

**MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE DEL MAR COLLEGE DISTRICT**

February 1, 2022

The Workshop Meeting of the Board of Regents of the Del Mar College District convened at the Center for Economic Development, 3209 S. Staples, Room 106, Corpus Christi, Texas, at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 1, 2022, with the following present:

**From the Board:**

Ms. Carol Scott, Ms. Libby Averyt, Mr. Ed Bennett (attended remotely), Mr. Rudy Garza, Jr., Ms. Susan Hutchinson, and Mr. Bill Kelly, Dr. Laurie Turner, and Dr. Linda Villarreal.

**From the College:**

Dr. Mark Escamilla, President and CEO; Mr. Raul Garcia, Vice President and CFO; Ms. Lenora Keas, Executive Vice President and COO; Dr. Jonda Halcomb, Vice President and Chief Academic Officer; Ms. Tammy McDonald, Vice President of Administration and Human Resources; Ms. Patricia Benavides-Dominguez, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs; Ms. Cheryl Sanders, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs; Mr. Augustin Rivera, Jr., General Counsel; Mr. John Strybos, Vice President and Chief Physical Facilities Officer; Ms. Lorette Williams, Executive Director of Communication and Marketing; Dr. Natalie Villarreal, Executive Director of Government & Board Relations; Ms. Mary McQueen, Executive Director of Development; Ms. Delia Perez, Executive Administrative Assistant and Board Liaison, and other staff and faculty.

**CALL TO ORDER/QUORUM CALL**

Ms. Scott called the meeting to order with a quorum present. She requested a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Del Mar College Vision Statement.

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS** – The public was given the opportunity to provide public comments (both general and specific to any agenda item).

There were no public comments made for this meeting.

**ITEMS OF BUSINESS:**

1. Discussion and possible action related to 2022 redistricting project, including, development of proposed illustrative redistricting plan, logistics, timeline, and other related matters .....Mr. Augustin Rivera, Jr.  
*(Goal 5: Workforce Development, Community Partnerships, and Advocacy)*

Mr. Rivera stated that today’s meeting discussion pertained to the next step in the redistricting process. The Board was previously presented an initial assessment by Mr. David Mendez of the Bickerstaff firm in Austin. Mr. Mendez previously reported that the single member districts are out of balance as a result of the population changes over the last ten years.

Mr. Rivera introduced Mr. Cobby Caputo, also with the Bickerstaff firm, who would be presenting two different proposals, Plan A and Plan B, for the Board’s consideration and input. Mr. Rivera emphasized these are proposals this is an iterative process. The objective is for the Board to come up with a proposed illustrative redistricting plan or map that will be provided to the public for additional comments during a public hearing.

Mr. Caputo indicated that at the beginning of a new decade a Board with single member districts goes through this process. He stated that the requirements of the Constitution, the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment, is that a voting district has to be roughly equal in size to all of the other voting districts in that jurisdiction. The courts have defined equal in size to no more than a 10% deviation. Their process is to use census data and overlay it with the College’s single member district boundaries and they arrive to the district size. The College is out of balance by more than 10%. Mr. Caputo described the criteria they focus on.

Mr. Caputo described the two plans they provided at today’s meeting. Plan A, in this plan they just moved blocks around to make the population work; this plan has a 5% deviation and were compliant with Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act. Plan B focused more on the school district boundary lines and to make sure that the school districts, as much as possible, are in separate districts.

The Regents were provided an opportunity to discuss the plans and provide their feedback regarding the districts.

Mr. Caputo stated that he will take the feedback provided by the Board and would prepare a revised map for the Board to consider at the March workshop meeting.

Mr. Rivera concluded the presentation by providing a projected timeline that will include a Public Hearing and final approval anticipated for April.

2. Discussion related to Annual Ethics Update.....Mr. Augustin Rivera, Jr.  
*(Goal 5: Workforce Development, Community Partnerships, and Advocacy)*

Mr. Rivera began the Board's annual ethics update by reviewing the Board's extensive work last year in revising the Board Bylaws. Mr. Rivera noted that the Board, through the work and report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Bylaws, actually devoted a substantial amount of time on the topic of ethics last year. Mr. Rivera also explained that while the annual ethics update was always conducted as a matter of custom, the update was now a formal requirement per the Board's inclusion of the update in its Bylaws.

Mr. Rivera then facilitated the review of the Bylaws by going through the order of the Sections and then walking through the specific divisions of the Statement of Conduct and Ethics.

Mr. Rivera concluded the presentation by briefing the Board on the status of the *Houston Community College vs. Wilson* case pending before the US Supreme Court.

At the conclusion of the ethics review, Mr. Rivera provided the Board with the Statement of Ethical Conduct and the Personal Disclosure Statement to each Regent to complete and return to the Office of General Counsel.

Mr. Rivera thanked the Regents for their work on and commitment to ethical behavior and left them with the following quote from Yale Law School Professor Stephen Carter, from his book "Integrity": "The lack of time is an unfortunate characteristic of today's Americans, and volumes have been written about how it is hurting our children and our families. But it is hurting our morality just as much. For it we decide that we do not have time to stop and think about right and wrong, then we do not have time according to our models of right and wrong, which means, simply put, that we do not have time for lives of integrity."

3. CLOSED SESSION pursuant to:

- A. **TEX. GOV'T CODE § 551.071**: (Consultation with Legal Counsel), regarding pending or contemplated litigation, or a settlement offer, with possible discussion and action in open session; and the seeking of legal advice from counsel on pending legal or contemplated matters or claims, including, legal redistricting obligations and legal audit questions, with possible discussion and action in open session; and,
- B. **TEX. GOV'T CODE § 551.074(a)(1)**: (Personnel Matters), regarding the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee; including, Annual Board Self-Evaluation and Board Action Plan, with possible discussion and action in open session.

The Board did not go into Closed Session.

The Workshop was recessed at 12:18 p.m.

MINUTES REVIEWED BY GC: /s/ARjr