

**MINUTES of a BOARD WORKSHOP**  
of the BOARD OF TRUSTEES of VICTORIA COLLEGE  
**July 11, 2017**

√ Ronald B. Walker	√ Daniel Cano
√ Luis A. Guerra	√ Catherine McHaney
√ V. Bland Proctor	X Michelle Yates
	√ John Zacek

STAFF

√ Dr. David Hinds	√ Jennifer Yancey
X Mary Ann Rodriguez	

MEDIA

**Also in attendance:** Keith Blundell, Cindy Buchholz and Sharon Hyak

The Victoria College Board of Trustees met Tuesday, July 11, 2017 at 7:30 a.m. in Room 201 of the Emerging Technology Complex. Mr. Ron Walker, Chair, presided over the meeting.

**A. Call to Order:**

1. Mr. Ron Walker called the meeting to order at 7:55 a.m. and announced that a quorum of board members was present
2. Dr. David Hinds certified that the agenda had been properly posted per Texas statute.

**B. Citizen Communication:**

1. No members of the public spoke to the Board.

**C. Workshop Discussions:**

Items were discussed in the order of #3, #1 and then #2.

**1. 2017-2018 Operating Budget**

Keith Blundell presented several documents for this discussion. He has developed a new format for the Expenditure Summary section of the Operating Budget. This summary provides columns for departmental operating expenses and salaries compared to the prior year, thus providing a clearer comparison of changes.

He presented a reconciliation of the proposed budget to the prior year operating budget for both revenue and expenses. The proposed balanced budget is slightly higher than the prior year (1.3%). This is mainly due to an increase in employee health insurance and the

slight decrease in state funding. The proposed budget allows the college to stay on the employee compensation plan as developed the prior year.

Members reviewed historical data on State appropriations and the final State appropriations for FY 2018 and 2019 during the 85<sup>th</sup> Legislature. The State increased Core Funding slightly for all college districts. Victoria College's total appropriation is down slightly (2.8%) due to a decrease in enrollment during the previous year.

Committee members also reviewed the College's technology budget, a historical analysis of tuition and fees, proposed deferred maintenance projects, program costs and a schedule of all Texas community college districts' tuition and fees, noting Victoria College remains comparable to the State average.

## **2. Ad Valorem Taxes**

Keith Blundell presented several documents for this item. Estimated changes in valuations from an increase of 3% to a decrease of 3% were reviewed. The resulting changes in revenue were compared to the proposed budget. He anticipates receiving the certified calculations August 1<sup>st</sup>. As per the tax calendar, the publication of the effective and rollback rates will be August 7<sup>th</sup>. He then presented a ten year rate history as well as the schedule of tax rates and valuations of the other 49 Texas community college districts.

## **3. 2017 Tax Calendar Draft**

Keith Blundell presented the draft 2017 Tax Planning Calendar. The calendar outlines the required postings, publications, meetings and public hearings required in the process of discussing the proposed ad valorem tax rate and setting the rate. Once the calculation of the effective and rollback rates are received from the tax assessor collector, the board will meet to discuss a proposed rate. That meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 10<sup>th</sup>. Should the proposed tax rate exceed the effective rate, the board is required to hold two public hearings before adopting a rate. The public hearings are tentatively scheduled for August 21<sup>st</sup> and August 28<sup>th</sup>. The tentative date to adopt a tax rate is September 11<sup>th</sup>. The tax calendar will be presented to the full board for consideration on July 24<sup>th</sup>.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

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Ron Walker, Chair

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Bland Proctor, Secretary