblood.

Also registered as in attendance were: Mr. Sam Bell and Mrs. Karen Bell, Brenham Independent School District; Mr. George Griffith, Rev. Michael Haywood, Ms. Joyce Johnson, Ms. Lynn Lawler, Ms. Bonnie Mallen, Mr. John Muegge, Mr. Ron Ross, Mr. Michael Schaefer, Ms. Sandra Schaefer, Ms. Denise Snyder, Ms. Christine Stetter, Mr. Robert Striker and Mr. Henry Whittner, concerned citizens; Ms. Patrina Adger, KBTX; Mr. Kyle Cunningham, **Brenham Banner-Press**; Mr. Allen Reed, The Eagle; Ms. Jenny Walsh, KAGS and Mr. Mark Whitehead, KWHI.

ITEM 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN AND TEXAS FLAGS

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Borchardt. The pledge was led by Mrs. Miller and the prayer was given by Mrs. Miller.

REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER NON-ACTION ITEMS:

ITEM 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Borchardt reviewed the Board's guidelines regarding public comment. He grouped the public comment topics and asked the College Station property owners to speak first. He then called on those with comments on other topics.

Mr. Henry Whittner, College Station property owner, asked fellow homeowners to stand. He recognized Blinn's contribution to the community but expressed concerns with Blinn locating a campus near their neighborhood. He expressed concerns with Council member Mooney's recent blog in favor of the College Station campus expansion. He reviewed reasons to support a Bryan property option.

Ms. Bonnie Mallen, College Station property owner, distributed and read a written statement to Board members regarding the proposed College Station property purchase. She encouraged the Board to consider the donation of property on Old Reliance Road in Bryan (a copy of Ms. Mallen's statement is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

Ms. Lynn Lawler, College Station property owner, distributed written information packets supporting her three main objections to the College Station property purchase and support for the Bryan property:

- Fiscal irresponsibility
- Civic irresponsibility
- Disservice to Blinn students, faculty and staff

Ms. Lawler feels that the plan to locate the new Blinn campus at the proposed site in College Station has numerous detriments which far outweigh any benefits (a copy of Ms. Lawler's written comments, supporting documentation and petition, are attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

Ms. Denise Snyder, College Station property resident, asked the Board to reconsider the potential College Station property purchase. She does not feel that the residents have been sufficiently consulted. She expressed concerns regarding safety and cost. She feels that the property in North Bryan is a better choice and hopes that Blinn could locate its Bryan campus all in one place.

Ms. Michelle Marburger, VOCN Director, noted that she is not a member of Faculty Senate, but that she disagreed with the recent vote of No Confidence. She is concerned that the vote of No Confidence is not representative of the entire faculty. She feels that the changes that have been made have been for the better. The vote of No Confidence is an embarrassment for the college and regrets the negative attention.

Ms. Sami Rahman, Director, Health Science Center, is concerned that a minority of the faculty are speaking for a majority of the faculty. She feels that a great deal of support is provided by the Administration. She supports the recent changes. She is concerned with the current climate of the Faculty Senate and the conduct of some members.

Mr. Thaddaus Hill, Professor, Social Science, thanked the Board and Dr. Nolte. He posed a question to his colleagues of "what are we doing?" He is concerned about the bad press and the internal fighting that has gone on in the last few months. He encouraged the Board and faculty to respect the changes put forth and put an end to the negative publicity.

Ms. Karen Killion, Instructor, Natural Science and President of Brenham Professional Association, expressed opposition to the vote of No Confidence and feels it is a small minority of the faculty. She supports the changes and respects the different roles of faculty and Administration. She thanked the Board for listening.

Ms. Connie Youngblood, Professor of Humanities, thanked the Board and Dr. Nolte for their efforts in communicating with the faculty. She apologized for not being able to do more to stop the Resolution from the Faculty Senate. She asked the Board to proceed with the changes and the business of educating the students.

Mr. John Muegge, Washington County citizen, asked the Board, Administration and others to be a part of the solution and to be innovative about solutions with calm visionary thoughts. He supports the Board as they move forward.

Mr. Mark Bernier, Professor of Humanities and Past-President of Faculty Senate, asked the Board to continue to recognize the depth of the concerns that the faculty bring to the Administration and to monitor the direction that the current Administration takes (a copy of Mr. Bernier's statement is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

Dr. Charles Heller, Professor, Natural Science, expressed concern about the Faculty Senate vote of No Confidence. He asked that the destructive actions come to an end.

