MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BLINN COLLEGE

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

Regular Meeting, Tuesday, October 16, 2007

The Board of Trustees convened at 7 p.m. in the Board Room with the following members present: Mr. Steve M. Westbrook, President, presiding; Mr. Atwood C. Kenjura, Vice President; Mr. Norwood Lange, Secretary; Dr. Henry J. Boehm, Jr., Mr. Don Jones, Mr. L.J. Lacina, Jr. and Mr. Leon Toubin.

Board members not present: None.

Members of the college staff in attendance were: Dr. Donald E. Voelter, President; Mr. John D. Barkman, Dr. John D. Harris, Dr. Daniel J. Holt, Dr. Debra R. LaCour and Dr. Barbara L. Pearson, vice presidents; Mr. Scott Baehren, Ms. Linda Bow, Dr. Robert Brick, Mr. Tex Davis, Dr. Cathy Kemper, Mr. Dennis Kocich, Ms. Margie Kovar, Mr. Houston McGaugh, Ms. Barbara Moore, Ms. Pat Moran, Mr. Gus Mutscher, Mr. Brad Nies, Mr. Guadalupe Reyes, Mr. Glen Vierus, Ms. Ann Weir, Mr. Carl Wiesepape and Dr. Michel Zuch.

Also registered as in attendance were: Ms. Christina Richardson, Bryan Collegiate High School; Mr. Seth W. Christensen, President, Brenham Student Government Association; Members of the Brenham Student Government Association: Alison Richardson, Deja Hughes, Reese Swincher, Dustin Bohac and Nadine C. Flemming; students of the Blinn College Theater Arts Program; Mr. Charles Thielemann, Mr. Duane Olney, Mrs. Pat Olney, Mr. C.H. Harvey, Mr. Frank Wagner, KTTX-KWHI; and Mr. Alan Nieschwietz, Brenham Banner-Press.

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

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Westbrook. The pledges and prayer were led by Mr. Westbrook.

ITEM 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Seth Christensen, President of the Brenham Student Government Association, introduced the officers of the organization and invited members of the Board to participate in the 2007 homecoming activities.

Mr. Brad Nies, director of the college's theater arts program, invited the Board members, administration and all persons in attendance to the upcoming performances of the play Dracula on October 25, 26, 27 and 28, 2007, and to a second play, Pseudolus, which will be presented in November.

Mr. Charles Thielemann made comments about the relationship between the Brenham and Bryan campuses.

Mr. C.H. Harvey commented on the value of Blinn College to Washington County. He distributed copies of a letter he received from Mr. Thielemann and of a letter he is mailing to Mr. Thielemann.
ITEM 3. REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND LIST OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

Dr. Holt reviewed the financial statement and list of checks for the period ending September 30, 2007 (copies of the list of checks and the financial statement are attached and made a part of these Minutes). He answered questions from the Board about debt service payments, bookstore income, and the estimated date for a final financial report for the 2006-2007 fiscal year.

ITEM 4. REVIEW AND ACTION TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 18, 2007, REGULAR MEETING

On a motion by Mr. Lange, seconded by Dr. Boehm, the Board voted to approve the Minutes of the September 18, 2007, regular meeting.

ITEM 5. REVIEW AND ACTION TO AWARD BIDS FOR PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE (RFQ 058) FOR THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 1, 2007 THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2008

Dr. Holt reviewed a tabulation of the bids received by the college for insurance coverage for the 2007-2008 school year (a copy of the bid tabulation sheet is attached and made a part of these Minutes). He indicated the college’s insurance consultant, Mr. Bob Reim, has reviewed the bids and recommended that Option No. 1 be accepted. He answered questions from the Board about the development of the bid specifications. On a motion by Dr. Boehm, seconded by Mr. Toubin, the Board voted to accept the bids under Option No. 1 on RFQ 058 as recommended in the total amount of $192,595.

