

**AMARILLO COLLEGE BOARD OF REGENTS
MINUTES OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
August 14, 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. Terry Berg, Dean of Finance & Administrative Services; Mr. Lee M. Colaw, Chief Information Officer and Dean of Information Technology; Mrs. Ellen Green, Dean of College Communications and Marketing; Dr. Paul Matney, President; Ms. Danita McAnally, Dean, Assessment and Development; and Mrs. Damaris Schlong, Dean of Workforce & Economic Development

Mr. Bruce Cotgreave, Director, Physical Plant
Mr. Charles Griffin, Guest
Mr. Wade Overstreet, Guest
Mrs. Brenda Sadler, Exec. Asst., Pres's Off. and Asst. Secy. to the Board of Regents
Mr. Robert Sanders, Legal Counsel
Mrs. Vickie Shelton, Director, Purchasing
Mr. David White, Webmaster/Communications Specialist, College Relations
Mr. David Ziegler, Assistant Director, Physical Plant

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Fortunato, Chairman.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE FOR 2009:

In accordance with provisions of Section 26.05 of the Texas Property Tax Code, a notice of public hearings regarding the proposed tax rate for 2009 was published in the newspaper on August 7, 2009.

At this time any person and/or persons wishing to come before the Board of Regents regarding the proposed tax rate for 2009 for the Amarillo Junior College District was given the opportunity to be heard. Two concerned taxpayers, Charles Griffin and Wade Overstreet, addressed the Board stating their displeasure with the tax increase. It was explained to them that the average homeowner would pay \$3.00 in increases for College taxes.

ANNOUNCE THE DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF THE SECOND HEARING AND THE MEETING TO ADOPT THE TAX RATE:

The second hearing to discuss the proposed tax rate will be held on Monday, August 17 at noon in the Palo Duro Room. The regular Board meeting on Tuesday, August 25 at 6:00 will be the meeting at which the tax rate is adopted.

Minutes of the Amarillo College Board of Regents Special Meeting of August 14, 2009**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE-TEXAS EDUCATION CODE CHAPTER 44, HB 987:**

During the 81st Legislative session, the formal bid requirements for purchases were amended in Chapter 44 of the Texas Education Code, Fiscal Management Subchapter B; Purchases. The aggregate bid purchase amounts for a 12 month period were increased from \$25,000 or more to \$50,000 or more.

Currently our purchasing policy states that all bids/proposals of \$25,000 or more are to be approved by the Board of Regents. We recommend this requirement be changed to \$50,000 or more, effective September 1, 2009, to be consistent with the Texas Education Code. This change will help stream line the purchasing processes and procedures.

Guidelines for purchasing transactions under the \$50,000 threshold would then be:

- Purchases under \$10,000 – would require informal quotes
- Purchases from \$10,000 to \$49,999 – would require three competitive quotes
- Purchases of \$50,000 and more will follow Chapter 44 of the bid process as required by state statute.

The Board was split on this decision; Mr. Nicholson requested to table this item until another Board meeting, Mr. Poff seconded. The request was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Michele Fortunato, Chair