

CONSENT AGENDA NO. 6.1.a.

Approval of the October 5, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes

It is recommended that the Board approve the minutes of the October 5, 2021 Regular Board meeting.

A Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Dallas College was held Tuesday, October 5, 2021, beginning at 4.16 p.m. and was broadcast via the streaming link: <http://www.dcccd.edu/boardmeetingslive>. The meeting was convened by Chair Monica Lira Bravo.

Board Members and Officers Present

Mr. Cliff Boyd
Ms. Monica Lira Bravo (chair)
Ms. Diana Flores
Dr. Joe May (secretary and chancellor)
Mr. Phil Ritter (vice chair)
Ms. Dorothy Zimmermann

Members Absent

Ms. Charletta Rogers Compton

1. **Roll Call - Announcement of a Quorum** was confirmed by Chair Monica Lira Bravo.
2. **Certification of Notice Posted** for the meeting confirmed by Chancellor Joe May.
3. **Pledges of Allegiance to U.S. and Texas Flags** recited.
4. **Consideration and Action on Appointment of Gretchen Minyard Williams to Serve in the Vacant District 1 Board Seat**
 1. a. Adoption of Resolution Appointing a Member to Fill the District 1 Existing Vacancy

Teresa Horatio shared a resolution in accordance with Item 4.1 which required approval of the Board appointing Gretchen Minyard Williams to the fill the existing vacancy for the District 1 open seat. A vote was taken and passed with a unanimous vote.
 2. b. Administration of the Oath of Office to Gretchen Minyard Williams

Minyard was then sworn in by Michelle Vasquez and took the oath of office to fill the opening of her late husband, JL Sonny Williams, who recently passed away. A photo op was then taken of Minyard and the rest of the Board members.

5. Citizens Desiring to Address the Board

Three speakers completed the necessary steps to participate in today's Board meeting.

Carlos Ojeda, Faculty Representative, shared his support of the Trustee's vision and Dr. May's implementation of this vision in helping to make things equal helped faculty in the classroom. He shared that there was more time to pay attention to the little things the students needed in the classroom.

Dr. Erin Kelly was the second faculty speaker who also came in support of the Board and to speak on key issues to support student success. She shared that these contracts would not only support faculty but students and the institution. She shared well-supported professors had resources, time, and stability to maximize their potential. Kelly advised that these contracts would also offer job security and help Dallas College maintain and attract faculty and compete with faculty that had tenure. She believed measures should be in place to hold faculty accountable and asked that the Board to consider the new policy on faculty contracts as the faculty evaluation task force made recommendations on best practices for evaluation of faculty. She reported that the second issue to consider was the many procedures faculty face. Kelly advised that they needed support and clear communication from senior leadership to maximum their potential to help students; the schedule for Spring 2022 had caused stress and confusion. Kelly reported that controversy had risen over the reduction in online courses taught, consequently creating less time and energy for faculty to devote to their students. Kelly shared that faculty asked to be included in decisions relating to pedagogy so they can use their expertise to enhance student success. She stated that faculty believed Dallas College had stressed the focus on making data-driven decisions, where the emphasis seemed to be on quantitative data, but believed faculty could help fill the gap in student success.

Scott Bryers welcomed the new trustee and shared that he had been resident of District 1 for 28 years. He shared that he grew up as a lot of Dallas College students do –single parent family and grew up in the heart of central north Dallas in poverty. Bryers shared that he graduated from Dallas College and was standing evidence of the value of a Dallas College education. He went on to state that he was giving his full support to the Board of Trustees, the Chancellor and Executive Vice Chancellor. Bryers shared that he knew implementing a plan would not been completed without ongoing enhancement and correction, nor would it be implemented flawlessly every

step of every day but appreciated the Board's patience as everyone works together supporting the mission that was set before us.

6. Chancellor and Board Announcements

1. Announcements from the Chancellor

Chancellor May thanked faculty for speaking to the Board. Dr. May shared these same sentiments were shared in the application submitted to the Board by Gretchen Williams. Dr. May commented that he was very excited to have her on the Dallas College Board of Trustees for her strong commitment to education and to her community. Dr. May went on to say that this was evident throughout her life serving on many boards, her family helping build one of the nation's largest supermarket chains and her commitment to collaborate and support the mission of the college. The Chancellor shared that Williams' priority to make higher learning accessible to anyone and everyone in the community who sought this opportunity to achieve their educational goals was just one of the many priorities and commitments she would bring to this board. Dr. May ended with condolences for the passing of her late husband, Dallas businessman, JL Sonny Williams, and that he was grateful for her to be able to continue his legacy of work and hers as well.

