

**AMARILLO COLLEGE BOARD OF REGENTS
MINUTES OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
August 6, 2009**

REGENTS PRESENT: Ms. Michele Fortunato, Chair; Mr. John D. Hicks, Secretary; Mr. Carroll M. Forrester; Mr. Don L. Nicholson; Dr. Gene Norman; Mr. H. Bryan Poff; and Dr. David C. Woodburn

REGENTS ABSENT: Ms. Lilia B. Escajeda and Mr. Prenis O. Williams, Vice Chair

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; and Ms. Danita McAnally, Dean, Assessment and Development

Mr. David Pittman, representing *Amarillo Globe News*
Mrs. Theresa Rider, General Accounting & Budget Manager, Business Office
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
Mr. Kale Steed, representing KVII-TV, Channel 7
Mr. Joseph Wyatt, Communications Coordinator, College Relations

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

CONSIDERATION OF THE TAX RATE FOR 2009 ADOPTED:

In accordance with provisions of Section 26.04 of the Texas Property Tax Code, the Randall County Tax Assessor/Collector will publish a legal notice on August 6, 2009, stating that the effective tax rate for the Amarillo Junior College District for 2009 is \$0.18170 per \$100 of assessed value. The rollback rate for the Amarillo Junior College District for 2009 published in the legal notice is \$0.19352 per \$100 of assessed value.

Section 26.05 of the Property Tax Code requires a taxing unit to hold two public hearings on a tax rate if the recommended tax rate for the year exceeds the lower of the rollback tax rate or the effective tax rate. The recommended tax rate is \$0.18413.

Mr. Poff made the following motion: "I move that property taxes be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.18413." Mr. Nicholson seconded the motion to adopt the 2009 tax rate. The motion carried unanimously.

THE DATE SET TO ADOPT THE TAX RATE FOR 2009 AND THE PUBLIC HEARINGS SCHEDULED REGARDING THE TAX RATE FOR 2009:

Dr. Norman made the following motions: "I move that we set the dates for two public hearings on the proposed tax rate for August 14 and August 17, 2009 at 12:00 noon in the Palo Duro Room on the Washington Street Campus." And, "I move that we set the date to adopt the 2009 tax rate for August 25, 2009 at 6:00 p.m., in the Palo Duro Room on the Washington Street

Campus.” Mr.

THE DATE SET TO ADOPT THE TAX RATE FOR 2009 AND THE PUBLIC HEARINGS SCHEDULED REGARDING THE TAX RATE FOR 2009 Continued:

Forrester seconded the motions to set the two hearings on the proposed tax rate and the date to adopt the 2009 tax rate. The motions carried unanimously.

PURCHASE OF WIRELESS ACCESS POINT CONTROLLERS APPROVED:

For maximum efficiency, the wireless access points (WAPs) at Amarillo College are configured and managed through a central device on each campus called a wireless controller. The controllers simplify the use of wireless connectivity for students, employees, and guests by allowing them to seamlessly roam with their wireless devices from one campus to another without changing user names, passwords, or access keys. Washington Street and West Campuses already have WAP controllers in operation. The purchase of wireless controllers for East Campus, the Business and Industry Center, Hereford Campus, and Moore County Campus will give each campus a WAP controller providing Amarillo College with a fully integrated and interoperable wireless environment.

Information Technology Services recommended the immediate purchase of four controllers from AT&T Datacomm, Inc. under the State of Texas Department of Information Resources contract for approximately \$48,935.84 to take advantage of the discount pricing availability.

Funds are available in the 2008-2009 Information Technology Services Division budget.

Dr. Woodburn moved, seconded by Mr. Hicks to approve the purchase of wireless access point controllers. The motion carried unanimously.

INCREASED BANDWIDTH BETWEEN MOORE COUNTY CAMPUS AND WASHINGTON STREET CAMPUS:

The computers on Moore County Campus (MCC) connect to Washington Street Campus to give them access to Amarillo College’s network resources and to the commodity Internet. The current connection allows only 1.5 megabit (MB) of bandwidth, a relatively small technology pipeline by today’s standards. Network monitoring and analysis shows that MCC’s bandwidth is continually pressed to its maximum capacity during the average work day, resulting in slow network connections. After a review of available vendors and services offered, the most cost effective solution was to increase the pipeline connection speed to 45 MB in order to meet the strategic and tactical goals of the College.

Information Technology Services recommends the purchase of a new 45 MB connection from AMA TechTel, the sole source vendor meeting specifications. The installation of the new connection will cost \$2,500; to be funded from the Moore County 2009 fiscal year-end budget, with recurring monthly charges of \$5,000, for the duration of a 3-year contract from the Moore County fiscal year-end budget for 2010 and future funds.

Mr. Nicholson moved, seconded by Dr. Woodburn to approve increased bandwidth between Moore County Campus and Washington Street Campus. The motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION:

At 12:15 p.m., Ms. Fortunato announced there would be a closed meeting to afford an opportunity for the Board to seek the advice of legal counsel concerning pending or contemplated litigation pursuant to Section 551.071, Texas Government Code.

At 12:29 p.m., Ms. Fortunato called the Amarillo College Board of Regents meeting back into open session.

Dr. Woodburn moved, seconded by Mr. Nicholson to authorize the President or Board Chair to execute an agreement to hire the law firm of Hogan and Hartson of New York City, New York, to represent Amarillo College in the Vantage Technologies vs. the College Board lawsuit free of charge should the agreement become necessary. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

John D. Hicks, Secretary