

**ALVIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 28, 2016  
OFFICIAL MINUTES**

The Board of Regents of Alvin Community College met in regular session on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2016 at 6:00 p.m., with the following members, administrative personnel, and guests present:

L.H. "Pete" Nash	Chair
James B. DeWitt	Vice-Chair
Karlis Ercums III	Secretary
Mac Barrow	Regent
Jody Droege	Regent
Mike Pyburn	Regent
'Bel Sanchez	Regent
Doyle Swindell	Regent
Christal M. Albrecht	President, Alvin Community College
Wendy Del Bello	Alvin Community College
Karl Stager	Alvin Community College
Cynthia Griffith	Alvin Community College
Marilyn Dement	Alvin Community College
Jim Simpson	Alvin Community College
Karen Edwards	Alvin Community College
John Bethscheider	Alvin Community College
Drew Nelson	Alvin Community College
Linda Austin	Alvin Community College
Nadia Nazarenko	Alvin Community College

Amanda Smithson	Rhonda Hull	Jeannette Stuksa
Debbi Fontenot	Sheila Jones	Andy Tacquard
Deborah Kraft	Tammy Giffrow	George Tacquard
Holly Williams	Vicki Marvel	Dick Tyson
Ike Hamrick	Wes Land	Monica Morgan
Jeanine Wilburn	Angelek Jordan	Patty Hertenberger
John Tompkins	Tim Seiter	Shirley Brothers
Kyle Marasckin	Claron Salter Clark	Terry Sawma
Laurel Joseph	Kam Marvel	Jim McShery
Leslie Bartosh	Jennifer Marvel	Ken Robinson
Mark Putnam	Tristan Marvel	
Patrick Sanger	Roger Stuksa	

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Nash at 6:00 p.m.

**2. Certification of Posting of Notice**

Certification of the posting of the notice as listed in the agenda was acknowledged. Dr. Albrecht certified that a notice of the meeting was posted in accordance with Title 5, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code.

The Board immediately went into Executive Session.

- **Executive Session:** *Section 551.072 - For the purpose of deliberating the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property, if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person. Section 551.074 - To deliberate the 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.*

The Executive Session ended at 6:48 p.m.

### **3. Call to Order**

The meeting was called back to order by Chairman Nash at 7:00 p.m.

- **Pledge**
- **Invocation**

Invocation by Mr. Pyburn.

### **Presentation by University of Houston Clear Lake President Dr. William Staples**

Dr. Staples spoke to the ongoing partnership with ACC and the success of ACC students that have transferred to UHCL. He thanked the Board for their service to ACC and the community and said it is a joy to work with Dr. Albrecht. UHCL tracks the grade point averages of all the community college students from the Gulf Coast Consortium and all other incoming transfer students and how they do at UHCL. Through comparison, ACC is above average in both categories. UHCL currently serves approximately 400 former ACC students. The partnership has worked well due to the 2 + 2 articulation plan agreement, in which transferring students do not lose credit. Transfer scholarships have been introduced at UHCL for those transferring in as juniors, depending on GPA and course loads, for up to two years. Out of the 38 public Universities, UHCL comes in at 27 in the lower cost range and they want to insure that students have a cost effective alternative to complete a bachelor's degree. The UH system has very different campuses and the reason that UHCL transitioned to a four year university is to provide a series of four year universities in which each serve somewhat different markets. The commitment to community college transfers has not been and will not diminish. UHCL is responding to area growth and opened a satellite campus in Pearland with a Health Sciences and classroom building to be added. Data provided to Dr. Staples has shown the percentage of economically disadvantaged students by school district in the entire region comparing the years 04-05 to 14-15 has dramatically increased. AISD had an increase of nearly 50% of students who get reduced or free lunches. Help is needed for these students get an education, AA or Bachelors. An initiative is to increase need based scholarship funding. There is a host of students who have the academics but not the funds. If these students aren't assisted financially, our communities collectively will become very different than they are today. Dr. Staples' closing note was educated communities will win and less educated communities will lose – it's that simple. He thanked the staff for doing a great job in educating the students and Chair Nash for his service to the college.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Chair Nash said that there were no corrections or additions to the minutes of the Special Board meeting of February 11, 2016, Special Board Workshop of February 15, 2016, Regular Board meeting of February 18, 2016, Special Board Workshop of March 22, 2016 and Regular Board meeting of March 24, 2016, the minutes would stand as presented.

Mr. Barrow questioned if \$40,000 had been set aside for the Bond and how much had been spent. Dr. Albrecht stated that she thought that amount was correct and did not have the information of money spent available, but would get that information.

