

TARRANT COUNTY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

September 17, 2020

6:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order.** The Board of Trustees conducted its Work Session meeting on September 10, 2020 at the Trinity River Campus, with Mr. Conrad Heede presiding. Other trustees present were Mr. Bill Greenhill, Mr. Kenneth Barr, Dr. Gwendolyn Morrison, Ms. Teresa Ayala and Dr. Michael Evans. Dr. Diane Patrick was also present via video conferencing. Also present were Chancellor Giovannini and members of the TCCD staff.

Mr. Heede read the following statement.

On March 13, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott issued a Declaration of Emergency as a result of the COVID-19 virus outbreak. Subsequently, on March 16, 2020, pursuant to the authority granted in the Declaration, Governor Abbott temporarily suspended the application of certain provisions of the Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551, in order to permit telephonic open meetings. This was an effort to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus by avoiding large group meetings while still ensuring continued governmental operations and preserving transparency in the decision-making process. Tarrant County College District gave notice of its intent to conduct a video conference / open meeting thereafter and of its intent to permit the public to make comment at the meeting by telephone.

2. **Public Comment/Special Presentation.**

Dr. Diane Sanchez provided comments to the Board of Trustees to explain her concerns regarding her son's experience at TCC, she expressed frustration with the registration process for her son, who is a special needs student.

Mr. JR Martinez introduced himself as a candidate running for the Tarrant Appraisal District Board of Directors.

3. **Board Action Items and Board Business Related Items.**

- a. Approval of Work Session Meeting Minutes – August 13, 2020

On a motion by Ms. Ayala, seconded by Dr. Evans, the minutes were unanimously approved.

- b. Approval of Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes – August 20, 2020

On a motion by Mr. Barr, seconded by Dr. Patrick, the minutes were unanimously approved.

- c. Approval of Special Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes – August 28, 2020

On a motion by Dr. Evans, seconded by Ms. Ayala, the minutes were unanimously approved.

d. Trustee Activities

Dr. Morrison asked everyone to mark their calendar for October 16th from 10:00am – 2:00pm for the 9th Annual Intergenerational Community Conversation. This is an opportunity for the younger generation to listen to the elders. This year the event will encourage the elder generation to also listen to the younger generation, as they have valuable information to share. The theme will be “Meet Me At The Intersection”. This will be a virtual event and everyone is welcomed to join.

Ms. Ayala expressed her thanks to Vice Chancellor Reginald Gates for coordinating the distribution of bags and materials to 500 students, he was also instrumental in coordinating materials for North Side High School incoming freshman to introduce them to TCC and dual credit program.

4. Consideration and Approval of the Consent Agenda.

- a. Consideration and Approval of Annual Renewal Contract with Edfinancial Services for Financial Aid Call Center and Verification Processing for Student Financial Aid Services in the Amount of \$649,799.33.
- b. Consideration and Approval of Ratification for Purchase of Access to the Westlaw PRO Database from Thomson Reuters for a 36-Month Term in the Amount of \$110,066.04.
- c. Consideration and Approval of Contract with Microsoft for Premier Support Services in the Amount of \$227,000.00.
- d. Consideration and Approval of Maintenance Agreement with IBM Through Sirius Computer Solutions, Inc. for On-Site and Remote Services in the Amount of \$169,152.87.
- e. Consideration and Approval of Ratification of Contract Amendment with Ellucian Company, LLP for Central Help Desk Overage Charges in the Amount of \$142,707.50.
- f. Consideration and Approval of Investment Brokers List for 2020 – 2021.
- g. Consideration and Approval of Annual Review and Adoption of Tarrant County College District’s Investment Policy and Strategy (Excluding Mineral Investment Policy).
- h. Consideration and Approval of Letter Agreement with Weaver and Tidwell, LLP to complete the 2020 Financial Audit in an Amount Not to Exceed \$155,000.00.
- i. Consideration and Approval of Service Agreements with Ayers Saint Gross for Consulting Services Related to 3G8P Program Development and Planning Alignment in the Combined Amount of \$304,435.20.
- j. Consideration and Approval of Expenditures Exceeding \$100,000 from Statutorily Exempted Procurement Methods for Fiscal Year 2021 for eProcurement Catalog Supplies & Equipment.
- k. Consideration and Approval of Human Resource Consulting Services with Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity Pool of Vendors for Three (3) Year Term with Option to Renew for Two (2) more Years with Aggregate Annual Amount Not to Exceed \$500,000.00.
- l. Consideration and Approval of Deductive Change Order with Brandt Engineering for Electrical Systems Upgrade on Northwest Campus in the Amount of -\$56,533.00.
- m. Consideration and Approval of Deductive Change Order with Enviromatic Systems for Direct Digital Controls Upgrade on Northwest Campus in the Amount of -\$79,094.66.
- n. Consideration and Approval of Payment to McCall Parkhurst & Horton for Legal Fees Associated with the Bond Program in the Amount of \$196,165.95.

