

MINUTES of the PUBLIC HEARING and SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
of the BOARD OF TRUSTEES of VICTORIA COLLEGE
August 16, 2021

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
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Also in attendance: *In Person:* VC Staff: Dr. Jennifer Kent, Mary Ann Rodriguez, Keith Blundell, Cindy Buchholz, Edrel Stoneham, Terri Kurtz, Marty Deckard, Felix Appelt, Darla Guajardo, Matt Wiley, Lydia Huber, Tracey Bergstrom, Jerry Hamilton, Babette Lowe, Betsy Crane, Jacob Flores, Ceci Oldmixon, Darin Kazmir and Amy Mundy.

The Victoria College Board of Trustees met for a public hearing and special board meeting on Monday, August 16, 2021, 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 4:02 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

2. Public Hearing on the Victoria College 2021 Tax Rate

Mr. Bland Proctor, Board Chair, asked if anyone was present that wanted to speak on the proposed new tax rate of \$.2076 per \$100 valuation from the August 6, 2021 special board meeting. There being no one present to comment, Mr. Proctor closed the public hearing at 4:03PM and moved on to the agenda items for consideration.

C. Items for Consideration:

1. CONSIDER Minutes of the Board Workshop held on August 9, 2021

Mr. Luis Guerra moved to accept the minutes as presented. Dr. Josie Rivera seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

2. CONSIDER Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on August 9, 2021

Ms. Catherine McHaney moved to accept the minutes as presented. Mr. John Zacek seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

3. CONSIDER College Tax Rate for 2021

Mr. Keith Blundell presented. He reminded the board that 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 performed the calculations which were presented to the board at the August 9, 2021 special board workshop. The taxable values increased by 7.27%. New improvements are exempted from the NNR calculation and were at \$88,249,705. The NNR assessment of \$0.2048 per \$100 valuation would generate \$185,593 less than what has been budgeted. The current rate of \$0.2203 per \$100 valuation would generate \$875,492 more than the proposed budget. The voter-approval rate of \$0.2200 per \$100 valuation would generate \$854,955 more than the proposed budget. The rate of \$0.2076 per \$100 valuation would generate \$6,087 more than the proposed budget.

He also reminded the board that they had voted to propose a tax rate of \$0.2076 at that August 9, 2021 meeting. Since this rate is higher than the NNR but lower than the VAR, the Board is required to hold a public hearing on the proposed tax rate. That hearing was held today, August 16, 2021, prior to the board meeting. The Board is now required to adopt the tax rate within 7 days after the public hearing. Mr. Luis Guerra moved to accept the college rate of \$0.2076 per \$100 valuation as proposed. Ms. Catherine McHaney seconded the motion. All 7 members present raised their hand and said "aye" in favor of the proposed college tax rate. Motion was recorded and carried unanimously.

4. CONSIDER 2021-2022 Operating Budget

Mr. Keith Blundell presented. He shared that the attached proposed budget summary was presented and discussed in detail at the Board Workshop held on August 9th. The total budget decreased \$161,000 or 0.47%. State Appropriations decreased \$433,000. There were changes to the required tuition and fee rates, which was approved in March. As a result, there is a decrease in tuition and fee revenues of \$6,000. In this budget the pay scale includes a step increase of 1.5% with no cost of living increase. After netting added employees, retirements and terminations, the cost of salaries decreased \$202,000. The Board is recommending the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.2076/\$100 which would be a \$0.0127 decrease in the tax rate (5.8%). The college's 1999 revenue bonds of \$6 million matured in August 2019. The college will continue to fund the annual payment of \$442,000 into the project fund until the time comes to re-issue the revenue bonds for a future project. Dr. Josie Rivera made a motion to accept the budget as presented. Mr. Ron Walker seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5. CONSIDER TexPool Resolution Amending Authorized Representatives

Mr. Keith Blundell presented. He shared that Ms. Laura Perez, current Business Office Manager, is retiring effective September 30, 2021. Mr. Lawrence Rodriguez has been selected as her replacement and will need access to Victoria College's TexPool accounts.

Authorized Representatives include the following:

- Keith Blundell, VP of Administrative Services
- Tracey Bergstrom, Director of Finance
- Lawrence Rodriguez Business Office Manager

Mr. John Zacek made a motion to accept the resolution as presented. Dr. Daniel Cano seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

6. CONSIDER Resolution for Construction Best Method for Grant Projects

Mr. Keith Blundell presented. He shared that the attached resolutions are relating to the Allied Health Building Remodel, the Museum of the Coastal Bend Addition and the Leo J. Welder Center for the Performing Arts Annex construction method.

For the Allied Health Building and Museum of the Coastal Bend Resolution, the Texas Government Code 2269.056(a) allows the College to determine the best method when considering a construction contract which is currently Construction Manager-At-Risk.

However, for the following grants, Competitive Bidding is required.

****U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration Financial Assistance Award ID Number 08-79-05516 URI: 116464 for the Allied Health Building Remodel**

****National Endowment for the Humanities Award Number CHA-268761-20 for the Museum of the Coastal Bend Addition.**

The resolution authorizes the use of Competitive Bidding as construction method for these projects only.

For the Welder Center Annex Resolution, The Texas Government Code 2269.056(a) allows the College to determine the best method when considering a construction contract which is currently Construction Manager-At-Risk. However, the National Parks Service award to Texas Historical Commission, Federal Award Number P19AP00014 allows Victoria College use Competitive Sealed Proposals as the construction method for the Leo J. Welder Center for the Performing Arts Annex. This resolution authorizes the use of Competitive Sealed Proposals as construction method for this project only.

Ms. Catherine McHaney made a motion to accept the resolutions as presented. Dr. Josie Rivera seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

7. CONSIDER Nomination to the Advisory Board of the Museum of the Coastal Bend

Mr. Keith Blundell introduced Ms. Sue Prudhomme who presented. She shared that the Advisory Board of the Museum of the Coastal Bend met on July 27, 2021 and voted to recommend Matthew Gaskin for a three-year term on the advisory board, term beginning September 1, 2021. His bio includes:

- Born and raised in Jackson County; attended Victoria College for two years
- Served in the U.S. Army where he was a member of the U.S. Army Band
- Worked for Victoria Advocate and then Alcoa. from which he retired in 2002
- Owner of Crossroads Professional Detailing, 209 South Liberty Street
- Past Commander of Victoria area Vietnam Veterans
- Member of American Legion
- Chair of the African American Chamber of Commerce
- Vice President-Elect of Kiwanis Club
- Historical research includes African-American Churches in the Victoria area
- Avid Historian

Served two consecutive three-year terms on MCB Advisory Board, September 2014 – August 2020, and is now eligible to return per advisory board by-laws.

Mr. Ron Walker made a motion to accept the nomination as presented. Dr. Daniel Cano and Mr. Luis Guerra seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

8. CONSIDER 2021-22 Victoria College and Victoria College Foundation Memorandum of Understanding

Ms. Amy Mundy presented. She shared with the board that the attached MOU was last updated in 2014. It is reviewed annually, but changes are only made as an “as needed” basis. The organizational structure of the Advancement Office has recently changed. The revised MOU reflects those changes. At the July 12, 2021 regular meeting of the Victoria College Foundation Board of Directors, the revised MOU between Victoria College and Victoria College Foundation was approved as presented by the Victoria College Foundation Board of Directors. Dr. Kent has reviewed the changes and is in favor of approval. Dr. Daniel Cano made a motion to accept the revised MOU as presented. Dr. Josie Rivera seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:16 PM.



Bland Proctor, Chair



John Zagak, Secretary