

**AMARILLO COLLEGE BOARD OF REGENTS  
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
March 24, 2009**

**REGENTS PRESENT:** Ms. Michele Fortunato, Chair; Mr. Prenis O. Williams, Vice Chair; Ms. Lilia B. Escajeda; Mr. Carroll M. Forrester; Mr. Don L. Nicholson; Dr. Gene Norman; and Mr. H. Bryan Poff

**REGENTS ABSENT:** Mr. John D. Hicks, Secretary and Dr. David C. Woodburn

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mr. Robert Austin, Dean of Enrollment Management; Mr. Terry Berg, Dean of Finance & Administrative Services; Dr. Laura Grandgenett, Information Technology Chief Information Officer; Dr. Paul Matney, Acting President; Ms. Danita McAnally, Dean, Assessment and Development; Mr. Jerry Moller, Acting Vice President and Dean of Instruction; and Mrs. Damaris Schlong, Dean of Workforce & Economic Development

Dr. Claudie Biggers, representing Faculty Senate  
Mrs. Joy Connors, President, Administrators Association  
Mr. Bruce Cotgreave, Director, Physical Plant  
Mrs. Tracy Dougherty, Dir. Of Marketing & Special Events, AC Foundation  
Mrs. Kathy Dowdy, Director of Development, AC Foundation  
Mr. Jon Galloway, representing *The Ranger*  
Mr. Jeff Gibson, Director of Equipment Services, Information Technology Systems  
Mrs. Ann Hamblin, representing Faculty Senate  
Mrs. Linda Hendrick, Dir. of Telecommunications, Information Technology Systems  
Mrs. Lola Hornstra, Director of Investment Management, Business Office  
Dr. Lana Jackson, President, Faculty Senate  
Mr. David Johnson, Chairman, Amarillo College Foundation Board  
Ms. Jackie Kingston, representing KVII-TV, Channel 7  
Mr. Justin Lawlis, President, Student Government Association  
Ms. Patsy Lemaster, Associate Dean, Center for Teaching and Learning  
Dr. Graziella Marchicelli, Executive Director, Amarillo Museum of Art  
Mrs. Lori Merriman, Executive Secretary, President's Office  
Mrs. Sheryl Mueller, Division Chair, Associate Degree Nursing  
Mr. David Pittman, representing *Amarillo Globe-News*  
Dr. Richard Pullen, Professor, Associate Degree Nursing  
Mr. Greg Rohloff, representing *Amarillo Independent*  
Mrs. Brenda Sadler, Exec. Asst., Pres's Off. and Asst. Secy. to the Board of Regents  
Mr. Robert Sanders, Legal Counsel  
Mrs. Lyndi Shadbolt, Associate Professor, Associate Degree Nursing  
Mrs. Vickie Shelton, Director, Purchasing  
Mr. Lynn Thornton, Director of Administrative Services/Human Resources  
Mr. Eric Wallace, Coordinator of Intervention Programs, Criminal Justice  
Mrs. Kim Wright, Instructor, Associate Degree Nursing  
Mr. Joe Wyatt, Communications Coordinator, College Relations  
Mr. David Ziegler, Assistant Director, Physical Plant

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Fortunato, Chairman. She welcomed all present and asked if there were any public comments. Mr. Williams gave the invocation.

Minutes of the Amarillo College Board of Regents Regular Meeting of March 24, 2009**MINUTES APPROVED:**

Mr. Nicholson moved, seconded by Mr. Williams to approve minutes of the regular meeting of February 24, 2009. The motion carried unanimously.

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION REPORT:**

Justin Lawlis, president of SGA, reported that they will be attending the State conference in Austin next week. Badgerama and Sneak Peek are coming up; tomorrow, the Distinguished Alumnus Committee will be selecting the recipient. The LITE Scholarship Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, April 14; guest speaker will be Mark Zupan, *Murderball* star. The Distinguished Lecture Series, featuring John Walsh, was successful; there were approximately 550 people in attendance.

**AMARILLO COLLEGE FOUNDATION OVERVIEW AND FUND REQUEST APPROVED:**

Amarillo College Foundation personnel, Kathy Dowdy, Tracy Dougherty and Foundation Board President, David Johnson, gave the Board of Regents an overview of foundation issues and achievements.

