

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE DEL MAR COLLEGE DISTRICT**

November 10, 2020

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Regents of the Del Mar College District convened at the Isensee Board Room, Del Mar College, Corpus Christi, Texas at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 10, 2020 by video and/or teleconference, with the following present:

Due to health and safety concerns related to the Coronavirus Pandemic Crisis, this meeting was conducted by video and/or teleconference and in accordance with guidance from the Texas Governor's Office and the Texas Attorney General's Office. Provisions were made for the public to participate in this meeting with public comments via livestream and/or telephonically.

From the Board:

Ms. Carol Scott, Dr. Nicholas Adame, Ms. Libby Averyt, Mr. Ed Bennett, Mr. Rudy Garza, Ms. Susan Hutchinson, and Dr. Mary Sherwood.

Mr. Hector Salinas joined the meeting in progress.

From the College:

Dr. Mark Escamilla, President and CEO; Mr. Raul Garcia, Vice President and CFO; Ms. Lenora Keas, Executive Vice President and COO; Ms. Tammy McDonald, Vice President of Administration and Human Resources; Mr. August Alfonso, Vice President and Chief Information Officer; Dr. Rito Silva, Vice President of Student Affairs; Mr. Augustin Rivera, Jr., General Counsel; Mr. John Strybos, Vice President and Chief Physical Facilities Officer; Ms. Lorette Williams, Executive Director of Strategic Communication and Government Relations; Dr. Natalie Villarreal, Director of Government & Board Relations; Ms. Mary McQueen, Executive Director, Development; Ms. Delia Perez, Executive Administrative Assistant to the President/ Board Liaison, and other staff and faculty.

CALL TO ORDER QUORUM CALL/MOMENT OF SILENCE/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/VISION STATEMENT

Ms. Scott called the meeting to order with a quorum present. She requested a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Del Mar College Vision Statement.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS – The public was given the opportunity to provide public comments (both general and specific to any agenda item) by calling a toll-free phone line prior to the Board meeting and registering with their name and subject of public comment.

There were no public comments made for this meeting.

RECOGNITIONS.....Dr. Jonda Halcomb

- Carrie Buttler, Sigma Kappa Delta Recognition of 10 Years of Service as Advisor for the Epsilon Beta Chapter at Del Mar College
(Goal 4: Learning Environments)

Dr. Halcomb introduced Ms. Buttler for her years of service as an advisor for the Epsilon Beta Chapter at Del Mar College. Ms. Buttler thanked the Regents for their support.

- Concert Choir: Nine students auditioned successfully into the Texas Two-Year College All-State Choir. These students performed at the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) Convention in San Antonio in February 2020
(Goal 3: Academic Preparedness and Student Learning)

On February 12-15, 2020, students performed at the Texas Music Educators Association Convention in San Antonio, Texas. Dr. Greg Graf and the nine talented students were recognized for their participation, accomplishment and representation they provided for Del Mar College.

- Vocal Vikings: Five students won debate competitions at the Texas Intercollegiate Forensics Association (TIFA) State Tournament. The debates were held in February 2020 at Texas State University
(Goal 3: Academic Preparedness and Student Learning)

Dr. Halcomb provided information of the Vocal Vikings that were honored for their debate competitions in the Texas Intercollegiate Forensics Association and Speech on the Beach.

Vocal Vikings: Competed and won awards in their first virtual tournament hosted by Bowling Green State University in Ohio. The tournament included 24 colleges and universities from across the country.
(Goal 3: Academic Preparedness and Student Learning)

Dr. Halcomb provided information about the first virtual tournament Del Mar College students competed in Bowling Green State University’s tournament. Del Mar College students had to overcome several new formats for this competition due to the pandemic and were successful in their endeavors.

STUDENT SUCCESS REPORT.....Dr. Rito Silva

- Veterans Upward Bound Program
(Goal 2: Recruitment and Persistence)

Dr. Escamilla introduced the topic and stated that today is the Marine Corps birthday and this report is timed with Veteran's Day in mind, which is celebrated tomorrow. This is an opportunity to discuss the College's Veterans Upward Bound Program and is in honor of all Veterans, past, present and future.

