

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE DEL MAR COLLEGE DISTRICT  
March 13, 2001

The regular meeting of the Board of Regents of the Del Mar College District opened in the Isensee Board Room, Harvin Student Center, Del Mar College East Campus, 101 Baldwin, Corpus Christi, Texas, at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 13, 2001, with the following present:

From the Board:

Mrs. Chris Adler, Mrs. Minnie Arriaga, Rev. Willie Davila, Mrs. Olga Gonzales, Mr. Jacob Muñoz, Mr. Gabe Rivas, Mrs. Dorothy Spann, Mr. Guy Watts, and Ms. Beverly Winters.

From the College:

Dr. Terry Dicianna, President; Mr. J. L. Alaniz, Vice President, Business and Finance; Dr. Richard Armenta, Vice President of Instruction and Student Development; Mrs. Vickie Natale, Dean of Administrative Services; Mr. Henry Garcia, Assistant Dean of Financial Aid; Ms. Barbara Riley, Executive Secretary to Vice President of Business and Finance; and other administrators, faculty, and staff.

From the Attorney's Office:

Mr. Stephen Hilmy.

Others:

Mr. Jack Solka, Bennett, Martin, Solka & Torno, Inc.; Mr. Bob Horton, AG|CM; and other interested citizens.

Mrs. Olga Gonzales, president of the Board, presided and called the meeting to order. With a quorum present, Mrs. Gonzales requested a moment of silence.

The meeting began with the announcement of Awards and Recognition. Dr. Terry Dicianna introduced Mr. Jack Solka, representing the Coastal Bend Health Facilities Development Corporation. Mr. Solka, as president of the organization, presented the College with a grant in the amount of \$28,718 to fund equipment for the College's distance learning nursing program. Dr. Dicianna then introduced Dr. Rosie Garcia, chairperson of the Registered Nursing program, and Ms. Rose Caballero. Dr. Garcia provided the Board with highlights of the program, and both were given a Del Mar College memento.

No one signed up for or requested to address the Board under Public Comments.

Mrs. Dorothy Spann, chairperson of the Policy Committee, reported on the policy concerning the hiring of a consulting/coordinating architect and project architect. The issue was on the agenda for discussion

later in the meeting.

Under Regents' Reports, Mrs. Minnie Arriaga provided information she gathered at a recent Public Funds Investment Act workshop she recently attended. Mr. Gabe Rivas attended the same workshop as Mrs. Arriaga, and commented on some of the information he learned about investments.

Mrs. Dorothy Spann then shared some of the history concerning the College's investment policy. She commented on policy compliance and the need to provide employee evaluations when required. Mrs. Spann requested that the Board review the election time lines between the College and the County prior to the next Regents' election.

Under Staff Reports, Dr. Richard Armenta provided an update on the program reviews that committees consisting of faculty members and industry representatives had conducted. He reported that additional reviews would be forthcoming. Dr. Armenta reviewed the faculty promotions approved, and pointed out that the promotions would create an impact on the budget. The Board briefly discussed rank, tenure, and education of faculty.

Under College President's Comments, Dr. Dicianna informed the Board about the dining service provided by the evening culinary arts students on the West Campus. He encouraged Board members to experience the service. Dr. Dicianna introduced Mr. Henry Garcia, Ms. Mary Murillo-Pena, and Sylvia Jaquez of the Financial Aid Office. He applauded their efforts in reducing the loan default rate from 24.7% four years ago, to 6.3% now. Mr. Garcia complimented his staff and explained the process used. Each was presented with a Del Mar College memento. Dr. Dicianna then briefed the Board on H.B. 1754 and how the redistricting would impact the Board. Mr. Steve Hilmy provided information on the redistricting process. After a lengthy discussion, Dr. Dicianna updated the Board on legislation regarding TASP.

The first item of business was the approval of minutes.

Mr. Muñoz made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Adler, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting, February 13, 2001; Called Meeting, February 24, 2001; and the Policy Committee, March 7, 2001, as presented, and the motion carried.

The Del Mar College Foundation plans to undertake a capital campaign in support of the College's Facilities Master Plan. Dr. Dicianna presented a Resolution in support of the capital campaign.

Mr. Muñoz made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Spann, to adopt the Resolution in Support of the Del Mar College Campaign as presented. The motion carried with Muñoz, Spann, Rivas, Winters, Adler, Davila, Gonzales, and Arriaga voting in favor; Watts opposing. (This Resolution will be recorded as Document #01-1 in the document section of the Official Minutes Book of the Board.)