### **Information Items**

The Dolphin Spotlights for this month included: Jackmar Silva-Franco, Traci Elliott and Sheila Jones. Also, Nolan and Ruth Ryan received the AACC 2016 Outstanding Alumni Award recognition at the annual AACC convention in Chicago, Illinois on April 12, 2016.

### **Student Report**

Angelek Jordan, treasurer of Student Government Association, presented information about spring activities and programs including: Safe Spring Bash, Sexual Assault Awareness week, Dolphin Dash Fun Run, and Blue's Birthday Celebration. Congratulations were given to Tim Seiter, SGA president, who received the ACC President's Award.

### **President's Report**

Dr. Albrecht shared the following comments:

Over the last two months as I have been providing information sessions regarding the upcoming bond election, I had many questions such as the projects in the bond, the process involved, and what the future holds for the college if the bond does not pass. But one of the most interesting questions I had was at my Community Advisory Committee meeting last week. Someone asked the question, "What have you learned about our community during this process?" What a great question! I responded very honestly that I was surprised about the divisiveness that exists within the college district. I knew that the Alvin High School Football Team playfully taunts the Manvel Football Team each year at the Battle of Highway 6. And Mayor Martin and Mayor Horn take turns with harmless jokes about each other. But what I have seen in this process has been much more deeply rooted distrust and animosity of the "east side" versus the "west side".

I spoke with one concerned woman who was undecided about the bond and she told me that she did not want her tax dollars going to support a campus on the "west side" but saw nothing wrong with residents of Shadow Creek Ranch, Rodeo Palms, and Sedona Lakes supporting improvements only to the Alvin Campus. She wanted to know if the bond failed if our board planned to go out for another bond that would have improvements only for the current campus. I thought it was ironic that it was fine with her that the west side should support the east side but the opposite was unthinkable. Meanwhile, a recent demographic report from Templeton Associates shows that growth will continue both in Alvin proper and on the 288 corridor, with every one house built in Alvin, 6.9 houses will be built on 288.

I was also surprised that when a telephone survey was conducted, residents living near 288 said that while 40 % of them had never set foot on our campus, they supported improvements for the current campus as well as a new campus. They appreciated the quality programs offered such as dual credit and saw the benefit of the bond for the entire ACC district.

During this process I learned how generous the community has been with its time and how much people care about and value the college. The Long Range Facilities Planning Committee gave hours and hours to the college by attending meeting after meeting reviewing facilities master plan. People who have lives and concerns of their own came to meetings rather than spending time at home with their families. I don't have adequate words to thank them for all they have done, and undoubtedly, what they will continue to do to support their community college.

Finally something I learned which really wasn't about the bond at all but happened recently during a conversation that I had with one of our students while we waited in line for lunch at Mr. C's. This lovely young woman softball star is a Presidential Scholar and was just named to the Region 14 All-Academic Team. As we waited in line, she mentioned to me that she was very happy that the board and our staff had supported the college building or obtaining a girls field house. I thanked her and said that I was sorry that she will have graduated by the time the structure is built. She said, "Well that's ok. It's not for me, it's for those who follow me. I'm glad to have been part of making it happen." I thought to myself, oh my gosh, this 19 year old girl gets it. She understands that the plans we make today and the things we do today benefit the community of tomorrow. That 19 year old gets it. I hope that residents of our community get it too.

### **Citizen Inquiries**

*Time will be allotted at each regular meeting of the Board of Regents for citizen inquiries. After registering with the Board Secretary prior to the meeting, a citizen shall have an opportunity to address the Board of Regents for the four specific purposes as designated by State laws governing opening meetings: (1) to discuss an item that appears on the agenda/notice of the meeting, (2) to make a request for specific, factual information, (3) to ask for a recitation of existing policy, (4) to redress grievances. In accordance with State law, no deliberation, discussion, or decision will be made other than to consider a proposal to place the subject on the agenda for a subsequent meeting, unless the*

*subject is listed on the Board agenda, in which case it may be discussed by the Board of Regents. A written response / acknowledgment will be provided from the Board of Regents. Oral comments are limited to five minutes in length, unless extended by a majority of the Regents by vote, and must not mention any individuals by name or position or contain any personally identifiable reference (State of Texas Opening Meeting Law). In the event there is a charge or grievance to be made against a specific agent, employee, or student, then it shall be conducted in an Executive Session to comply with State law.*