Dr. Silva began his presentation and stated that the mission of Del Mar College Veterans Upward Bound (VUB) Program, in support of the college and the Division of Student Engagement and Retention, is to provide U.S. Military Veterans with support services that will ensure they have the motivation and skills to enter and graduate from a post-secondary institution (PSI) of their choosing. Del Mar College is only one of two Texas colleges with this program.

Dr. Silva stated that services offered to Veterans include postsecondary assistance, support services, career exploration, and academic assistance. The VUB Program has helped 351 Veterans from 2017 - 2020 at Del Mar College. Dr. Silva concluded by thanking all Veterans for their service and the Board of Regents joined in their appreciation.

COLLEGE PRESIDENT'S REPORTDr. Mark Escamilla

- Campus Wide Update
(Goal 4: Learning Environments)

Dr. Escamilla provided a campus update regarding the latter half of the semester and stated the College continues to operate cautiously in adherence of health and safety guidelines from local, state and federal government agencies. Dr. Escamilla provided information of students attending face-to-face classes in accordance with Phase II of the Return-To-Campus protocols. Dr. Escamilla discussed the Fall Commencement which will be held virtually on Friday, December 11, 2020 at 7 p.m. and will be broadcast via the College's social media channels.

- 2020 Governor's Volunteer Awards
(Goal 5: Workforce Development, Community Partnerships, and Advocacy)

Dr. Escamilla announced that Del Mar College was awarded the 2020 Governor's One Star Foundation Volunteer Award - Community Impact regarding the College's Carpentry Program which was generated from the College's Rebuild Texas Grant. Dr. Escamilla introduced Ms. Lenora Keas to continue with the announcement. Ms. Keas provided detailed information regarding the Award as well as the background and contributors of the program. Ms. Keas introduced Dr. Leonard Rivera who provided further details of the team effort and support received for the Carpentry Program that was created after the devastation of Hurricane Harvey.

STAFF REPORTS:

- SACSCOC Reaffirmation & QEP Update.....Dr. Kristina Wilson
(Relates to all Goals of the Strategic Plan)

Dr. Escamilla introduced that Dr. Kristina Wilson and stated that she will provide an update with fantastic news of the College’s reaffirmation of accreditation

Dr. Wilson provided an update on the College’s Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) Reaffirmation and QEP update by providing background information and the purpose of the accreditation. Dr. Wilson provided a timeline of the College’s compliance and work performed in preparation of certification. The College had to comply with seventy-four SACSCOC Standards and only had to follow-up on one Standard regarding faculty qualifications after the initial submission.

Dr. Wilson continued with review of the College’s Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) which involved the following: Key component of Reaffirmation; Results in a stand-alone document; Focusing on a student success issue facing the institution; Part of comprehensive planning and evaluation process. The QEP is a detailed and strategic plan of action designed to improve student success and was submitted to SACSCOC in September 2020. The QEP topic chosen was Academic Advising - GPS or Goals + Planning = Success.

Dr. Wilson stated that an On-Site Committee Virtual Visit took place October 26-29, 2020 and is a key component of the reaffirmation process. The areas of focus included the QEP, compliance with federal requirements, off-campus instructional site visits, and focused report follow-up. Dr. Wilson stated that the Virtual Visit was accomplished by using the Teams Microsoft program and explained the schedule of campus tours, interviews and meetings with faculty and staff, and interviews with the College’s Board of Regents Officers and students. The Committee shared their findings that the College was in compliance with all SACSCOC and federal standards during the Exit Conference.

Dr. Wilson reviewed the Next Steps the College is required to complete which include a response to the Visit Report that is due in April 2021, an in-person visit by SACSCOC VP and on Committee member, date to be determined, and SACSCOC Board Reviews off-site and on-site reports and the decision regarding reaffirmation will be made in June 2021, and the status will be announced December 2021.

Dr. Escamilla and the Board of Regents offered words of thanks and congratulations to all involved.