The Amarillo College Foundation was established in 1962 for the purpose of accruing and managing funds to be given as scholarships. At that time, a Property Deposit was required of students who took nine hours or more in a semester; this was adopted in order to protect the College against library fines, lost or damaged library books, chemistry laboratory breakage, and any other violations of College policy which might result in an extraordinary expense. The Property Deposit Policy was rescinded by the Board in 1975; a \$2.00 library fee was enacted for all academic students. Interest from these fees went toward a Property Deposit Scholarship which was recommended for worthy students by a Financial Aid Committee to the Board of Regents each year. In 2003, it was recommended that \$10,000 from the Property Deposit Scholarship (renamed the Academic Scholarship) be used for the Regents Excellence Scholarships. The Academic Scholarship was last given in 2005-06. It was explained that the market is currently in a major downturn and monies for scholarships are dwindling. The AC Foundation Recruitment Scholarships were explained: Jenkins (counselor recommended) – these are given to students who have a 3.0 GPA and are enrolled in at least 12 hours each semester; \$300 is awarded. Regents Excellence – these are offered to students who graduate in the top 10% of their class; students must maintain a 3.0 GPA; and be enrolled in a minimum of 12 hours each semester; award is \$500. Regents Academic – students who graduate in the top 11 – 15% of their senior class; must maintain a 3.0 GPA; be enrolled in a minimum of 12 hours each semester; award is \$400. National Honor Society Award – these are offered to members of National Honor Society in their high school; must maintain a 3.0 GPA; be enrolled in at least 12 hours each semester; award is \$300. The AC Foundation gives out an average of 600 recruiting scholarships annually to students from AISD, Hereford, Dumas, Boys Ranch, River Road, Canyon, Highland Park, Bible Heritage, Arbor, Holy Cross, and San Jacinto Christian Academy to attend AC; an average of 340 of the scholarships offered are accepted and attend Amarillo College. It is an excellent marketing tool; our goal is to attract the best and brightest to AC. Averaging the awards given the past seven years from these recruiting scholarships, it would take \$49,417.39 more than what is available for the 2009-2010 academic year. A formal request for funds to cover this amount from the Academic Scholarship Fund was made.

Minutes of the Amarillo College Board of Regents Regular Meeting of March 24, 2009**AMARILLO COLLEGE FOUNDATION OVERVIEW AND FUND REQUEST APPROVED Continued:**

Mr. Williams moved, seconded by Mr. Nicholson to grant approval of \$50,000 to the Amarillo College Foundation for use of funds from the Academic Scholarship Fund to cover the amount needed to award recruiting scholarships for the 2009-2010 academic year. The motion carried unanimously.

**EDUCATION REPORT – NURSING DIVISION UPDATE:**

Mrs. Sheryl Mueller, Division Chair, Associate Degree Nursing, gave a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the Nursing Division.

The Nursing Division programs include Vocational Nursing (VN) and Associate Degree Nursing (ADN). The Vocational Nursing program is a one-year certificate program; two general ed prerequisites (A&P and nutrition) and math test eligibility. The Associate Degree Nursing is a five semester program; no general ed prerequisites; eligible scores on HESI A2 exam. Offered also is an LVN to RN AP Track program which is a three semester program; seven general ed prerequisites; eligible scores on HESI A2 exam. VN Program: There are five full-time faculty in the VN program; six part-time clinical instructors. Students wishing to enroll in the VN Program are admitted in both fall and spring semesters; current enrollment is 53 in Level 1/Semester 1 and 50 in Level 2/Semester 2. Graduates of the VN program are eligible to apply for initial VN licensure in Texas and register for the NCLEX-PN exam; 34 graduates in December 2008; anticipate 45 in May 2009. NCLEX-PN exam pass rates were 100% in 2008 and 95.95% in 2007. There is a 97.7% employment rate; beginning salaries in Amarillo range from \$12.00 - \$16.00/hour. The number of declared VN majors not in the program is approximately 160; 150 enrolled students in 2011-2012 is expected. ADN Program: AC is the ninth largest producer of RN graduates of the 57 ADN programs in Texas. Students enrolled in at least one nursing course are 465 in spring 2009; declared majors – 660; students are admitted in both fall and spring semesters. There are 25 full-time faculty; three part-time clinical and one CTA. Graduates from the ADN program are eligible to apply for initial RN licensure in Texas and register to take the NCLEX-RN Exam; 68 graduates in December 2008; expect 67 in May. NCLEX-RN Exam pass rate in December 2008 was 88.25%. Employment for an ADN grad on the national level has a much faster than average growth of 23% through 2016; in Texas, current demand for full-time RNs exceeds supply by 22,000; in Amarillo, employment slowdown in some clinical arenas with a longer time frame for new graduates to find desired employment. A salary for new graduates in Amarillo is approximately \$20.00/hour. Future plans for the ADN program includes increasing program enrollment to 650 students by 2011-2012; incorporate significant percentage of clinical simulation hours in all clinical courses; improve program graduation rate.