Mr. Doug Pierce, Professor, Agriculture & Applied Technologies, thanked the Board and Administration for the support of the Administration. He feels that the recent controversy is a waste of time and wishes the press would recognize the positive accomplishments of the students. He encouraged everyone to move forward and he supports the current Administration.

Mr. Johnnie Schroeder, Professor, Agriculture & Applied Technologies, has seen many changes at Blinn College but is very concerned about what is currently taking place and encouraged everyone to work together.

Rev. Michael Haywood, citizen, supports Blinn College and the students. He has witnessed many positive changes and is therefore confused by the vote of No Confidence. He encouraged the Board to come together and refocus on proven success.

Dr. Diane Lovell, Dean of Social Sciences, asked the Board to support the Administration. She hopes that the institution can unite as a cohesive unit to move the institution forward. She believes that the current differences can be resolved.

ITEM 3. FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION

Mr. Robert Nelson, President of Faculty Senate and Professor, Computer Information Technology, addressed the Resolution of a vote of No Confidence. He spoke to the importance of shared governance. He discussed the differences in formal and informal shared governance. He expressed concerns about the Faculty Senate being the last remaining formal body of shared governance. He feels that in order for the faculty to work with the Board and Administration, a formal body is needed.

REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND OTHER NON-ACTION ITEMS:

ITEM 4. DISTRICT PRESIDENT ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Harold Nolte reviewed administrative announcements and upcoming events (a copy of the announcements and events are attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

Dr. Note also reported on the following:

NISOD EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS

Five of our faculty were recently honored with the 2014 National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development Excellence Award in recognition of their dedication to student success.

Music and Drama Professor Sarah Burke, Natural Science Instructor, Frances Karels, Vocational Nursing Instructor, Michelle Marburger, Legal Assistant Program Coordinator, Robert Stanberry and English Professor, Richard Williamson, were honored for their character and integrity, effectiveness as instructors, involvement in student organizations and activities, service to Blinn College and participation in professional organizations and professional development activities.

NEW POLICE CHIEF

Mr. Craig Wiesepape will follow in his father's footsteps as Blinn's new Chief of Police, a role in which his father James served more than 20 years ago. Chief Wiesepape came to Blinn in 2005 after serving with the Navasota Police Department, and was promoted to Captain in 2008. He has been our Interim Chief since January 1 and we're excited to have him as our new Chief of Police.

SCHOOLS.COM COMMENDS US FOR TRANSFER RATE, COMMUNITY SERVICE

Schools.com, a leading college and career resource site, has named us one of five "awesome" community colleges in the state of Texas based upon our high transfer rate, low teacher-student ratio and nationally-recognized community service programs. This marks the second consecutive year that Schools.com has recognized Blinn after recognizing us as one of the top 10 community colleges in the state last March.

UPCOMING EVENT

Blinn will take part in the upcoming Texas Association of Community Colleges Summer Conference July 10-12 in Irving, TX.

ITEM 5. BRAZOS COUNTY CAMPUSES UPDATE

Dr. Sylvia McMullen reviewed recent and upcoming events (a copy of the events are attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

Dr. McMullen also reported on the following:

M.C. HARRIS GRADUATES

Seven seniors from Bryan ISD's Mary Catherine Harris School received their machinist certificates earlier this month as part of a unique partnership between Blinn College, Bryan ISD and Workforce Solutions Brazos Valley. To earn their certificate, the students were bussed to Blinn College's A.W. Hodde, Jr., Technical Education Center in Brenham two days a week for 10 weeks. The program offered the students 160 hours of training, including 104 hours of hands-on machinist experience.

VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY

KAGS, the NBC affiliate out of Bryan-College Station, recently came out to report on our Veterinary Technology Program and its success in giving students a competitive advantage in landing internships and beginning their careers. One of the things that makes our program unique is that we have a partnership with Texas A&M's College of Veterinary Medicine and our vet tech students can actually study alongside A&M's veterinary students. Dr. McMullen shared a 2-minute clip of the story, which focused on one of our students who is now interning at Walt Disney World.

ITEM 6. REPORTS:

- **ATHLETICS**

Mr. Scott Schumacher, Athletic Director, reviewed highlights from the 2013-2014 academic year. He thanked the Athletic staff for their hard work. He discussed the process of establishing an infrastructure to bring the athletic programs together. He discussed student successes and contributions to the local community. He emphasized the importance of good student athletes. He also thanked the Administration for providing a safe campus environment.

