



**SOUTH TEXAS
COLLEGE**

Board of Trustees

Special Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 09, 2021

5:30 p.m.

Pecan Campus

Ann Richards Administration Building

Board Room

McAllen, Texas

Online Board Packet

SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, March 9, 2021 @ 5:30 p.m.
Ann Richards Administration Building Board Room
Pecan Campus, McAllen, Texas 78501

AGENDA

“At anytime during the course of this meeting, the Board of Trustees may retire to Executive Session under Texas Government Code 551.071(2) to confer with its legal counsel on any subject matter on this agenda in which the duty of the attorney to the Board of Trustees under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code. Further, at anytime during the course of this meeting, the Board of Trustees may retire to Executive Session to deliberate on any subject slated for discussion at this meeting, as may be permitted under one or more of the exceptions to the Open Meetings Act set forth in Title 5, Subtitle A, Chapter 551, Subchapter D of the Texas Government Code. At this meeting, the Board of Trustees may deliberate on and take any action deemed appropriate by the Board of Trustees on the following subjects:”

COVID-19 Public Health / Attendance Measures

Due to COVID-19 and Social Distancing recommendations, members of the public are encouraged to watch the live broadcast of the meeting at: <https://admin.southtexascollege.edu/president/agendas/live.html>.

- Anyone wishing to make Public Comments as provided in the public hearing agenda is asked to sign up prior to the meeting, and they will be called into the Board Room individually when it is their turn to make comments.

I. Call Meeting to Order

II. Determination of Quorum

III. Consideration and Action on Agenda Items

1. Review and Action as Necessary on Legal Services 3 - 4
2. Review and Action as Necessary on Presidential Search 5 - 6

IV. Announcements

A. Next Meeting:

- Regular Meeting of Board of Trustees, March 30, 2021 at 5:30 p.m., Ann Richards Administration Building Board Room, McAllen, Texas

Review and Action as Necessary on Legal Services

Approval of legal services is requested.

Mrs. Mary Elizondo, Vice President for Finance and Administrative Services, will review the status of legal services with the Board and will respond to any questions the members may have on these services.

At the January 26, 2021 Board of Trustees meeting, the Board authorized the solicitation of a request for qualifications for legal services to protect the College and provide advice and representation. A solicitation of qualification or appointment of one or more law firms is an essential for matters that are as follows:

- Attending Board and Committee meetings and advising Board members, Committee members, and Administration;
- Providing legal counsel and guidance to Board of Trustees and administrative staff on such matters as:
 - ⇒ Development, review, and recommendation for updates of policies
 - ⇒ Procurement procedures and contracts (interpretation of procurement law and review of certain contracts, development of a standardized contract form for most services the College solicits to be included as part of the RPF or RPQ document) and contract compliance
 - ⇒ Elections
 - ⇒ Texas Open Meetings Act
 - ⇒ Texas Public Information Act
 - ⇒ Construction contracts
 - ⇒ Litigation representation
 - ⇒ Tax Abatement Agreements
 - ⇒ IRS examinations
 - ⇒ Policy Drafting and Advising
 - ⇒ Legal Counsel Advising
 - ⇒ Public Information Responses
 - ⇒ Real Estate
 - ⇒ Intellectual Property
 - ⇒ Other U.S. State and International Matters and Engagements
 - ⇒ Land Use, Environmental, Health, and Safety
 - ⇒ General higher education matters including, but not limited to, tort and civil liabilities
- Additional legal services as requested and authorized by the Board

Typically, the first four (4) areas occupy most of the College's needs, and the remainder are needed, more or less, on an occasional basis.

Proposal documents were advertised on February 3, 2021 and February 10, 2021 and issued to twenty-eight (28) attorneys/law firms. Seven (7) responses were received on February 24, 2021.

At the January 12, 2021 Finance Committee meeting, it was indicated that the Purchasing Department would receive the request for qualifications responses and package them for the trustees to review and evaluate.