Some challenges include meeting enrollment targets for program growth during next two to three years; improving graduation rates to meet expected THECB outcomes of 85%; sustaining and increasing faculty levels over the next two to three years. One student success story was relayed – Yvette Wiggins began as a CNA; entered the VN Program in spring 06 and graduated in fall 06; entered the LVN to RN AP Option of the ADN program in fall 07 and graduated in fall 08; passed the NCLEX-RN Exam in January 2009; she plans to continue her education to obtain an MSN degree and teach nursing at Amarillo College.

Minutes of the Amarillo College Board of Regents Regular Meeting of March 24, 2009**PROFESSOR EMERITUS NOMINATION PROPOSAL APPROVED:**

Dr. Lana Jackson, Faculty Senate President, presented the 2009 Professor Emeritus nomination of Arthur Schneider to the Board of Regents and recommended approval of the nominee.

Art Schneider is a retired Physical Science/Math/Engineering professor; he retired from Amarillo College after 25 years of service (1981-2004). He received numerous accolades and gained respect from peers in his field by working with public school teachers and university peers country-wide. He was selected as the Texas Alliance for Minorities in Engineering (TAME) Educator of the Year in 2002.

Mr. Forrester moved, seconded by Dr. Norman to approve the Professor Emeritus nomination of Arthur Schneider. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED:****A. BIDS AND PROPOSALS:****• OMNISCAN PHASED ARRAY - NON-DESTRUCTIVE TESTING EQUIPMENT**

Equipment purchased will be used to design new Non-Destructive Testing experiments, upgrade the current Non-Destructive Testing experiments, and for classroom demonstrations for various related courses. The purchase of the new equipment will align our curriculum with New Mexico Tech or other 4-year institutions. This equipment will ensure our students a seamless transition to a 4-year institution.

It was recommended the equipment be purchased from Olympus NDT, Inc., the sole source manufacturer of the Omniscan Phased Array instrument product line, for approximately \$30,137.00.

Funds are available from the College Cost Reduction and Access Act-Hispanic Serving Institutions (CCRAA-HSI) Model for Participatory, Collaborative STEM Learning Grant.

**• VIDEO CONFERENCING EQUIPMENT**

The purchase of Video Conferencing equipment for two classrooms will allow faculty to share field experiments, which include interactive experiences with remote instrumentation and allow team-teaching between Amarillo College and New Mexico Tech. This equipment will ensure our students a seamless transition to a 4-year institution.

It was recommended to purchase this equipment from Lubbock Audio Visual, Inc., for approximately \$88,418.00. This purchase will be made utilizing a current contract dated September 1, 2008 between Amarillo College and Lubbock Audio Visual.

Funds are available from the College Cost Reduction and Access Act-Hispanic Serving Institutions (CCRAA-HSI) Model for Participatory, Collaborative STEM Learning Grant.