- THECB 60x30TX Strategic Plan Update.....Dr. Kristina Wilson

(Goal 1: Completion)

Dr. Escamilla stated that this report is to update the College on a blueprint for higher education and it is being reviewed by the TEA Commissioner and others to see how this state-wide plan may be modified. He introduced Dr. Kristina Wilson.

Dr. Wilson began her presentation by providing an explanation of the plan and goals involved. Dr. Wilson stated that the title of this plan 60x30TX means that by the year 2030, at least 60% of Texans between the ages of 25 to 34 will have a certificate or degree. This plan applies to all public institutions of education in Texas and has four goals: 1) Educated Population; 2) Completion; 3) Marketable Skills; and 4) Student Debt.

The College is involved with numerous other institutions of higher education in the South Texas region to best implement this plan. Dr. Wilson provided an overview regarding completion numbers and goals relating to the THECB 60X30TX Plan. The new Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) Commissioner is reviewing the 60x30TX Plan and is convening a committee to refine and strengthen it in response to the impact of COVID-19. She discussed some of the challenges with the current Plan.

Dr. Wilson also discussed the Data Infrastructure Modernization Project. The vision of the Project is to equip internal and external stakeholders with improved insight and data for decision-making purposes. The goals of the Project are to design and implement a modern, flexible data architecture that delivers user-centered value and allows for dynamic access with robust governance and security/confidentiality/privacy controls; and to identify and deliver high-priority reports and/or dashboards utilizing current data.

Dr. Wilson and Dr. Escamilla responded to questions from the Board of Regents.

PENDING BUSINESS:

Status Report on Requested Information
(Goal 5: Workforce Development, Community Partnerships, and Advocacy)

Chair Scott reviewed the list of pending business.

CONSENT AGENDA

CONSENT MOTIONS:

(At this point the Board will vote on all motions not removed for individual consideration.)

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:

1. Approval of Minutes: Workshop, September 8, 2020
Regular Board Meeting, September 8, 2020
Called Meeting, September 29, 2020
Workshop, October 13, 2020
(Goal 5: Workforce Development, Community Partnerships, and Advocacy)
2. Acceptance of Investments for October 2020
(Goal 6: Financial Effectiveness and Affordability)
3. Acceptance of Financials for September 2020
(Goal 6: Financial Effectiveness and Affordability)

Public comments for consent agenda items

Regent Averyt made a motion to approve the consent agenda items. Regent Sherwood seconded the motion. There was no further discussion from the Board. There were no public comments. A vote was taken by a show of hands and the motion carried unanimously, 8-0, with Regents Scott, Adame, Averyt, Bennett, Garza, Hutchinson, Salinas, and Sherwood in favor.

REGULAR AGENDA

4. Discussion and possible action related to adoption of the State and Federal Legislative Agendas.....Dr. Natalie Villarreal
(Relates to all Goals of the Strategic Plan)

Dr. Villarreal began her presentation and discussed the newly adopted State agenda for Community Colleges for review to formerly adopt the recommendation of staff. The 87th Texas State Legislature starts January 12, 2021 and ends May 31, 2021. Two of the main priorities are to 1) pass the budget, and 2) redistricting. Dr. Villarreal stated that the College is involved at the state level with Texas Association of Community Colleges (TACC), Community Colleges Association of Texas Trustee (CCATT), Texas Community College Teachers Association (TCCTA), and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB).

Due to COVID-19, the priorities of the State Legislature shifted. Dr. Villarreal discussed the following priorities in depth:

1. Investing in Community Colleges-Formula Funding: •Propose overall funding for FY's 2022-2023 to equal the FYs 2020-2021 or \$1.833.2M. Priority to be given to the rate of student success points at \$215 and an increase in Core Operations to support college stabilization, providing \$2M per college; and •Propose Exceptional funding of \$50M; requested \$1M non-formula support items for each

of the 50 districts. Also, Dr. Villarreal explained Performance-Based Funding (Student Success Points) and how the amount of funds for the College are requested.