On March 5, 2021, administration provided procedures and best practices regarding the process used by College staff when reviewing and evaluating qualifications. All seven trustees were provided with hard copies of the forms used in the evaluation process, as well as copies of all seven (7) responsive Qualifications. The Board of Trustees were asked to complete and submit the *Acknowledgement of Evaluation Responsibility, Non-Conflict of Interest, and Confidentiality Statements* prior to their independent review of the Qualifications.

At this time, the Board is asked to provide feedback on how to proceed with the legal services.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board of Trustees of South Texas College approve and authorize action as necessary on legal services.

The Following Minute Order is proposed for consideration by the Board of Trustees:

The Board of Trustees of Trustees of South Texas College approves and authorizes the action as necessary on legal services.

Approval Recommended:

Ms. Rose Benavidez
Board Chair

Review and Action as Necessary on Presidential Search

South Texas College has engaged the Association of Community College Trustees and Dr. William Holda to assist with the presidential search process.

On February 23, 2021, the Board of Trustees authorized the development of the Search Committee, contingent upon the final agreement by each member to serve. Mr. Paul R. Rodriguez, South Texas College Trustee, will serve as the Search Committee Chair. The roster of the Search Committee is included on the following page.

On March 2 – 3, Dr. Holda moderated a series of public forum sessions via teleconference, to hear from the stakeholders of South Texas College. ACCT also conducted an online survey open to the public, also seeking anonymous feedback. Both the public forums sessions and the survey sought insights from faculty, staff, students, partners, and the community at large on the challenges facing the College, the characteristics they most want to see in the next College President, and any other items they wished to provide for the Search Committee and Board of Trustees to consider.

Dr. Holda has synthesized the feedback from the forum sessions and the surveys into a draft Presidential Profile. He has shared this profile with the Search Committee membership, and will incorporate their feedback into a final Presidential Search, which he will share with the Board on Tuesday, March 9, 2021, for their review and approval.

Upon approval, this profile will serve as the basis for ACCT's national search process to attract a wide range of highly qualified candidates to be considered for the next South Texas College President.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board of Trustees of South Texas College approve and authorize the South Texas College Presidential Profile and take any other action as necessary related to the ongoing presidential search.

The Following Minute Order is proposed for consideration by the Board of Trustees:

The Board of Trustees of Trustees of South Texas College approves and authorizes the South Texas College Presidential Profile and take any other action as necessary related to the ongoing presidential search.

Approval Recommended:

Ms. Rose Benavidez
Board Chair

**South Texas College Presidential Search
Search Committee Roster**

Mr. Paul R. Rodriguez, Search Committee Chair

STC Board of Trustees, Past Chair

Mr. Victor Anzaldua

Student Government Association President, Pecan Campus

Mr. Noel Benavidez

Starr County Industrial Foundation Board Treasurer

Mr. Sergio Contreras

RGV Partnership, President & CEO

Hon. Jim Darling

City of McAllen, Mayor

Mrs. Mary Elizondo

South Texas College, VP of Finance and Administrative Services

Dr. Sylvia Flores

South Texas College Faculty Senate, President-Elect

Ms. Aisha Gonzalez

B2Z Engineering, LLC, President

Mrs. Bonnie Gonzalez

Knapp Community Care Foundation, CEO

Dr. Frank Guajardo

Museum of South Texas History, CEO

Mr. Rene Guajardo

STC Board of Trustees, Member

Mr. Gary Gurwitz

STC Board of Trustees, Founding Member

Dr. Danny King

Leadership Innovation Transformation, Owner/ CEO

Ms. Itzayanna Lopez

Student Government Association President, Starr County Campus

Mr. Daniel Montez

South Texas College, Mid Valley Campus Administrator

Dr. Art Montiel

South Texas College, Starr County Campus Administrator

Mr. Keith Patridge

McAllen Economic Development Corporation, President & CEO

Mr. Mike Perez

City of Weslaco, City Manager

Dr. Maria Rosas

South Texas College, Health information Technology Instructor