Ms. Escajeda moved, seconded by Mr. Nicholson, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes of the Amarillo College Board of Regents Regular Meeting of March 24, 2009**SALE OF COUNTY PROPERTY OBTAINED THROUGH SHERIFF'S SALE ACCEPTED AND AUTHORIZED:**

Properties foreclosed for taxes and sold at a "Sheriff's Sale" must sell for a minimum bid which is the lower of the adjusted value or the taxes due plus costs of the sale. In some cases this puts the price above what people will pay at a "Sheriff's Sale." Those properties which do not sell are then held in trust by the county/school tax office. The law provides that they can be offered for sale by sealed bids or auction without a minimum bid at a later date. A listing of those properties is attached at pages 133 through 140. Board approval is required because the properties are held in trust by Potter County.

The Potter County Tax Assessor/Collector recommends acceptance of these bids as this puts the property back in production and on the tax rolls. The motion should authorize the Chairman of the Board of Regents to execute the Tax Deeds transferring these properties to the successful bidders.

Ms. Escajeda moved, seconded by Mr. Williams to accept property bids and authorize the chair of the Board of Regents to execute the Tax Deeds. The motion carried unanimously.

**EXTENSION OF COLLEGE BANK DEPOSITORY CONTRACT APPROVED:**

The current bank depository contract with Amarillo National Bank is for a two-year term, from September 1, 2007 through August 31, 2009. It is recommended that the current contract be extended for one additional two-year term beginning September 1, 2009. Section 45.205 of the Education Code states that a District and its depository bank may agree to extend their contract for two additional two-year terms.

Mr. Forrester moved, seconded by Mr. Nicholson to approve extension of the College bank depository contract with Amarillo National Bank for one additional two-year term. Motion carried with Ms. Escajeda abstaining.

**SIM CENTRAL INTER-AGENCY COOPERATION AGREEMENT APPROVED:**

Sim Central has been operating under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Amarillo College (AC), Texas Tech University Health Science Center of Amarillo (TTUHSC) and West Texas A & M University (WTAMU) since May 30, 2008. This MOU served only to allow transitional work to begin on the simulation center. It was the intention of all parties to reach a formal agreement that would replace the MOU and serve to govern operations of Sim Central. A copy of the formal Inter-Agency Cooperation Agreement was provided Board members at the Board meeting. It has been approved by TTUHSC, WTAMU, Amarillo College's attorney, Acting President, CFO, and Board Representative of Sim Central.

Mr. Williams moved, seconded by Ms. Escajeda to approve the Inter-Agency Cooperation Agreement. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes of the Amarillo College Board of Regents Regular Meeting of March 24, 2009**FINANCIAL REPORT ACCEPTED:**

The financial statements as of February 28, 2009 are attached at pages 141 through 150.

Revenue

We are 50% through the year. We are at 104% in other income due to branch campuses maintenance taxes.

Expenditures

We have expended 54% in fringe benefits.

Auxiliary Enterprises

Bookstores are up \$294,260. Employee tuition scholarships show \$86,000 expended.

Restricted Funds

Federal grants and contracts are up by \$937,318. State and local grants and contracts have decreased.

Cash and Investments

\$57.7 million total; \$18.8 million (bond); \$38.9 million – February 2009; \$36.6 million – February 2008; \$33.1 million – February 2007.

Alterations & Improvements

\$629,237 has been spent out of \$1.7 million projected cost.

Tax Schedule

\$17,059,598 was budgeted; \$16,950,491 has been collected.

Bond Expenditures

\$3.5 million has been spent out of an estimated \$36.7 million.

Mr. Williams moved, seconded by Mr. Forrester to accept the financial reports. The motion carried unanimously.

**INVESTMENT COMMITTEE REPORT ACCEPTED:**

A review of the Amarillo College Investment Policy is required annually. The Investment Committee met prior to the regularly scheduled Board meeting to review the Policy.

Mr. Nicholson moved, seconded by Ms. Escajeda to approve the Investment Policy with no revisions and to accept the report of the Investment Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Dr. Matney told of the programs and classes which are housed in C Building, the building in which the meeting was being held, included were Law Enforcement; Criminal Justice; Alcohol Intervention; Drafting; Interior Design; Mortuary Science; and other Continuing Education classes.

Minutes of the Amarillo College Board of Regents Regular Meeting of March 24, 2009**PRESIDENT'S REPORT Continued:**

The Legislative Session remains a challenge for community colleges.