2. Announcements from the Board Chair and/or Trustees

Chair Bravo thanked all the employees who came to speak to the Board and valued hearing from all employees. Bravo advised that as employees returned from the pandemic, she wanted to thank all faculty and employees who remained focused on serving the student through it all. Bravo asked "What is the mission of Dallas College other than to transform lives and community through higher education?" Bravo believed from the small group of faculty that had a counterview to the direction that Dallas College the Board, and had received anonymous letters and correspondence questioning some of the Board's decisions.

Although questions had been raised about the leadership of the Chancellor. Bravo spoke on behalf of the Board stating they believed in the vision the Chancellor carried out for Dallas College and they stood behind him. Dallas College was transforming lives and the Board was out in the community every day speaking to constituents and hearing the good that Dallas College was doing. Bravo stated that they were seeing the positive outcomes in the transitions to One College. She spoke on improvements that would be implemented through this transition. She acknowledged his decision to retire next year and that he would be transitioning to Chancellor Emeritus in the

Spring which was a title that is very customary in academia for a retired chancellor. Bravo stated that there had been comments made about his salary and shared that he would be helping us for the salary of \$1per year. Bravo reported that Dr. May would continue to assist Dallas College and transition the new Chancellor, Dr. Justin Lonon, and as they worked together through the Spring when Dr. Lonon officially becomes Chancellor on September 1.

Bravo commented about the rolling three-year contract and stating the discussion was not a new topic but did not mean the Board was not supportive of faculty. Bravo shared that this discussion was just something that was needed and understood that change was hard. Bravo thanked faculty for their dedication and commitment through the transition.

Trustee Boyd shared that as a new board member, he had been able to observe the tremendous opportunity that Dallas College affords veterans in our country. Boyd reported that each one of our campuses had outstanding centers and veterans had proven to be tremendous employees. Boyd stated the Workforce Development teams worked toward elevating veterans through training and acquiring new skills. Boyd reported one of the activities he was planning in conjunction with Dallas College, the City of Duncanville and the Rotary Club, was to host a Veterans Resource Fair. The purpose was to highlight to all veterans the resources that were available beginning with education as the primary emphasis, but to also include veterans' health benefits, mortgage benefits, and assisted living just to name a few.

Trustee Flores reported that she would like to add to what Chair Bravo stated previously and thanked the Chancellor for the leadership he provided Dallas College. Flores commented that not only were we important to Dallas County but believed we are important to North Texas and to this country. Flores also reminded everyone that the Board was the one who made decision on the new direction as they were out in the community and heard the good, the bad and the ugly from the constituents; stating it was time or a change. Flores also went on to say that no organization could stay the same for over 55 years and expect to get the same outcome from today's students, realities and skilled workforce that was needed.

7. Receive and Discuss Initial Assessment Regarding Whether Redistricting is Required for Board of Trustees Districts Considering the New 2020 Census Data
Presenter: David Mendez, Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta LLP

Delgado Acosta advised he was here along with David Mendez to report on the initial assessment of the districts and whether redistricting was required.

David Mendez stated he would be reporting on the results of the assessment of the 2020 population for Dallas County and the Dallas College districts to provide information about the balance among the population of the various single member districts. Mendez reported that the Dallas College must undertake this assessment every decade to rebalance the Trustee districts. Mendez advised that in reviewing the numbers, that there had been a tremendous amount of growth in the county as well over 245,000 individuals who were added this decade to county count which was slightly slower than at the State pace. Mendez reported that Texas was the fastest growing and largest state in the country growing at a 60% rate with the college districts growing at about a 11% rate. Mendez shared that Dallas County was growing at a good pace but not as fast as the rest of the state. Mendez commended an article from the "New York Times" written by an economist and author on Economics and reviewed how the sort of eight million people that were added to Texas over the last two decades, grew by 4 million people this decade and 4 million people as a state the last decade. Mendez also shared of these individuals who were moving into urban areas like Dallas, 90% of them were people of color so there had been a tremendous shift in the demographics of Texas.

Mendez advised that the Board adjust districts that protects people of color which were subject to the Voting Rights Act and there were obligations under section 2 that apply. Mendez also advised that Anglo society had protections under the 14th amendment but there were limits on how we used race and must balance these principles and changes in the law. Mendez shared that when redistricting occurred and changes are adopted, changes would need go to Washington for pre-clearance under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act so the department could pass on whether change was made in a non-discriminatory manner. Mendez advised that in the one person, one vote obligation, each of the seven districts must be roughly the same size but do not have to be mathematically equal in population, however needed to be within a deviation from each other of 10%. Mendez gave an example of how to equate the districting. He shared that the data was derived from the PL 94.171 nfile delivered to the State of Texas back in August.