On a motion by Dr. Patrick, seconded by Dr. Evans, the consent agenda items were unanimously approved.

5. Consideration and Approval of Individual Action Items.

- a. Consideration and Approval of a Resolution Providing for the Levy and Collection of an Annual Ad Valorem Tax on All Property Within the Boundaries of the Tarrant County College District on January 1, 2020.

Mr. Heede read the following statement.

“The adoption of the tax levy follows a statutorily required process including the language of the motion that will be made by a fellow-Trustee in a moment. The required language, unfortunately, adds confusion because it states that the property tax rate is being increased when it is not. We are fulfilling our commitment to the voters to not increase our property tax rate as we implement the bond program. However, there is a slight property tax revenue increase that results from keeping the same rate. I wanted to ensure that our constituents understand that we are following the letter of the law in this process but also retaining our existing tax rate.”

On a motion by Ms. Ayala, who read the following statement.

“A motion to adopt an ordinance, resolution, or order setting a tax rate that exceeds the no-new-revenue tax rate must be made in the following form: “I move that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.13017 per \$100.00 of assessed value, which is effectively a 0.36 percent increase in the tax rate.”

This motion was seconded by Dr. Morrison, the item was unanimously approved.

- b. Consideration and Approval of Mineral Investment Policy.

On a motion by Mr. Greenhill, seconded by Dr. Evans, the item was unanimously approved.

- c. Consideration and Approval of Ratification Proposal with Texas Air Systems, Inc. for COVID 19 -District-Wide Bipolar Ionization Additions in the Amount of \$212,500.00.

On a motion by Dr. Evans, seconded by Ms. Ayala, the item was unanimously approved.

- d. Consideration and Approval of Ratification of Contract Addendum No. 1 with ABM Texas General Services, Inc. for COVID 19 - Enhanced Cleaning Services in the Amount of \$350,000.00 Not to Exceed.

On a motion by Mr. Barr, seconded by Dr. Evans, the item was unanimously approved.

- e. Consideration and Approval of Contract with Talent Corporation, LLC. for Professional Employer Service for Skilled Construction Workers in the Amount of \$5,500,000.00 (\$1,100,000 Annually) for a Two-Year Term with 3 One-Year Renewal Option.

Ms. Susan Alanis explained that the board had requested that subsequent renewals be brought before the board for consideration. She will submit a policy amendment in October to make that clear and better documented

On a modified motion by Mr. Barr that the renewal options come before the board for approval and the actual approval amount of \$2,200,000.00 for the first two years, seconded by Dr. Evans, the item was unanimously approved.

- f. Consideration and Approval of Contract with Imperial Construction for the Third Floor Corporate

Services Renovation at the Erma C. Johnson Hadley Center of Excellence in the Amount of \$2,391,104.00.

On a motion by Dr. Evans, seconded by Ms. Ayala, the item was unanimously approved.

- g. Consideration and Approval of HVAC Equipment Purchase from Texas Air Systems, Inc. for the Welding Technology Lab Expansion Project at the Erma C. Johnson Hadley Center of Excellence in the Amount of \$368,000.00.

On a motion by Dr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Greenhill, the item was unanimously approved.

- h. Consideration and Approval of Contract with Perkins & Will to provide Redevelopment Design Services for Southeast Campus in the Amount of \$2,621,940.00.