Budget Preparation Process – Budget managers will turn in their FY 2010 budget requests to the Business office by March 30.

Technology Replacement Taskforce - \$1.6 million has been set aside for replacement computers and printers for next year.

Pursuing Real Opportunities (PRO) - the first cluster, manufacturing, has been completed; finance, transportation, and marketing are the next areas of focus.

No Excuses University – Recently, nine from Amarillo College spent time at San Jacinto Elementary. Doug Curry, Principal, met with them; he proposed Amarillo College “adopt” the entire school and join in partnership with them on the “No Excuses University.” They have 600 students from kindergarten through fifth grade. Each teacher at San Jacinto has been “adopted” by a University.

Amarillo Opera – they continue looking for a replacement for Mila Gibson.

UT Harrington Fellows – Dr. Bill Powers, president of The University of Texas at Austin and a group of Harrington Faculty Fellows and Harrington Graduate Fellows from the University of Texas at Austin will be honored at a symposium to be held in the Concert Hall Theatre at 2:30, April 7; a reception will follow in the Amarillo Museum of Art at 4:00.

SACS Fifth-Year Compliance Report – Dr. Matney said there was one minor follow up item to report to SACS.

**REGENTS' REPORTS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMENTS REGARDING AC AFFILIATES:**

AC Foundation – Ms. Escajeda reported that the Foundation will be awarding scholarships soon; scholarship application deadline is March 1.

Amarillo Museum of Art (AMOA) – Dr. Norman introduced Dr. Graziella Marchicelli, Executive Director of Amarillo Museum of Art; she gave a short report. Dr. Marchicelli distributed pamphlets of AMOA membership and exhibits. Recently, Jim Jordan was honored; his exhibit, *JIM JORDAN: A Collector's Vision* was displayed as well. It is an exhibition that reflects the lifelong pursuit of collecting by a remarkable photographer. Mr. Jordan served on the AMOA Board and showed 120 pieces of art. In mid-April, the AC/WTAMU Faculty & Student Art Show will be exhibited. A high school art show will be shown in May. In the fall, the featured exhibit will be Joseph Holston's depiction of the Underground Railroad. Dr. Marchicelli told of community outreach programs such as visiting the Alzheimer's unit which seems to calm patients. AMOA is attempting to purchase a portrait in honor of Sharon Oeschger, former Board of Regent. AMOA features Third Thursdays which are held every month to exhibit special art pieces and features speakers and Starbuck's coffee.

KACV – Mr. Williams reported that the advisory committee met on February 24; *State of the City Address* was aired February 3; KACV ceased analog programming at midnight on February 17.

Minutes of the Amarillo College Board of Regents Regular Meeting of March 24, 2009**REGENTS' REPORTS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMENTS REGARDING AC AFFILIATES Continued:**

The pledge drive will be held March 1–14; they are down \$20,000 in pledges and up in underwriting contributions.

Ms. Escajeda said that the SIM Central reception was being held at the same time as the Board meeting; she attended for a short while and said it was very enjoyable.

**APPOINTMENT OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPROVED:**

Ms. Fortunato discussed the preliminary Amarillo College Presidential Search Advisory Committee list which was furnished prior to the Board meeting; each potential member has been contacted and agreed to serve. The Advisory Committee will primarily evaluate the applications of any internal candidates for president and then make a recommendation to the Board for consideration. There was discussion pertaining to how members were selected and if Regents needed to serve on the committee; legal counsel referred regents to Section BF in the Board Policy Manual.

Mr. Williams moved, seconded by Ms. Escajeda to approve the Advisory Committee appointments. Motion carried with Dr. Norman and Mr. Poff opposing approval.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

At 8:05 p.m., Ms. Fortunato announced there would be a closed meeting to afford an opportunity for the Board to consider issues concerning the present and future status of the Office of President pursuant to Section 551.074, Texas Government Code.

At 8:15 p.m., Ms. Fortunato called the Amarillo College Board of Regents meeting back into open session. No action was taken.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

---

Michele Fortunato, Chairman









