2. Workforce & Economy Recovery Policy: •Design pipelines to fulfill regional workforce needs; •Expand micro-credentials and short-term certificates that enable displaced workers to become work-ready in a few weeks to six months; and •Identify high-demand, short-term credentials to be recognized in The Higher Education Coordinating Board' s 60x30TX Plan for Higher Education.
3. Small Business Development Centers: Recommendation to transition Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) within the General Appropriations Act from Article III (Education) to Article VII (Business & Economic Development) within the Texas Workforce Commission's (TWC) Appropriation.

Dr. Villarreal will keep the Board updated as the 117th Congress sends out information about the 2021 agenda.

Dr. Escamilla provided additional details throughout the presentation.

Dr. Villarreal responded to questions from the Board of Regents.

Regent Hutchinson made a motion to concur and affirm the State Legislative Agenda. Regent Averyt seconded the motion. There was no further discussion from the Board. There were no public comments. A vote was taken by a show of hands and the motion carried unanimously, 7-0, with Regents Scott, Adame, Averyt, Bennett, Garza, Hutchinson, and Sherwood in favor.

At 2:40 p.m., the Chair announced the Board was going into Closed Session pursuant to:

6. CLOSED SESSION pursuant to:

- A. **TEX. GOV'T CODE § 551.071:** (Consultation with legal counsel), regarding pending or contemplated litigation or legal claims, or a settlement offer, with possible discussion and action in open session; and the seeking of legal advice from counsel, on pending or contemplated legal matters or claims, with possible discussion and action in open session; and
- B. **TEX. GOV'T CODE § 551.087:** (Economic Development), regarding discussion or deliberation of information received from a business prospect with which the College is conducting economic development negotiations and/or the deliberation of an offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect, with possible discussion and action in open session; and,

C. **TEX. GOV'T CODE § 551.072:** (Deliberation Regarding Real Property), regarding the deliberation of the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property; with possible discussion and action in open session.

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 3:37 p.m.

5. Discussion and possible action related to Interlocal Contract between Del Mar College and the City of Corpus Christi to construct the City's Police Training Academy on College property.....Mr. John Strybos and Mr. Augustin Rivera, Jr. (Goal 4: Learning Environments)

Dr. Escamilla introduced this agenda item and stated that it was for the Board's consideration of an interlocal agreement with the City of Corpus Christi/Corpus Christi Police Department. It's an opportunity to partner with the Corpus Christi Police Department from an educational standpoint and take police training into the future. He has been working closely with both City Manager, Peter Zanoni, and Police Chief Markel. This item for the Board's consideration conforms with both the physical proximity and overall planning standards of the southside location as well as the educational offerings at the College including Criminal Justice and Police Training facet of the curriculum.

Mr. Augustin Rivera, Jr. began the presentation describing the proposed Interlocal Agreement which had been provided to the Board of Regents. Mr. Rivera noted the provision §5.03 College's Approval of Plans keeps control over the type of structure that is constructed within the approval of the College.

Mr. John Strybos continued with the presentation and provided background information and stated that Del Mar College has worked with the City of Corpus Christi to identify opportunities to maximize public resources to improve services to the public. An Interlocal Contract between Del Mar College and the City of Corpus Christi to construct the City's Police Training Academy on Del Mar College Property has been prepared to facilitate this project.

Mr. Strybos stated that the purpose of the Interlocal Contract is for approval to negotiate the final terms and conditions of the Interlocal Contract between Del Mar College and the City of Corpus Christi to construct the City's Police Training Academy on Del Mar College Property.

Mr. Strybos and Dr. Escamilla responded to questions from the Board of Regents.

Regent Adame made a motion to agree to the material terms of the Interlocal Contract as outlined and to authorize Dr. Escamilla to negotiate the final Agreement with the City of Corpus Christi with the understanding the Board

will see the final renderings before construction. Regent Salinas seconded the motion. There was no further discussion from the Board. There were no public comments. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously, 8-0, with Regents Scott, Adame, Averyt, Bennett, Garza, Hutchinson, Salinas, and Sherwood in favor.

No other actions were taken after Closed Session.

CALENDAR: Discussion related to calendaring dates.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 3:53 p.m.

MINUTES REVIEWED BY GC: /s/ARjr