

MINUTES of the Special Board Meeting
of the BOARD OF TRUSTEES of VICTORIA COLLEGE
August 7, 2023

V. Bland Proctor, <i>Chair</i>	Luis A. Guerra, <i>Vice-Chair</i>	John Zacek, <i>Secretary</i>	Dr. Daniel Cano	Catherine McHaney	Dr. Josie Rivera	Ron Walker
√	√	√	√	√	X	√

Also in attendance: VC Staff: Dr. Jennifer Kent, Mary Ann Rodriguez, Keith Blundell, Cindy Buchholz, Terri Kurtz, Matt Wiley, Brittany Mace, Amy Mundy, Jerry Hamilton, Betsy Crane and Darin Kazmir.

The Victoria College Board of Trustees met for a special board meeting on Monday, August 7, 2023, at 4:00 PM in Corporate Training Room 101 in the Academic Building of Victoria College located at 2200 E. Red River, Victoria, TX. Mr. Bland Proctor, Chair, presided over the meeting.

A. Call to Order:

1. Quorum Call:

Mr. Bland Proctor called the meeting to order at 4:16 p.m. and announced that a quorum of board members was present.

2. Certification of the Posting of the Notice of the Agenda

Dr. Jennifer Kent certified that the agenda had been properly posted per Texas statute also in accordance with the provisions of Sections 551.125 and 551.127 of the Texas Government Code.

B. Citizen Communication:

1. At this time, the public is invited to address the Board of Trustees.

No members of the public spoke to the Board

C. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERAION:

1. CONSIDER Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on July 24, 2023

Dr. Daniel Cano moved to accept the minutes as presented. Mrs. Catherine McHaney seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

2. CONSIDER No-New-Revenue Tax Rate and Voter-Approval Tax Rate Calculations Performed by Ashley Hernandez, Victoria Tax Assessor-Collector for 2023

Keith Blundell presented. He shared with the board that, as presented at the 3PM Board Workshop, in July, they approved Ashley Hernandez to calculate the no-new-revenue rate (NNR) and voter-approval rate (VAR) for the college. The appraisals were completed by the VCAD and Ms. Hernandez has performed those calculations. The taxable values increased by 16.00%. New improvements are exempted from the NNR calculation and were at \$113,492,136. The NNR assessment of \$0.1690 per \$100 valuation would generate \$273,634 less than what has been budgeted. The proposed rate of \$0.1722 per \$100 valuation would generate \$3,242 more than the proposed budget. The voter-approval rate of \$0.1856 per \$100 valuation would generate \$1,162,655 more than the proposed budget. Attached is a ten year history of tax rates, a worksheet with scenarios for tax planning and an analysis of the change in appraisals. Land increased 24.29%. Homesites increased 13.07% while Non-Homesites increased 11.82% and Personal Property increased 13.08%. Minerals decreased 25.65%, but only represent 1.38% of the total appraisals for the County.

The proposed rate of \$0.1722 per \$100 valuation is a 12.10% decrease from the prior year. The Debt Service rate includes the first payment on the new \$10 million tax bond issue and the college applied \$200,000 from its reserves to reduce the amount required for the new bond payment. During the bond presentations the goal was to keep the Debt Service rate below \$0.0341 per \$100 valuation for the first three years. The new Debt Service rate would be \$0.0296 per \$100 valuation, which is a below the goal of \$.0341 per \$100 valuation. Instead of staying flat or slightly increasing, the new Debt Service rate would decrease by 7.96%. Mr. Blundell also noted the 2023 Tax Planning Calendar dates. Mr. Ron Walker moved to accept the calculations as presented. Mrs. Catherine McHaney seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

3. CONSIDER Proposed College Tax Rate for 2023

Mr. Blundell presented. He shared with the board that this was discussed in great detail at the 3PM Board Workshop held directly prior to the 4PM Special Board Meeting. VC Administration would like to propose the tax rate of \$0.1722 per \$100 valuation. Mr. Ron Walker made the recommendation to propose a tax rate of \$0.1722 per \$100 valuation which will raise more taxes for maintenance and operations than last year's tax rate. Mrs. Catherine McHaney seconded the motion. All board members present raised their hand and all saying "aye" in favor of the proposed tax rate. The motion for the proposed tax rate carried unanimously. Mr. Bland Proctor then stated that a public hearing will be held next Monday, August 14, 2023 at 4PM in same location this meeting is being held today.

4. CONSIDER Resolution relating to the Construction Best Method Process & Prevailing Wage Rate

Mr. Keith Blundell presented. He shared with the board that the Texas Government Code 2269.056 (a), allows the College to determine the best method when considering a construction manager-at-risk, except for minor repairs and renovations to existing structures and facilities. Minor repairs and renovations best method id either Competitive Sealed Proposal or Job Order Contracting whichever is considered to be the best value to Victoria. In conjunction with the best method when considering a construction contract, it is recommended the Board adopt the most current prevailing wage rate(s) used for Victoria County, County of Gonzales, County of Calhoun, County of DeWitt and Lavaca County. Dr. Daniel Cano moved to accept the resolution as presented. Mr. Luis Guerra seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5. CONSIDER Resolution relating to the Delegation of Authority Texas Education Code 44.031

Mr. Keith Blundell presented. He shared with the board that Texas Education Code 44.031, as amended, allows the College Board of Trustees to delegate its purchasing authority under Subchapter B, Chapter 44 of the Texas Education Code to Dr. Jennifer Kent, President. Ms. Catherine McHaney moved to accept the resolution as presented. Dr. Daniel Cano both seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

6. CONSIDER Resolution relating to the Delegation of Authority Texas Government Code 2269

Mr. Keith Blundell presented. He shared with the board that Texas Government Code 2269.053, as amended, allows the College Board of Trustees to delegate its purchasing authority under Subsection (a), Chapter 2269.053 of the Texas Government Code to Dr. Jennifer Kent, President. Mr. Luis Guerra moved to accept the resolution as presented. Dr. Daniel Cano seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

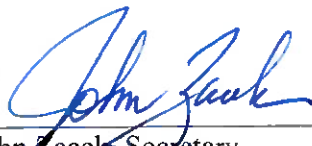
Mr. Bland Proctor shared with those present that no action will be taken after Closed Session and the visitors are welcome to leave. Meeting will be adjourned immediately after closed session

7. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Executive Session is called under authority of the Texas Open Meetings Act, and in accordance with the Texas Government Code, Section 551.074, to discuss personnel matters; to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee; to discuss the annual evaluation of the College President.

Mr. Bland Proctor called the meeting into closed session at 424PM. The meeting was called back into open session at 440PM

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 441 PM.


Bland Proctor, Chair


John Lacey, Secretary