

MINUTES OF THE CALLED MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE DEL MAR COLLEGE DISTRICT  
August 17, 2004

The Called Meeting of the Board of Regents of the Del Mar College District convened in the Isensee Board Room, Harvin Student Center, Del Mar College East Campus, Baldwin and Ayers, Corpus Christi, Texas, at 1:37 p.m. on Tuesday, September 14, 2004, with the following present:

From the Board:

Mrs. Chris Adler, Dr. Haysam Dawod, Mrs. Olga Gonzales, Mr. Bill Martin, Mrs. Dorothy Spann, Mr. Guy Watts, and Ms. Beverly Winters.

From the College:

Dr. Carlos Garcia, College President; Mr. Jose Alaniz, Vice President, Business and Finance; Dr. Rosie Garcia, Interim Vice President of Learning and Academic Affairs; Ms. Barbara Kimball, Assistant to the Vice President for Business Services; and other administrators, faculty, and staff.

From the Attorney's Office:

Mr. Stephen Hilmy.

Others:

Other interested citizens.

**CALL TO ORDER/QUORUM CALL/MOMENT OF SILENCE**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Joe O'Brien, taxpayer, requested that, in order to provide some tax relief, the Board consider reducing the effective tax rate below \$.19 instead of the proposed \$.233770 and granting a discount for early payment of taxes. He pointed out mistakes on several pages of the budget material.

Mr. Bill Kopecky, taxpayer, suggested that the Board use his wording, which he offered at a previous meeting, for the proposition on the ballot.

Ms. Deborah Williamson informed the Board that she was against any tax increase.

**(#1) PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2004-2005 BUDGET**

Mr. Joe O'Brien pointed out that the support materials showed a decrease in total value from \$37.6 million in 2003, to \$31.4 million in 2004.

Mr. Bill Kopecky commented that the College's percentage for the TIF was decreasing, in which Mrs. Dorothy Spann pointed out that the percentage was on a graduated decreasing scale. Mr. Kopecky noted that he had asked the appraisal district to keep accurate numbers.

Mrs. Vickie Natale, dean of Administrative Services, reviewed the current and proposed faculty, APT, classified and support salary schedules. She reported that administration was recommending the inclusion of an additional step for the faculty, classified, and support salary schedules. She pointed out that one-third of employees in those classifications, which consist of 86 faculty, 37 office, and 33 support, were currently at their last step. Mrs. Natale informed the Board that she would address the issue of a flat salary increase, proposed by Mrs. Spann, versus the step increase after the employee groups speak.

Ms. Tina Butler, representing the Classified Advisory Committee which consists of office/clerical and support employees, informed the Board that their employee group had 14 steps on their salary schedules, while other employee groups had 20 steps. She pointed out that, once an employee gets to the 14<sup>th</sup> step, they do not receive any more years of service, represented by the step increase. Ms. Butler stated that the Classified Advisory Committee was recommending a 4% cost-of-living increase and the additional step this year for all.

Ms. Sheila Cudd, representing the APT Advisory Committee, expressed their agreement with administration's recommendation, and noted that they were in favor of faculty and classified personnel being equal to APT in terms of numbers of steps. It was also their recommendation to approve a 4% cost-of-living increase which they felt was fair and equitable.

Mr. John Crisp, English faculty and chairperson of the Faculty Council, reported that the Council had not yet met to vote on the distribution of salary increases, but after speaking to the officers, they agree with administration. Mr. Crisp stated that Mrs. Spann's proposal should not be adopted. He also stated agreement with the 4% cost-of-living increase.

Mrs. Natale commented on inflation, consumer price index, salary compression, and the competitive market place in relation to salaries. Mrs. Gonzales reminded the Board that today's meeting was a public hearing on the budget, and that the information provided by Mrs. Natale should be reviewed and discussed at another time.

Mrs. Spann expressed her concern that the groups addressing the Board today did not have the information the Board had received. She stated that she still had not been provided with the salary information on faculty and administrators that she had requested.

No others requested to address the Board on the 2005-2006 budget, and Mrs. Gonzales announced that the public hearing on the College budget for 2005-2006 was closed.

## **(#2) PUBLIC HEARING ON THE TAX RATE**

Mrs. Gonzales announced that the public hearing on the tax rate would begin. No one requested to address the Board. Mr. Jose Alaniz, vice president of Business and Finance, reported that, based on this year's tax rate information, a slight decrease in the tax rate was being proposed. This would provide funds necessary to maintain the quality of education.

Dr. Haysam Dawod asked that Mr. Alaniz address Mr. O'Brien's comments related to the budget mistakes. Mr. Alaniz pointed out that the wording "proposed" should have been used within the text, whereas he used the term "effective" which is not appropriate until the tax rate is adopted. Mr. Alaniz recommended the proposed tax rate of \$.233770. He reviewed the "Truth in Taxation" in which the rates are lowered because property values increased, and explained that the proposed rate, which was higher than the published rate, would generate the same amount of dollars in order to maintain instruction.

With no other comments, Mrs. Gonzales closed the public hearing on the tax rate.

**(#3) APPROVAL OF ORDER SETTING TAX RATE**

Dr. Dawod made a motion to approve the Order setting the tax rate, and proceeded to read the Order, which stated that the public hearing was held and that the total tax dollars were increased by 3.15%, and a meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, August 24, 2004, at 5:30 p.m. to vote on the tax increase. Mr. Martin seconded, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of those present.

**(#4) CLOSED SESSION—CONSULTATION WITH AND RECEIVING ADVICE FROM THE COLLEGE ATTORNEY RELATED TO PENDING OR CONTEMPLATED LITIGATION, A SETTLEMENT OFFER**

The Board entered closed session in accordance with Sections 551.071, 551.072, and 551.074 of the Government Code beginning at 6:30 p.m. The Board ended closed session and reconvened at 6:48 p.m.

Dr. Dawod made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bill Martin, to approve the settlement of lawsuit No. 04-4023-F, Nueces County vs. WDF Holdings, LLC, as recommended by the administration. The motion carried by unanimous vote of those present. The motion carried by unanimous vote of those present.

**(#5) CALENDARING DATES**

Wednesday, August 18, 2004; LVN pinning in the Richardson Auditorium; 7:00 p.m.  
Thursday, August 29, 2004; Dental Assisting pinning in the Wolfe Recital Hall; 7:00 p.m.  
Friday, August 30, 2004; Graduation  
Monday, Convocation at 8:30 a.m.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.