Mr. Dick Tyson – Mr. Tyson stated that he wanted to speak the truth to the people who have the authority for this community. At the last meeting he stated that he thought that your vote was late and tried to be direct about it and told all that he had spoken to the Secretary of State in charge of elections and they confirmed that, that it was totally late. There was a good chance while law suits are available they are not the option, the Attorney General has a finance department and that finance department has to certify that the legal requirements have been met. He talked to them this week and so it's out in the open. His theory is that you're going to have an election, win or lose, and you didn't do it right. He asked how we can have a college and an adequate attorneys and not do it right. When he listened to the speech up here, he really regretted not going to the Legislature and trying to bust Uof H for doing what they did. He asked how can you have these community colleges get a college created so people here can go there and upper management and change their whole mission. It's just empire building, it's just colleges loading up the debt and now half the kids in Alvin they don't need scholarships, they need a meal ticket so that when they go to school they can eat. They have to make decisions whether they are going to pay tuition. When he went to UofH it was \$3 a semester hour. He didn't ever go here and it was \$25 a semester hour. When he was at University of Texas it was \$25 a semester. He stated now we are asking kids to get out and start a life with \$100,000-\$200,000 of debt. They don't need scholarships, they need a lowered tuition. And they need something to eat. So when thinking about things, quit loading up so much bureaucracy and firing instructors. He stated this is very close to looking like we are going to bust this place and have to merge with somebody else and then pay a huge buy out. And he thinks that is exactly wrong. So with that he stated he hoped that you would consider what you are doing when you come to money.

Ms. Shirley Brothers – Ms. Brothers stated that she had been out in the community talking with a lot of people about the bond election and that it was really exciting. In spite of divisiveness that has been seen throughout this, she is encouraged and excited by the number of people who are saying yes and that we need to do this. She has spent some time on the Westside. She was speaking with a gentleman who asked if she had voted and he wanted her to vote at the Westside Library because he can't vote because he was not a citizen but he support what the community college is doing and wanted them to know it and wanted to wear the sticker just to show his support. She thought, here is a man who can't vote, but he supports all that is being done and is out there working for the support of the bond. She asked folks to get out and vote and thanked everyone who is out there working hard to promote the bond election and get it passed. She stated that she is looking forward to doing better things for this school that has done so much for so many. She told Mr. Nash she would miss him and thanked him.

Mr. Tim Seiter – Mr. Seiter stated that he is a student at ACC and in 2012 went to the University of Houston for three weeks and left to walk the longest trails in the US. After returning he decided to go to ACC as it had always had a great reputation. He is very happy with his decision, as he has been academically challenged, knows his instructors well and met many friends, enjoys going to the Student Center and the Community Garden. He will be graduating from ACC in May and is sad to leave this community that he grown on him. In looking at the future of ACC, he stated he totally supports the bond and that it will make our great school even greater. Student Activities center sorely needs to be renovated providing a better space for students to meet and eat. Classrooms need updating to provide a better space to learn in. Culinary Arts has extremely limited space now but would be able to teach students like himself how to cook. He stated that additionally, the bond funds would create much needed study spaces for students and provide more full time faculty who would invest in the success of students. As the ACC SGA President, he believed the success of this bond is in the best interest of both current and future students. Seeing that nearly 75% of ACC students work part time and cannot afford to drive long distances every day, the Westside campus would provide a hub of education for students who in the past have been neglected and have had to go to other more accessible schools. Also, the technical building at the main campus

would allow for programs such as HVAC to be created and other current programs like welding to expand. These improvements to the campus are essential in keeping up with other universities and community colleges. He said that ACC is an incredible school that he is happy to be a part of and would love to see this incredible school grow and touch more people as it has touched him. He thanked the Board.

Ms. Claron Salter Clark – Ms. Clark stated that she is a resident of Alvin, has two sons who attended ACC, one who used dual credit program. One son is an entrepreneur and the other is a music instructor. She wanted to state something positive and thank the Board for all their work in presenting the bond to the vote. She is a State Farm Insurance Office business owner and wants to give back to the community. Education is very dear to her. She does support children's education foundations because education is the key for the children. She and her husband own the Alvin Skate Party skating rink and her property taxes are hefty as well but when it comes down to the end, it is for the children's future – including her grandchild, future grandchild and many other children that are in the community. Good opportunities need to be available to the children as they are the leaders of the next generation. She thanked the Board for the work they have done.

### **Data Report – Number of Awards, Certificates, Core Completers and Field of Study Completers Report**

This month's report included the Number of Awards, Certificates, Core Completers and Field of Study Completer's report that come from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. Mr. Pat Sanger highlighted that we have increased significantly the number of degrees awarded and that ACC met the Closing the Gap target that gets more students into higher education. This report was for information only.

