

MINUTES  
Regular Meeting  
BOARD OF REGENTS  
South Plains College  
June 6, 2019

The Board of Regents of South Plains College met on Thursday, June 1, 2020, via Zoom for their regular meeting at 12:30 p.m. with the following present: Mr. Mike Box, Chairman; Mr. Bobby Neal, Vice Chairman; Mr. Ronny Alexander, Secretary; and other members of the Board; Mr. Pete Pettiet; and Mr. Richard Ellis. Others present were Dr. Ryan Gibbs; Dr. Stan DeMerritt; Ms. Teresa Green; Mr. Stephen John; Ms. Kati Walker, of the News-Press; Mr. Jody Rose of KLVY Radio and Dr. Robin Satterwhite.

Guests present: Robyn Reaves, Administrative Assistant to the President.

Mr. Pettiet gave the opening prayer.

Mr. Box led the pledge to the United States Flag.

The Chairman asked if there were any changes to be made to the minutes from the regular May 14 meeting; there being none, Mr. Neal made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Second by Mr. Alexander, vote to approve was unanimous.

The Chairman called on the Vice President for Academic Affairs to report. Dr. Gibbs gave an update on the CARES Act Funding within the Academic Affairs division. He also informed the Board that faculty members are busy preparing different teaching plans for the upcoming Fall semester.

The Chairman called on the Vice President for Student Affairs for his report. Dr. DeMerritt reported on the Summer I enrollment numbers for each campus. [See Exhibit #4477](#). He also updated the Board on the states of the CARES Acts student awards. He stated that numerous people on campus are contacting students personally to hear their stories of how the COVID-19 pandemic have personally affected them, as well to find out how to best help each individual student. Dr. DeMerritt also introduced the Freedom of Expression Policy (exhibit #4478) for Board review. He will also the Board of either deny or approve the policy during the August 2020 meeting.

The Chairman called on the Vice President for Business Affairs for her report. Ms. Green presented the Tax Office, Financial Reports, and Investment Policy. The Chairman asked if there were any questions regarding the reports, there being none, Mr. Alexander made a motion that the Board accept the reports as shown in [exhibits #4479, #4480, and #4481](#). Second by Mr. Neal and the motion carried unanimously. Ms. Green then presented the following property resales: Charles Minor, Account #16706 for \$600, exhibit #4482; Joe Rico, Account #17723 for \$1,400, exhibit #4483; Joe Rico, Account #17724 for \$900, exhibit #4484; Joe Rico, Account #17725 for \$900, exhibit #4485; Charles Oswalt, Account #19255 for \$800, exhibit #4486; Carysfort Reef, Account #26367 for \$750, exhibit #4487; Shannon

Whitfield, Account #4449 for \$110, exhibit #4488; Greg's Backhoe Service, Account #R8583 for \$5,050, exhibit #4489; Phillip Ricker, Account #R15041 for \$1,226, exhibit #4490. Mr. Pettiet made a motion to accept all nine resales of property. Mr. Neal seconded the motion and the vote to approve was unanimous.

Mr. Box called on the Vice President for Institutional Advancement to present. Mr. John informed the Board of the new initiatives being undertaken by the Advancement Division Team to communicate and engage students, donors and constituents. Mr. John said the Office of Development and Alumni Relations has used ThankView, a personalized video messaging platform, to communicate with donors and recent graduates of South Plains College. The office developed a special video message thanking donors for their support and letting them know the Development Office is ready to help them help SPC students. Another video email message was distributed to recent SPC graduates, welcoming them to the SPC Alumni Association and explaining the benefits of their continued association with SPC. Both messages recorded open rates greater than 55 percent which is higher than the industry standard. Mr. John also reported that the alumni website is being expanded and updated in an effort to make the site more interactive and informative for former students. He provided information about another resource that the Office of Marketing and Recruitment is using to announce student achievements. Merit Pages is a new communications resource that was implemented to personally recognize the College's 2020 graduates since they could not be recognized on stage this year due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Merit Pages has been used to announce student graduation and Dean's and President's List honorees. The online resource creates targeted email messages announcing the student achievement and providing links to individual student profile pages that can be shared through social media. Through this online resource, 2,305 students have been recognized that has resulted in more than 21,000 social media shares and 34,000 page views. The system also prepared announcements that were sent to 339 media outlets based on the student zip codes. Mr. John said feedback from students has been very favorable. He commended the Advancement Division Team members in the Development and Alumni Relations Office and the Marketing and Recruitment Office for their creativity in leveraging these new resources to continue to communicate SPC's story in the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic

Mr. Box explained that Dr. Satterwhite had completed the first year of his three year contract. Mr. Neal made the motion to extend Dr. Satterwhite's contract thru 2023 (3 years). Mr. Pettiet seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Mr. Box called on Dr. Satterwhite to present. Dr. Satterwhite provided the Board with a construction update, stating that the progress on the Science Building renovation is ahead of schedule. He also provided an update on the preparations and adjustments administrators, faculty, and staff are making during the COVID-19 pandemic. A budget update was provided and stated that the preliminary budget

will be presented at the next regular Board meeting. Dr. Satterwhite also asked the Board to consider action on the July 2020 meeting. Mr. Neal made a motion to go ahead with the scheduled meeting, but move the meeting to Thursday, July 16. Mr. Ellis seconded and the vote to approve was unanimous.

Finally, Dr. Satterwhite asked the Board to consider approving the following statement on Institutional Equity and Diversity:

The recent tragic events across the nation, and the ensuing calls to action, have caused many in the SPC family to pause and reflect on how our College can be part of the solution to the racial inequalities that divide our nation, state, and communities. South Plains College stands firm against any type of discrimination or acts of racism. The belief that the College should reflect the diversity of the communities we serve is critical to fulfilling our mission. As a result, I would request that the South Plains College board of regents and administration join to engage our college community in an institutional dialog that examines our institutional values and fosters equity within our attitudes, perceptions, and actions. The mission of South Plains College states that, “The College offers high quality courses, programs, and services that assist students in clarifying and achieving their educational and career goals in order to become productive and responsible citizens in a global society. South Plains College empowers its faculty and staff to provide a learning environment that is innovative, engaging, compassionate, safe, diverse, and supportive of the College vision.” In an effort to ensure a “compassionate, safe, [and] diverse” environment, and for students to leave SPC in a position to succeed in a global society, the College will actively examine our environment to ensure respect among our diverse populations of students and employees. I am seeking support from the Board of Regents to form a task force to carefully evaluate our College operations to assess the culture of equity and diversity.

Mr. Ellis made a motion to approve Dr. Satterwhite’s statement. Mr. Alexander seconded the motion and the vote to approve was overwhelmingly unanimous.

Meeting adjourned.