

## CONSENT AGENDA NO. 5A-2

### Approval of the August 20, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes

It is recommended that the Board approve the minutes of the August 20, 2020 special meeting.

A virtual Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Dallas College was held Thursday, August 20, 2020, beginning at 3:07 p.m. on the Cisco Webex platform and was broadcast via the streaming link:

<http://www.dcccd.edu/boardmeetingslive>. This meeting was convened by Chair Diana Flores.

#### Board Members and Officers Present

Ms. Monica Lira Bravo  
Ms. Charletta Rogers Compton  
Ms. Diana Flores (chair)  
Mr. Wesley Jameson (vice chair)  
Dr. Joe May (secretary and chancellor)  
Mr. Phil Ritter  
Ms. Dorothy Zimmermann

#### Members Absent

Mr. JL Sonny Williams

#### **1. Roll Call - Announcement of a Quorum**

A quorum was confirmed by Perla Molina.

#### **2. Certification of Notice** posted for the meeting was confirmed by Chancellor May.

#### **3. Citizens Desiring to Address the Board**

#### **4. New Tax Rate Process**

Presenter: John Robertson

John Robertson presented an overview of the new tax rate process. At the last legislative session, there were some changes to the tax code and terminology. The taxable assessed value calculations were made using

certified estimates due to the governor's state declaration of disaster area during the pandemic. Dallas College's certified estimate was \$259 billion as of July 28, 2020. The actual certified value was released this morning August 20, 2020 and has not yet been reviewed.

Changes to terminology include:

- Effective Tax Rate is now the No-New-Revenue Tax Rate (NNR), which is the average rate paid on taxable income.
- Rollback Rate is now the Voter-Approval Tax Rate (VAR), which is the effective tax rate times 8% cap.

Community colleges are classified as Special Taxing Units other than schools and water districts. The tax rules and procedures differ from other taxing districts like counties or cities.

Since the proposed total rate of \$0.124 is below both the NNR and VAR, Dallas College must publish a notice of vote to adopt in the newspaper and hold a public meeting to adopt; no public hearing is required. The public can make comments via email or public comment at the meeting.

Another tax rate process change involves the election process. If the proposed rate is higher than the VAR, an automatic election goes into effect. Previously, taxpayers would have to request an election.

Trustee Ritter asked who estimates taxpayer values. John Robertson responded that when taxpayers dispute their property taxes, the taxpayer and the appraisers give their own estimated values.

Trustee Flores asked how the NNR is calculated. John Robertson stated that a series of calculations are performed that determines a rate that is in essence the same as the old effective tax rate and the same as the NNR.

Trustee Ritter spoke about the unknown future of the business world and asked about reviewing the reserves to keep more in the reserves so that rates would not have to be increased to trigger an election. John Robertson responded that the district does not want to propose rates that would require an election, which would have to be paid for by Dallas College.

Trustee Jameson asked if the district was in a good position financially moving forward with the anticipated revenue and maintaining the tax rate. John Robertson stated that there are many variables, but with the

reduction in expenditures and reimbursements due to the pandemic that the beginning cash reserve amount would be larger next year.

Trustee Flores requested information on areas where the district has saved money during the pandemic. John Robertson reminded the board that Tiska Thomas presented cost savings information during the budget presentation. John Robertson will provide more specific cost savings information related to the pandemic.

## **5. Consideration of Proposed 2020 Dallas College Consolidation Plan**

Chancellor May presented the proposed consolidation plan. In the transition to Dallas College, an estimated 250-350 employees may be affected by consolidation. New leadership positions have been identified, such as provost and vice provosts, and are being filled by recruiting internally.

The 2020 Dallas College Consolidation Plan has been submitted for board approval. The plan will provide severance up to six months of salary based on years of service, COBRA reimbursement, educational benefit package of \$5,000, and out placement services of a resource center providing resume building, interview skills, and personal coaching. The estimated cost of the consolidation plan is an amount not to exceed \$15 million.

Trustees Flores and Jameson encouraged affected employees to utilize the outplacement service and educational benefit. Trustee Flores asked what the high demand job skills are and requested that information be available to employees. Trustee Flores also requested that the information be posted on the website. Chancellor May will share that information with the board on a weekly basis.

## **6. Consent Agenda**

### **A. Financial Item**

#### **1) Approval of 2020 Dallas College Consolidation Plan**

Trustee Flores called for Motion.

Trustee Jameson Moved for the motion.

Trustee Ritter Seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote was taken for 6A-1 & 6B-1:

Trustee Flores - Aye  
Trustee Compton - Aye  
Trustee Jameson - Aye  
Trustee Zimmermann - Aye  
Trustee Ritter - Aye  
Trustee Bravo - Aye  
Trustee Williams was not present.

Majority reached by full vote of those present. The motion passed.

**B. Richland Collegiate High School Item**

- 1) Adoption of Resolution Approving Change of Name for Charter Holder for Richland Collegiate High School of Mathematics, Science and Engineering

Trustee Flores commented that the townhalls had positive reactions from community.

**7. Executive Session**

No Executive Session was required.

**8. Adjournment**

This special meeting adjourned at 3:54 p.m.