Mr. J. L. Alaniz addressed the next item on the agenda related to a proposed increase in matriculation and building use fees. Mr. Alaniz provided the Board with a history of tuition and fees charged. He requested that the Board consider a \$2.00 per semester hour increase in the matriculation and building use fees, increasing each from \$6.00 to \$8.00 per semester hour. A lengthy discussion followed on the financial impact on students, and other possible options to increase revenues. The Board also discussed the next item on the agenda related to an increase in out-of-district tuition. Mr. Alaniz proposed reducing the out-of-district tuition to the in-district rate, and adding an out-of-district fee of \$25 per semester hour.

Because of the major decisions related to these issues, it was the consensus of the Board to postpone any action until further review, and discuss at a meeting of the Finance Committee. The Board requested information be provided on the budget impact, and requested that the Student Government Association be notified.

Mr. Alaniz requested the Board authorize the College to solicit Requests for Qualifications from firms to serve as financial advisor to consider refunding options on the 1992 bond issue.

After a brief discussion, Mrs. Adler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Muñoz, to authorize administration to solicit Requests for Qualifications for financial advisor to the College, and the motion carried.

The next two items on the agenda were acted on simultaneously.

Mr. Muñoz made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Winters, to accept the financial statements for January 2001, and investments for February 2001. After a brief review of the investment report by Mr. Alaniz, the motion carried.

Dr. Armenta explained the proposed revisions to the College's mission statement to satisfy recommendations of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. There was a brief discussion on how the College would provide student support services. Mrs. Spann requested that additional information be provided on the workload of counselors. Dr. Armenta reviewed Board Policy B1.2 Mission, and the related subsections.

Rev. Davila made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Spann, to accept the proposal for the revisions to the mission statement in the Del Mar College Manual of Policies and Procedures as presented, and the motion carried. (These revisions will be recorded as Document #01-2 in the document section of the Official Minutes Book of the Board.)

Mr. Solka requested to address the Board concerning the next item on the agenda. He reminded the Board that his firm, Bennett, Martin, Solka & Torno, Inc., had been selected as project architect for the

Center for Early Learning back in October 2000. He informed the Board that their firm would prefer to remain as project architect for the Center for Early Learning, and recommended that the College select another firm for coordinating architectural services.

Mrs. Spann reviewed the proposed addition of College Policy B4.27.7 Hiring of Consulting/ Coordinating Architect and Project Architects and her requested revisions to the wording.

Mrs. Spann made a motion, seconded by Rev. Davila, to approve the adoption of Board Policy B4.27.7 Hiring of Consulting/Coordinating Architect and Project Architects and related subsections using the alternate wording that she presented. Mr. Hilmy clarified that five votes were needed to approve action by the Board, and not six as reported in Mrs. Spann's memo regarding the wording of the policy. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Mr. Watts requested that the Board skip to Item #11 on the agenda related to the contract for a project architect for the Center for Early Learning.

Mr. Watts made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rivas, to approve the contract with Bennett, Martin, Solka & Torno, Inc., for project architectural services for the Center for Early Learning.

Mrs. Spann made several comments related to the issue and expressed concern that other firms were not being afforded an opportunity to work for the College. Mr. Muñoz informed the Board that the College had engaged the services of several architectural and engineering firms during the past 15 years, along with Mr. Solka's firm. Rev. Davila reminded the Board that Mr. Solka's firm had been hired on a month-to-month basis since September 2000 and was not on a contract. Dr. Dicianna provided a brief history of the selection of Bennett, Martin, Solka & Torno, Inc., as project architect for the Center for Early Learning for Board members who were elected shortly after the decision was made.

After several more comments by Mrs. Spann, the motion to approve the contract with Bennett, Martin, Solka & Torno, Inc., for project architectural services for the Center for Early Learning carried with Adler, Davila, Muñoz, Rivas, Watts, Winters, and Gonzales voting in favor; Arriaga and Spann opposing.

Rev. Davila made a motion, seconded by Mr. Watts, to authorize administration to solicit Requests for Qualifications for consulting/coordinating architectural services for the College, and the motion carried.

Mrs. Spann reported that because she had received information related to Item #13 on the agenda, costs

for legal fees incurred on the Dorsey property, no discussion would be necessary.

Regarding inventory procedures, Mrs. Spann expressed concern that items valued less than \$1,000 were no longer inventoried. Mrs. Gonzales also reported being contacted by a few people concerning the removal of tags from College property. Dr. Dicianna agreed to provide the Board a report.

Under Calendaring, an Investment and Finance Committee meeting was scheduled for April 10, 2001, beginning at 11:00 a.m. to conduct interviews for a financial advisor. Meetings for the Student and Academic Issues Committee, Finance Committee, and Legislative Committee were scheduled for Monday, April 2, 2001, beginning at 4:30 p.m.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:08 p.m.