### **Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges Fifth Year Report Update**

Dr. Cynthia Griffith and Dr. Drew Nelson gave the SACS COC accreditation status fifth year interim report. They attended workshops staffed by the SACS COC members that provided valuable information including standards, QEP impact report, various requirements, federal regulations and any help in preparation for the report. Dr. Nelson spoke to the components of the report. This report is due to the SACS September 15, 2016, however, ACC has set a deadline of August 1, 2016 and is currently on track to meet that date. This report was for information only.

### **Contract Recommendations 2016-17**

The Board approved the Contracts for 2016-17 at the March meeting, however there were two of corrections to the categories in which two employees had been listed. The corrected list was presented for approval. Motion was made to approve the corrected Contract Recommendations list by Mr. Ercums. Seconded by Mr. Swindell. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Current and Future Grant Update**

A list of current grants and their status and ideas for future grants were presented for the Board's information. Mr. Barrow asked about the TWC Fast Start II grant and did the ten students get trained. Mr. Capps stated that we had and that we had reached out to other colleges in Texas, including Galveston College, to promote and provide technical assistance on the curriculum that we developed. To date we have reached out to 34 colleges with very good feedback. This was for information only.

### **Inspiring Tobacco free Lives Grant**

A grant proposal for \$10,000 to the Truth Initiative for Inspiring Tobacco Free Lives was presented for approval for submission. Motion was made to approve the college's submittal of the grant by Mr. Ercums. Seconded by Mrs. Knape. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Annual College Grant/Contract Proposals**

The 2015-16 grants and contracts presented included some that are given yearly and others that are proposed and expected to receive in 2016-17. Mrs. Sanchez asked if some of the Texas Workforce grants aren't on the list due to not knowing exactly what the amounts are going to be. Mr. Capps stated that was correct. Motion made by Mrs. Knappe to approve the list of annual college grant and contract proposals. Seconded by Mrs. Sanchez. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Ladies Softball Fieldhouse Update**

Mr. Stager reported to the Board that discussions with city included the need for proper retention ponds and to tie into the city sewer system in that part of the campus. This is more than what was originally involved in the original estimates. The Fieldhouse cost most likely will not change, but the connection into the sewer system will be the more costly part of the project. There needs to be more investigation and is a more complex issue than thought. Will wait for the outcome of the Bond issue to see if that would be a part of this project since other future buildings will be built in this area and want to do the proper planning for the future. This was for information only.

### **Selection of TXU as Energy Provider**

Mr. Stager reported that with the authority given him by the Board to sign up with a future electric contract, a rate has been determined with a cost savings of approximately 3.9% over what is currently in place. In addition, an energy rebate through the Greenback program, rewards money of up to \$11,500, is given if the college is doing different things to save electricity, like solar and LED lighting. This was for information only.

### **Resale of Trust Property**

The following items were brought before the Board for resale approval.

#### Action Items:

1. Account # 3940-0011-000, Brazoria County suit # 93T8270
2. Account # 0493-0046-000, Brazoria County suit # 42919

Motion by Mr. DeWitt to reject the resale of these trust properties. Seconded by Mr. Pyburn. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Financial Report Ending March 2016**

The financial report ending March 2016 was presented to the Board for approval. Motion by Mr. Ercums that the Board of Regents approves the Financial Report ending March 2016. Seconded by Mr. Pyburn. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Closing Comments**

#### **Mr. Mac Barrow**

Mr. Tyson said something tonight that resonated with me. That more of having costs as low as possible and as many of you know, I have preached cost control for a long time, but to me the first college that latches on to the idea of having the best possible education at the lowest possible cost and can prove that and advertise it, to me they are going to set the mark for others to look up to. And that doesn't seem to have caught on in the education community so far but you hear politicians talking more and more about it. I would hope that in the future this college would be the first one who could do that and stand up and say proudly, hey, come here it will cost you less and you will get the best education. That's all.

**Dr. Albrecht**

Reminded that those Board members who will be leaving do need to be present at the May board meeting for the swearing in of the new Board members.

**Chair Nash**

I have been fortunate in this community. I've had 50 years of good vocation, avocation and my avocation turned out to be education. Let me tell you why I say that, I had 12 years in public schools, 4 years in college, 1 year in counter intelligence school, 2 years of physical therapy school, taught school at Ball High for seven years, was on the Alvin School Board for 15 years, on this board for 12 years. I've had 51 years in education. I try to think of how I've felt being a board member, and the best thing I could come up with is an analogy of a little fat boy on a little league baseball team. He wasn't very fast, never hit a home run, he dropped the ball more times than he liked, but he was proud to be part of the team and even prouder to be a participant – that's me!

And the whole church said ...Amen!

**Adjournment**

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

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**Karlis Ercums III, Secretary**

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**L. H. "Pete" Nash, Chair**