

COUNTY OF HOWARD

The Board of Trustees of the Howard County Junior College District met for an executive session and regular meeting in the Fireplace Room in the Student Union Building on the Big Spring site and by telephone conference call on Wednesday, February 24, 2021.

The following members of the Board and District Administration were present:

Dr. John Freeman, Chairman
Maxwell Barr, Vice-Chairman
Adrian Calvio, Secretary by phone
Patricia Bennett
Mark Morgan
Ben Zeichick

Cheryl T. Sparks, Ed.D., President
Amy Burchett, Ed.D., Executive Vice-President
Pam Callan, Executive Dean, San Angelo by phone
Brenda Claxton, Chief Fiscal Officer/Controller
Eric Hansen, Chief Technology Systems/Data Security Officer by phone
Rhonda Kernick, Chief Human Resources Officer by phone
Fabian Serrano, Chief Operations and Safety/Security Officer by phone
Steve Smith, Chief Business Officer/Internal Auditor

Others present were:

Julie Bailey, Chief of Staff
Lee Bryant, Security
Monica Castro, Executive Director/Lamesa by phone
Roger Cline, *Big Spring Herald*
Emma Garcia, Executive Assistant
Terry Hansen, Chief Special Projects Officer
Jennifer Mayberry, Tradition Energy

Dr. Sparks explained procedures of the telephonic meeting. Vice-Chairman Maxwell Barr called the meeting to order at 5:46 p.m. in accordance with Texas Government Section, 551.045 with Adrian Calvio positioned in remote connection and other Trustees located in the Fireplace Room in the SUB on the Big Spring campus. Roll call was taken by voice response. Based on the suspended proceedings of the Open Meetings Act in accordance with Section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code, the meeting was open to the public through remote connection utilizing a toll-free number for audio purposes and visual presentation available on the website. The public was also entitled to participate and address the Board onsite. The meeting was recorded and will be available on the website.

Trustees moved into executive session under Personnel/551.074 concerning the President's evaluation.

Prior to the end of the executive session, Chairman Freeman arrived and reconvened the regular meeting at 6:01 p.m. and Maxwell Barr led the invocation.

Next, the public was given the opportunity to communicate with the board. There were no comments.

Due to the schedule of Trustee Adrian Calvio, Trustees first addressed purchasing. Jennifer Mayberry with Tradition Energy (who has a state interlocal agreement through Omnia Partners, Public Sector with the City of Mesquite, Texas as the lead public agency) presented options to Trustees regarding electricity rates and term (see attached). It was noted that the proposed rate of 3.3% for 108 months for the Big Spring, SWCD and San Angelo sites was less than the college was currently paying. Mr. Zeichick made the motion to approve the recommended rate for 108 months with TXU. Mr. Barr seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted in favor of the motion.

Next, Trustees considered routine matters including the minutes of the regular meeting on January 25, 2021, monthly checklist for January 2021, monthly reports of auxiliary services, and personnel matters. Mr. Barr made the motion to approve the routine matters (see attached). Mr. Zeichick seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted in favor of the motion.

Next, Trustees moved to New Business. The first item was Visioning/Future Directions. Trustees and Dr. Sparks commented on the Board of Trustees Institute (BoTI) latest webinar. Dr. Sparks gave an update on the status on the strategic planning effort to date. Trustees were invited to complete the Howard College planning survey for the 2026 vision.

Next, Dr. Sparks shared the COVID-19 Response Status #11 to date that is on the website. There were no changes to the *Open Howard College* document that is also located on the website.

Next, Trustees considered the 21-22 proposed SWCD Advisory Council directors. The annual meeting for the Advisory Council is April 7-8, 2021. Mrs. Bennett made the motion to approve the advisory council directors. Mr. Morgan seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted in favor of the motion.

The second item under New Business was Performance Measures/Outcomes. Trustees considered the Quarterly Investment Report. Mr. Barr made the motion to approve the report. Mrs. Bennett seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted in favor of the motion.

Next, Dr. Sparks shared spring 2021 enrollment and contact hour comparisons (see attached).

The third item under New Business was Monitoring. Trustees considered the continued extension of the President's two-year contract and job description. Mr. Morgan made the motion to extend Dr. Sparks' two-year contract as President of the Howard County Junior College District to the last day of August 2023 and current job description. Mr. Barr seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted in favor of the motion.

Next, Trustees considered changes to the grade appeal policy in the Student Handbook (see attached). Mr. Barr made the motion to approve the handbook change. Mrs. Bennett seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted in favor of the motion.

Next, Trustees were updated on construction/renovation projects. Terry Hansen shared work to date on the Big Spring/SWCD roof projects. Trustees considered two change orders including change order #2 for the SWCD SUB for \$5,551 and change order #3 for the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum for \$76,740. Mr. Barr made the motion to approve the change orders. Mr. Morgan seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Board members were also informed that bids would be sought for replacement of windows in three buildings included in the roofing project for future consideration and that exterior painting projects would be scheduled after roof repairs were complete.


Next, Dr. Sparks provided a brief update on the Big Spring campus boiler and chiller project.

Next, Trustees considered a resolution honoring the Dora Roberts Foundation for a gift of \$160,000 that funded two nursing chairs and student scholarships on the Big Spring campus. Mr. Zeichick made the motion to approve the resolution. Mrs. Bennett seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted in favor of the motion.

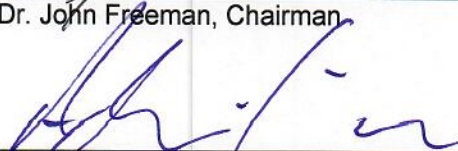
Next, Dr. Sparks reviewed the Board calendar of significant events.

Lastly, the fourth item under New Business was Board Education and Development. Dr. Sparks updated Trustees on legislative and general matters and shared dates for future Community College Association of Texas Trustees (CCATT) webinars planned for this spring.

There being no other business, Trustees adjourned at 7:28 p.m.



Dr. John Freeman, Chairman



Adrian Calvio, Secretary
By Julie Bailey