MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
TEXARKANA COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Tuesday, February 22, 2011
5:00 p.m.
Texarkana College, Truman Arnold Student Center, VIP Room

The regular meeting of the Texarkana College Board of Trustees was called to order by President Randy Moore at 5:00 p.m. The following members were present: Tom Coleman, Julie-Ray Harrison, Jennell Ingram, Molly Beth Malcolm, David Potter II, Dr. C. Jack Smith and Terry Taylor. Also present were Dr. Alan Rasco – TC President; Jeff Lewis – College Attorney.

Dr. C. Jack Smith made a motion, seconded by Julie-Ray Harrison, to approve the consent agenda which included the minutes of the regular January 2011 board meeting and the minutes of the January 22, 2011, board workshop. The motion passed.

Tom Coleman made a motion, seconded by Molly Beth Malcolm, to adopt a resolution implementing the National Incident Management System (NIMS). The motion passed. NIMS creates “a consistent nationwide approach for federal, state, local and tribal governments to work together more effectively and efficiently to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size or complexity.”

Mr. Moore asked that the agenda item requesting action on hiring a professional consulting firm be pulled until board members could discuss the issue in closed session.

Mr. Moore announced that five people had submitted a letter of interest for the open trustee position. Each candidate will have the opportunity to meet with the board prior to the March regular board meeting.

Dr. Rasco reported on providing testimony on February 18, 2011, to the House Appropriations Sub-Committee on Education concerning House Bill 1 and how the funding cuts would impact Texarkana College. He stated that this legislative session poses the most severe reduction in educational funding that he has seen in his career. The fall semester funding for Texarkana College was cut by 5% and another 2.5% was cut from the budget in the spring semester. With these adjustments and the budget reduction from the state for the upcoming two years, Texarkana College will have an overall 16.2% decrease – projecting an annual reduction in state appropriations and benefits in excess of $3 million dollars over the next two years. Dr. Rasco reported that he has scheduled three separate “town hall” meetings for faculty and staff regarding the budget cuts. Administrators and division heads have begun budget meetings to search for ways to overcome deficits. He closed by noting that Texarkana College is a strong institution and that the college will overcome this challenge.

Dr. Lynn Persyn, Vice-President of Learning, gave her report. A core group of faculty and staff attended the “Achieving the Dream” Conference in Indianapolis. “Achieving the
“Dream” training will occur in March with a four-hour training seminar entitled “Bridges Out Of Poverty”. The seminar will discuss how poverty impacts a student’s brain and the ability to absorb material. Texarkana College is partnering with Paris Junior College and Texarkana Independent School District to apply for the Trade Adjustment Assistant Community College and Career Training grant. Construction of the TC center at TexAmericas Center should be completed and open for classes in March. Work has begun so that TC workforce programs can become nationally certified. Dr. Mannie Hall, Dean of Workforce Education and Business Development, has developed a program review process which will begin this spring for all workforce programs. Evaluations have not been the focus of the institution in the past; however, staff and faculty reviews will begin this semester with a self-evaluation. A new initiative, “College Goal Sunday” providing an opportunity for students to come in and apply for FASFA and Pell grants in a safe and confidential environment will take place on February 27. Dr. Persyn also reported that a campaign is underway to involve alumni with college promotions.

Dr. Dan DoBell, Vice-President of Administration and Finance, went over the January 2011 financial statements and Banner updates with the board. Mrs. Malcolm asked if everything that had been purchased was inventory tagged. Ben Talley, Chief Information Officer, stated that every piece of technology equipment was tagged and recorded - each classroom has a barcode which can be scanned to show what equipment should be in that room in order to reconcile the physical assets. Mrs. Malcolm further inquired whether any of the non-technical equipment was inventoried. Dr. DoBell noted that this was an audit finding that needed to be addressed and a full inventory of all equipment would happen this year and that a purchasing protocol was being put in place. He also noted that fifty-nine percent of the sixty-four audit findings have been corrected. An update for the audit committee will be available by the end of the month. Mrs. Malcolm asked Dr. Rasco how soon the inventory of all other assets could start and he stated that it would begin immediately.

Ben Talley, Chief Information Officer, reported on recent accomplishments completed by the IT Department. Mr. Tally noted that 100% of all faculty and staff have new computers and the campus-wide physical IT infrastructure delivers a reliable network infrastructure.

Mr. Moore announced that the board would go into executive session to consider Agenda Item VI. At 6:05 p.m., the open session of the meeting recessed and went into executive session pursuant to the following section of Texas Government Code, Chapter 551:

- Section 551.071 - Private Consultation with the Board’s attorney.

At 6:14 p.m., the Board reconvened in open session.

Dr. C. Jack Smith made a motion, seconded by Jennell Ingram to authorize the college president to hire a professional consulting firm to develop a plan for compensation, classification, and benefits for the employees of Texarkana College. The motion passed.

At 6:15 p.m., the open session of the meeting recessed and went into executive session pursuant to the following sections of Texas Government Code, Chapter 551:

- Section 551.071 - Private Consultation with the Board’s attorney.
- Section 551.072 - Discussing or deliberating purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property.
- Section 551.073 - Discussing or deliberating negotiated contract for prospective gift.
- Section 551.074 - Discussing or deliberating appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee or to hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee.
- Section 551.076 - Discussing or deliberating the deployment or specific occasions for implementation of security personnel or devices.
- Section 551.084 - Investigation; exclusion of witness from a hearing during examination of another witness.
- Section 551.087 - Discussing economic development negotiations or offer of financial or other incentive to business prospects.
- Section 551.088 - Deliberation regarding test item or information related to a test item pertaining to license or certification test administered by the college.

At 7:52 p.m., the Board reconvened in open session. A motion to adjourn was made by Jennell Ingram and seconded by Terry Taylor. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

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MOLLY BETH MALCOLM                                              DATE
Secretary