- **SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS COMMISSION ON COLLEGES - REAFFIRMATION UPDATE**

Mr. Tony Adam, Director Institutional Assessment, reported that the off-site review team found Blinn in compliance in 76 standards and out of compliance with 21 standards, 8 of which are easily rectified. Work has already begun on the Focus Report accreditation (a copy of the reaffirmation update is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*).

- **QUALITY ENHANCEMENT PLAN**

Mr. Tony Adam reported that the first draft of the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) report is done and is under review by the editing team (a copy of the QEP update is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). A Marketing plan of the QEP is currently under development. He responded to questions from the Board.

- **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**

Mr. Richard O'Malley, Executive Director, Facilities, Planning and Construction, reviewed highlights from the written buildings and grounds report (a copy of the buildings and grounds report is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). The main summer construction project is the modular buildings on the Bryan campus.

- **ENROLLMENT**

Dr. Dennis Crowson discussed the decrease in summer I enrollment (a copy of the enrollment report is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). However with the minimester and late start for spring there is a 21.30% increase in headcount. He also reviewed fall registration which is very strong. Classes are becoming scarce with a possible 4% - 5% increase for the fall. He responded to questions from the Board.

- **HOUSING**

Dr. Crowson reviewed student housing GPAs from the spring semester. He discussed housing occupancy for minimester, summer I, summer camps and fall. 1,400 applications have been received for the 1,200 beds and another significant waiting list is anticipated.

ITEM 7. REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND LIST OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING MAY 31, 2014

Ms. Kelli Shomaker reviewed the financial statements and list of checks for the period ending May 31, 2014 (copies of the financial statement and list of checks are attached and made a part of these *Minutes*). She responded to questions from the Board.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

ITEM 8. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR THE MAY 20, 2014, REGULAR MEETING AND THE MAY 21, 2014, WORKSHOP

ITEM 9. REVIEW AND ACTION TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSED 2014-2015 BUDGET FOR THE WASHINGTON COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT

On a motion by Mr. Sommer, seconded by Mrs. Boehm, the Board voted to approve **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS: ITEM 8** - minutes for the May 20, 2014, Regular Meeting and the May 21, 2014, Workshop (a copy of the minutes are attached and made a part of these *Minutes*), and **ITEM 9** - support of the proposed 2014-2015 Budget for the Washington County Appraisal District (a copy of the proposed budget is attached and made a part of these *Minutes*), as presented by the Administration.

ACTION ITEMS:**RECESS FOR CLOSED SESSION (AS AUTHORIZED BY GOV'T. CODE, SEC.551.101)**

The public was recessed for a break at 8:28 p.m.

The public was recessed for closed session at 8:40 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION:**ITEM 11. CLOSED SESSION:**

- (A) REAL PROPERTY (GOV'T. CODE, SEC. 551.072)**
 - i. DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE PURCHASE, EXCHANGE OR LEASE OF REAL PROPERTY IN BRENHAM, BRYAN, SCHULENBURG AND SEALY**
 - ii. DISCUSS DUE DILIGENCE ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2501 EARL RUDDER FWY S, COLLEGE STATION, BRAZOS COUNTY, TEXAS**
- (B) PERSONNEL MATTERS (GOV'T. CODE, SEC. 551.074)**
 - i. DELIBERATE THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, EVALUATION, REASSIGNMENT, DUTIES, DISCIPLINE OR DISMISSAL OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES OR OFFICERS**

ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS:**ITEM 12. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION**

The public session was reconvened at 10:45 p.m.

ITEM 13. ACTION ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS:

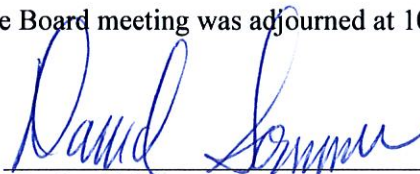
- (A) REVIEW AND ACTION TO PURCHASE, EXCHANGE OR LEASE REAL PROPERTY IN BRENHAM, BRYAN, SCHULENBURG AND SEALY**
- (B) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ANY OTHER ITEMS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION**

ITEM 14. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mr. Toubin, the Board meeting was adjourned at 10:46 p.m.



Mr. Douglas R. Borchardt
President



Mr. David Sommer
Secretary