

Minutes of the Amarillo College Board of Regents Special Meeting of December 17, 2024

**AMARILLO COLLEGE BOARD OF REGENTS
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
December 17, 2024**

REGENTS PRESENT

Mr. Jay Barrett, Chair
Mr. John Betancourt, Vice-Chair
Mrs. Anette Carlisle
Ms. Michele Fortunato
Ms. Irene Hughes
Mr. Johnny Mize
Dr. Paul Proffer
Ms. Peggy Thomas
Dr. David Woodburn

REGENTS ABSENT

CAMPUS REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Mr. Jeff Turner, Representative for the Moore County Campus

CAMPUS REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT

Ms. Sara Pesina, Representative for the Hereford Hinkson Memorial Campus

CABINET MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Denese Skinner, Interim President
Mr. Mark White, Executive General Counsel

CABINET MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Bob Austin, Vice President of Enrollment Management
Mr. Kevin Ball, Vice President of Communications and Marketing
Mr. Chris Sharp, Vice President of Business Affairs
Mr. Joe Bill Sherrod, Vice President of Institutional Advancement
Dr. Frank Sobey, Vice President of Academic Affairs

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ms. Jessica Arce, Administrative Assistant
Ms. Kim Bruce, Communications Coordinator
Mr. Michael Cuiello, Amarillo Globe News
Mr. Steve Douglas, KVII TV
Ms. Ally Greenwood, Executive Assistant & Asst. Secretary to the Board
Mr. Aaron Huddleston, AC Chief of Police
Mr. Christian Johnson, KMR Local 4 news
Mr. Christopher Key, Marketing Special Products Coordinator
Ms. Briana Maestas, Amarillo Tribune
Ms. Sadie, Newsome, Director of Media
Mr. Jay Sawyer, AC Faculty
Ms. Phoebe Terry, Amarillo Tribune
Mr. Joe Wyatt, Content Producer Communications

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SPECIAL MEETING

The Special Meeting was called to order at 5:31 pm by Mr. Jay Barrett, Chair of the Board of Regents. He welcomed those in attendance. A quorum was present.

CLOSED MEETING

At 5:32 p.m., Mr. Barrett called for a closed session to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, and duties of the college president pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code. The open session reconvened at 7:22 p.m. and a quorum was still present.

SELECTION OF COLLEGE PRESIDENT

Ms. Thomas moved that the Board of Regents select Dr. Frank Sobey for President. Ms. Hughes seconded the motion and called for a rollcall vote. Mr. Barrett, Mr. Betancourt, Mrs. Carlisle, Ms. Fortunato, Mr. Mize, Dr. Proffer, and Dr. Woodburn, voted against the motion, so it failed.

Mr. Mize moved that the Board of Regents select Dr. Jamelle Conner as the President of Amarillo College and that staff begin contract negotiations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Woodburn. The motion passed with affirmative votes from Mr. Barrett, Mr. Betancourt, Mrs. Carlisle, Ms. Fortunato, Dr. Proffer, and Dr. Woodburn, while Ms. Hughes and Ms. Thomas voted against. The motion passed.

Mr. Barrett reiterated the directive for staff to proceed with negotiations and thanked the Board for their efforts in selecting a new president. Ms. Carlisle moved to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Ms. Hughes. The meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Sara Pesina, Secretary