ITEM 6. REVIEW AND ACTION TO APPROVE REVISED MISSION STATEMENT FOR THE STAR OF THE REPUBLIC MUSEUM

Mr. McGaugh reviewed a need to update the mission statement of the Star of the Republic Museum in anticipation of the upcoming ten-year reaccreditation process for the museum with the American Association of Museums. Dr. Boehm expressed appreciation to Mr. McGaugh and his staff for the work that they do. On a motion by Dr. Boehm, seconded by Mr. Kenjura, the Board voted to adopt the revised mission statement as presented. A copy is attached and made a part of these Minutes.

ITEM 7. REPORTS:

- RECEIPT OF ADDITIONAL FUNDS FROM THE SCHULENBURG ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
- EARLY COLLEGIATE HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM
- BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Ms. Barbara Moore reviewed a new grant of $30,000 given to the college by the Schulenburg Economic Development Corporation for support of the Schulenburg campus.

Dr. Pearson introduced Ms. Christina Richardson, Principal of the new Bryan Collegiate High School, who reviewed the origin, mission, statistics and other aspects of the new school (a copy of an outline of her presentation is attached and made a part of these Minutes). She answered questions from the Board on funding sources, costs to the students (none), the participation of Blinn College in the program, and identified other Texas communities that offer similar programs.

Dr. Holt gave the monthly building and grounds report which included information on the renovation of a house on Green Street for use as workforce education staff offices and a report on the status of the environmental assessment of the Schmidt Building. He indicated pending projects during the December holiday period include HVAC improvements for the Classroom Building and the attic of Melcher Hall.
ITEM 8. ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Voelter reported on the following:

a. Announced the Texas Association of Community College Trustees and Administrators annual conference will be held in Austin and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board’s Governing Boards Conference will be held in Houston on the same days (October 29 & 30, 2007).

b. Announced an upcoming check presentation for a $1,900,000 grant from the Texas Workforce Commission for training power plant workers.

c. The Sealy Advisory Committee meeting will be held on October 17, 2007, on the Sealy campus.

d. A Lifetime Learning program will be held in the Student Center on October 23, 2007.

The meeting was recessed for a break at 8:14 p.m.

ITEM 9. RECESS FOR CLOSED SESSION (AS AUTHORIZED BY GOV’T. CODE, SEC. 551.101)

The public session was recessed at 8:27 p.m.

ITEM 10. CLOSED SESSION

(A) EVALUATION AND EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONNEL (GOV’T. CODE, SEC. 551.074)

(B) DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE PURCHASE, EXCHANGE OR LEASE OF REAL PROPERTY IN BRENHAM, BRYAN AND SCHULENBURG (GOV’T. CODE, SEC. 551.072)

ITEM 11. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION

The public session was reconvened at 9:25 p.m.

ITEM 12. REVIEW AND ACTION ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

(A) REVIEW AND ACTION ON FACULTY AND PROFESSIONAL STAFF CONTRACTS

(B) REVIEW AND ACTION TO PURCHASE, EXCHANGE OR LEASE REAL PROPERTY IN BRENHAM, BRYAN AND SCHULENBURG

On a motion by Dr. Boehm, seconded by Mr. Toubin, the Board voted to accept the resignations of Mr. Russell Ramirez, Advisor Veterans Benefits, Bryan campus, effective October 3, 2007; and Ms. Beatriz Brans, Computer Programmer/Analyst, Brenham campus, effective October 31, 2007.

On a motion by Dr. Boehm, seconded by Mr. Kenjura, the Board voted to employ faculty and professional staff on one-year contracts for the 2007-2008 school year (a copy of the list of persons employed is attached and made a part of these Minutes).

On a motion by Mr. Kenjura, seconded by Mr. Toubin, the Board voted to accept the resignation of Mr. Ralph Robinson, Technical Education Advisor, Bryan campus, effective November 15, 2007.
ITEM 13. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Kenjura, seconded by Mr. Toubin, the meeting was adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Mr. Steve M. Westbrook
President

Mr. Norwood Lange
Secretary