

**AMARILLO COLLEGE BOARD OF REGENTS
MINUTES OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
December 18, 2006**

REGENTS PRESENT: Ms. Lilia B. Escajeda, Chair; Ms. Michele Fortunato, Vice Chair; Mr. Carroll M. Forrester, Secretary; Mr. John D. Hicks; Mr. Frank O. Nelson; Mrs. Sharon Oeschger; Mr. H. Bryan Poff; and Mr. Prenis O. Williams

REGENTS ABSENT: Dr. David C. Woodburn

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Steven W. Jones, President; Mr. Terry Berg, Dean of Finance & Administrative Services; and Dr. Paul Matney, Vice President and Dean of Instruction

Ms. Lori Merriman, Executive Secretary, President's Office
Ms. Ellen Robertson, Director of Communications
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. Vickie Shelton, Director, Purchasing
Ms. Norma Stary, Marketing Coordinator, College Relations
Mr. Lynn Thornton, Director of Administrative Services/Human Resources
Mr. Roger Williams, Bell Helicopter Textron, Inc.

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

PARTICIPATION IN THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM APPROVED:

The Houston-Galveston Area Council Cooperative Purchasing Program is an interlocal agreement established to create a purchasing network for local governments including municipalities, counties, school/college districts, and various other government entities. This type of agreement is authorized by Chapter 791 of the Texas Local Government Code. Community colleges in the state are invited to participate in an Interlocal Participation contract that will permit participating members to take advantage of the combined purchasing power of the cooperative. The purpose of the agreement is to facilitate compliance with state bidding requirements, to identify qualified vendors of commodities, goods and services, and to relieve the burdens of the governmental purchasing function, including administrative cost savings for cooperative members. A copy of the signed Interlocal Contract for Cooperative Purchasing is attached at pages 75 and 76.

Mr. Williams moved, seconded by Mr. Hicks, to approve participation in the Houston-Galveston Area Council Cooperative Purchasing Program. The motion carried unanimously.

TAX ABATEMENT AGREEMENT APPROVED:

This item was placed on the agenda to allow the Board to consider signing a Tax Abatement Agreement with Bell Helicopter Textron, Inc. Attached at pages 77 through 89 is the agreement and the signed acknowledgment page.

TAX ABATEMENT AGREEMENT APPROVED Continued:

Dr. Jones introduced Mr. Roger Williams, Executive Director and Site Leader, Bell Helicopter Textron, Inc., who talked about the proposed tax abatement agreement. Mr. Williams requested that the AC Board favorably consider the future extension of additional expansion/development phases at the Bell Helicopter Textron, Inc. facility in Amarillo. He reported that the amount of taxes paid to AC by Bell since 1990 is \$47,114.27 and the amount abated is \$257,608.68. From 2000 to 2003, the AC/Bell partnership added net revenues to AC of \$120,000. Revenue to AC was generated by special training grants such as Skills Development Grant. The combined net revenues from the partnership plus the taxes paid to the College totaled \$837,000; abated taxes totaled \$258,000; total net revenues to AC from the partnership totaled \$579,000. The partnership between AC and Bell has been positive in the past. Amarillo College has received approximately \$1million in tuition, fees, supplies, equipment, etc. Bell has received approximately \$300,000 in reimbursement for faculty salaries, supplies, facilities used, etc. AC benefits from added contact hours with training of new and incumbent Bell employees. Mr. Williams was asking for a ten year tax abatement to Bell Helicopter to commence on January 1, 2007. Before December 31 of each year, Bell must certify in writing that it is in compliance with each term of the agreement, but will not be considered in default until it has received notice of non-compliance and has had a period of time not to exceed 30 days to provide the required certification.

Mr. Forrester moved, seconded by Mr. Williams, to approve the tax abatement agreement with Bell Helicopter Textron, Inc. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Carroll Mack Forrester, Secretary