Mendez advised that since the districts are single-member districts, the college had worked hard to make sure its's cognizant of the obligations it had to the citizens, and then draw on changes in the districts to protect those various groups. Mendez advised to very considerate as they modify the districts to avoid discrimination against protected groups but rather ensure the clear purpose of this was to align Trustee districts and territories with member constituency groups and where enrollment was derived. Mendez showed a previous districting map from Harris County which drew the maps based on racial gerrymandering which was in violation of the 14th amendment along beside one that was drawn correctly allowing for all necessary guidelines.

Mendez reported communities of interest such as neighborhoods or school districts are important factors when those constituents elected a representative. He reported that existing districts would be used as a basis to draw the new ones following the population in the census and protecting the minority groups.

Mendez advised that this was the initial assessment and would give the Board time to review and then discuss it at November 9 work session. The plan was to have a public hearing before the second work session which would allow the Board to hear from constituents. Mendez advised any further modifications could be made since candidate's filings began in the middle of January. He advised that these changes would be made as the terms for each member expired.

Mendez shared a map advising the ideal district size for each district was the population divided by seven for 373,363 in each of the districts. He reported that surprisingly the county grew in a very balanced way with only two districts basically out of balance. District 2 and District 6 were the two mainly affected. Mendez advised that it was possible to fix all of this by moving five precincts at the top end towards Carrollton into District 6 adding 40,000 population there with predominantly Hispanic districts. He shared that this fixed the imbalance among the trustee districts and to move one precinct where it touched District 2. He reported that this would get the imbalance under 10% (it would be 8%) without any adverse voting rights issues. There may be other compelling changes to make to these territories. He shared that they had five clients so far that were imbalanced including Tarrant County next door. He advised that if anyone would like to see the school districts

8. Consent Agenda

Trustee Zimmermann advised she had questions on 8.2-a and wondered why there had been no discussion by the Board, and document stated that Trustees Ritter and Boyd were the ones who brought it forward.

Trustee Boyd reported that as new budget chairman and learning the new process, he asked for a meeting with the prior budget chairman to review the process and discussed the topic, thus there was a meeting but not a collaborative effort. He reminded the Board that the item was listed on the agenda the previous month and no board member had brought up any questions.

Zimmermann advised that knowing Dallas College had been reorganized, to carefully consider that the Board would increase approval for a \$400,000 contract to someone who could only previously approve a \$250,000 contract.

John Robertson advised that there was a request to raise the limit. He shared that due

to the organizational structure, there were people with different levels of authority and various levels of signing which usually rested on the chancellor. He shared that with most contracts, the Provost could sign off at the \$400,000 level which might not be a contract for procurement of goods. He pointed out that the analysis showed moving to the \$400,000 was an appropriate level for an organization our size.

The vote was taken, and the motion passed.

1. Meeting Minutes

- a. Approval of the September 14, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes
- b. Approval of the September 24, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes

2. Policy Item

- a. Approval of Amendment to Policy Concerning Purchasing and Acquisition - CF (LOCAL)

3. Talent Item

- a. Approval of Sixth Amendment to the Chancellor's Employment Agreement

9. Informative Reports

Trustee Flores asked if the Board was supposed to be getting a monthly report on the hires and it was stated it would be checked on.

1. Committee Reports

- a. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee Notes for May 4, 2021
- b. Education Workforce Committee Notes for September 14, 2021

2. 4th Quarter Facilities Improvement Plan

3. 4th Quarter Investment Transactions

4. 4th Quarter Budget Book Vendor Summary

5. 2019 Dallas College Bond Program - Monthly Status Report (September 2021)

6. Current Funds Operating Budget Report for August 2021

7. Monthly Award and Change Order Summary

8. Notice of Grant Awards (October 2021)

9. Workforce & Advancement - Ascend Institute Report

10. Dallas College Foundation Report (August 2021)

11. Dallas College Human Capital New Hire/Position Report

Trustee Flores asked if the Board was supposed to be getting a monthly report on the hires and it was stated it would be checked on.

10. **Executive Session** not required.

11. **Adjournment** at 5:32 p.m.

Captioned video and transcripts for Dallas College Board Meetings are available at our website, www.dcccd.edu/boardmeetingslive, under the Archived Videos section.