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Texas Southmost College District

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees

August 19, 2013

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session on August 19, 2013, at 6:00 p.m., in the Gorgas Board Room at Texas Southmost College. Board members present were Francisco G. Rendon, Chair; Adela G. Garza, Vice Chair; Trey Mendez, Secretary; René Torres; Dr. Reynaldo García; Ramon Hinojosa and Dr. Robert Lozano. Also present was Dr. Lily F. Tercero, President of Texas Southmost College.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rendon at 6:01 p.m.

2. Purchase Student laptops and other Equipment from Dell Marketing, L.P.

Consideration and Approval to Purchase Student Laptops and other Equipment from Dell Marketing, L.P.

Chairman Rendon called on Dr. Tercero to present the item. Dr. Tercero made the presentation on TSC's all digital learning environment device solution. She called on Ms. Angela Wolf, Director of Educational Technologies and Curricular Innovation. Ms. Wolf demonstrated the TSC website and showed the board what students will see on My TSC, Pearson eCollege, and eText. Dr. Tercero called on Dr. Angelica Fuentes, Dean of College Preparatory Studies. Dr. Fuentes stated that faculty champions met with Pearson for trainings and the faculty champions are training all other full-time and part-time faculty.

Dr. Tercero reported that selecting a viable device that will work for the students is the next step. Dr. Tercero stated that TSC is an all-digital institution, students will be using e-textbooks and the web, faculty will utilize the web to enhance and

manage the learning process. Student learning outcomes will be monitored through an online management system and face-to-face instruction will still be at the core of the teaching and learning process. TSC is simply using technology to enhance the student's learning experience.

Dr. Tercero reported that after an extensive review, the optimal solution is a laptop. Computer labs will also be available on campus for student use, and assistance will be available for students through online tutorials and in-person.

Dr. Tercero reported that students may use their own personal laptop. A compatibility test will ensure accessibility to the Pearson system and e-textbooks. Students will have the option of purchasing a laptop through an optional laptop fee. Financial Aid award funds may be used to purchase the laptop. Students unable to purchase a laptop in the fall or spring semester, will have the option of leasing a laptop from TSC each semester at a lease rate of \$80.

Dr. Tercero recommended that TSC partner with Dell, who is an accepted DIR Vendor. Students will be able to purchase a Dell Inspiron 15 Notebook for a Laptop Fee of \$350.00. Dell will also partner with TSC to establish the TSC Innovation Center. This is a unique opportunity for our students to be involved in a learning lab with real work experience, especially for those that are pursuing a career in computer information technology. Student hired to work at the Center will receive and have the opportunity to become Dell certified technicians.

Dr. Tercero explained that not all 3,000 laptops would be ordered at one time. They will be ordered in batches. The Board discussed the option of minimizing the first shipment of laptops to 750. Dr. Tercero agreed, but stated that after student orientations, staff would have a better idea of how many laptops would be needed. Dr. Tercero stressed that the idea is to allow our students to have everything they may need to succeed in this new learning environment.

A motion was made by Dr. García to authorize the President to negotiate a contract with Dell for the Purchase of up to 3,000 laptops and for the deployment of laptops to TSC Students, not to exceed \$1.1 million. The motion was seconded by Dr. Lozano.

An Amendment to the motion was made by Mr. Hinojosa to include a carrying case to the purchase of the laptops.

A motion was made by Dr. Garcia to authorize the President to negotiate a contract with Dell for the Purchase of up to 3,000 laptops and for the deployment of laptops to TSC Students, not to exceed \$1.1 million and to include a carrying case. The motion was seconded by Dr. Lozano and carried. Mr. Mendez voted nay.

Exhibit "A"

3. Approval of Non-Course Based Option Fee and Optional Laptop Fee

Consideration and Approval of Non-Course Based Option Fee and Optional Laptop Fee

Chairman Rendon called on Dr. Tercero to present the item. Dr. Tercero called on Mr. Chet Lewis, Vice President for Administration and Finance to make the presentation. Mr. Lewis stated there is a new fee that is called the non-course based option fee. It is an accelerated course in Developmental Education that provides additional assistance to students. The fee is \$80.00. This course is a one semester credit hour class. Dr. Fuentes explained that the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has offered alternatives for Developmental Education students. They require a process to accelerate students through the programs. The THECB has mandated that all community colleges offer this course. We have chosen to implement an \$80.00 fee as a cost savings to students, rather than the fee for a full course.

The second fee is the optional laptop fee of \$350.00 and the optional \$80 lease fee, as previously discussed.

A motion was made by Mr. Hinojosa to Approve a Non-Course Based Option of \$80.00 and an Optional Laptop Fee of \$350.00 and an Optional \$80.00 Laptop Lease Fee per semester.

An amended motion was made by Mr. Hinojosa to Approve a Non-Course Based Option of \$80.00 and an Optional Laptop Fee of \$350.00 and an Optional \$80.00 Laptop Lease Fee with an Option to Purchase for \$350.00 minus any lease fee previously paid as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Lozano and carried unanimously.

Exhibit "B"

4. Proposed Meeting Dates

Thursday, August 22, 2013

Regular Board Meeting (First Reading of Budget; 2nd Public Hearing, if needed)

Thursday, August 29, 2013

Special Board Meeting (Adoption of the Budget)

Thursday, September 5, 2013

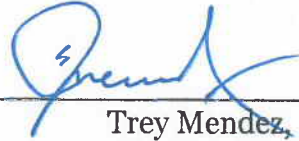
Special Board Meeting (Adoption of the Tax Rate)

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Rendon at 7:26p.m.



Mr. Francisco G. Rendon
Chairman, Board of Trustees



Trey Mendez, J. D.
Secretary, Board of Trustees

NOTE: The tape of the Special Board of Trustees meeting held on August 19, 2013, is on file at the District Office of the Texas Southmost College District. The master tape is on file at UTB/TSC Media Services. These minutes were taken and transcribed by Max E. Roca, Administrative Assistant. Videotaping of the Board of Trustees' meetings began on April 11, 1996. They are aired on Channel KBSD in cooperation with the Brownsville Independent School District.