Mr. Barr expressed his unreadiness on the agenda item and initiated discussion. Ms. Ayala stressed the need for the board to have an opportunity to establish criteria. Dr. Evans expressed the desire to be presented with additional information. Mr. Greenhill expressed his concern with the potential delay and would like to learn more about a plan. Dr. Morrison also discussed the need to resolve issues as soon as possible. Mr. Heede discussed the project as an example we have the potential to demonstrate to our students, faculty, staff and the community. Dr. Patrick wanted to hear more information from Ms. Alanis. Mr. Heede also expressed his disappointment with the previous presentation given by Jacobs.

On a modified motion by Mr. Barr to adjust the amount to \$440,000.00 for work to be completed through December 31, 2020, seconded by Dr. Patrick, the item was unanimously approved.

- i. Consideration and Approval of Contracts with Multiple Vendors for Redevelopment Design Services and Construction at Northwest Campus in the Amount of \$22,935,788.00.

On a modified motion by Mr. Barr to adjust the amount to \$14,686,257.00 for work to be completed by Gensler-Huckabee and Skanska through December 31, 2020, seconded by Mr. Greenhill, the item was unanimously approved.

6. Monthly Financial Report Information.

Chief Operating Officer Susan Alanis reported the financials as follows for August 2020. Total income is at 99.9 percent, total expenses is at 84.0 percent. Pools increased by 161.9 million. Purchased \$130 million Treasury Bills. Total Portfolio increased by \$291.4 million during August to an ending balance of \$717.4 million. Yield was .082 percent at August 31, 2020 and the WAM was at 249 days.

7. Chancellor's Report Information.

Chancellor Giovannini shared the following information with the board... "I want to highlight two things that are significant and unique in many ways. The first will be that the college is selected as one of nine community colleges in the country for the everyday entrepreneurial venture fund program. That program supports community colleges that have been determined to be best positioned to assist community-based startups, scale up of existing businesses and the

implementation of proven replicable business model, this award speaks to our initiatives around our Corporate Solutions and Economic Development specifically our SBDC. In addition to providing services to the local community part of the responsibility in receiving this fund will be providing for fee consulting services with other community colleges in our region, which includes Louisiana, Oklahoma and Arkansas. This will be kicking off in 2021. The other item of great significance is that the college has received two very competitive federal TRIO support services grants. This is the first time the college has received a Title V Hispanic Serving Institution. This is a five-year grant totally nearly three million dollars (\$600,000 per year). This grant will help students that come from low income back grounds, first generation students and students with disabilities. The grant will provide an array of academic services including tutoring, financial advice, career services advice, mentoring and academic advising and such. These programs have been proven to enhance students' academic success making is more likely for students to graduate and transfer. The college is committed to sustaining those grant activities after the grant has expired. A number of people worked on this grant and this is something that is not largely awarded and this was quite a competitive process, we are pleased to receive our first Title V grant.

- a. College Accolades.
- b. Recent Activities.

8. **Name Clearing Hearing**

Mr. Joseph Matthews spoke to the Board to appeal his termination from TCC.

9. **Closed Session:**

The Board entered a closed meeting at 7:40pm to discuss matters permitted by the following sections of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

- a. Section 551.071, Consultation with Attorney
To see the advice of its attorney about pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers, or any matter in which the duty of the attorney to the District under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Act.
 - i. Legal issues regarding any item listed on today's District Board Meeting agenda.
- b. Section 551.072, Deliberations Regarding Real Property
Deliberate the purchase, sale, exchange, lease or value of real property where deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the District in negotiations with a third party.
- c. Section 551.074, Deliberations on Personnel Matters
Deliberate appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee.
 - i. Appeal of Non-Renewal of Contract – Mr. Jeff McDonald

- d. Section 551.076, Deliberations on Security Devices or Security Audits
Deliberate regarding the deployment, or specific occasions for implementation, of security personnel or devices.

The Board may reconvene in open session and act on any item listed on the Executive Session Agenda in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

10. **Consideration and Action on Closed Session Items.** None.

11. **Adjournment and Announcement of Next Meeting.**

The closed meeting ended at 7:53pm. The Board Meeting reconvened and adjourned with no action taken at 7:56pm. The next Work Session Meeting will be on Thursday, October 8, 2020 and Regular Board Meeting will be Thursday, October 15, 2020.



Conrad C. Heede, President
Board of Trustees



Diane Patrick, Secretary
Board of Trustees