

COUNTY OF HOWARD

The Board of Trustees of the Howard County Junior College District met for a special meeting in the Fireplace Room in the Student Union Building on the Big Spring site and by telephone conference call on Thursday, March 11, 2021.

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

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

Cheryl T. Sparks, Ed.D., President
Danny Campbell, Executive Dean, SWCD by phone
Pam Callan, Executive Dean, San Angelo by phone
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
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*
Craig Ferguson, City of Big Spring Fire Chief
Emma Garcia, Executive Assistant
Terry Hansen, Chief Officer Special Projects
Steven Hobbs, Professor
Cindy Smith, Dean Student Success/Public Information Officer
Quintinn Stewart, Director Tech Support Services

Chairman John Freeman called the telephonic meeting to order in accordance with Texas Government Section, 551.045 with Board of Trustee member Maxwell Barr positioned in remote connection and other Trustees in the Fireplace Room for the regular meeting. 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 in the Fireplace Room and through remote connection utilizing a toll-free number for audio purposes and visual presentation available on the website. The meeting was recorded and will be available on the website.

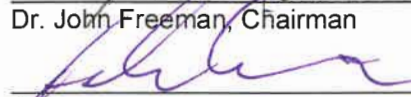
The public was invited to address the Board. Howard College Professor Steven Hobbs addressed the board and shared concerns and statistics regarding the pandemic. Dr. Hobbs asked Trustees to continue the mask requirement and protocols through the spring semester. There were no other comments.

Next, Dr. Sparks shared information to date including the Governor's executive order and press release. She also shared TEA and Coordinating Board guidelines regarding the Covid protocol. She provided an overview of the employee survey results relative to the status of vaccinations. She also recognized Chief Ferguson for his leadership in the pandemic and thanked him for his guidance on multiple occasions. Lastly, she shared the updated *Open Howard College* Plan and recommended continuing the same Covid protocol with no changes through the end of the spring semester. There was general discussion by the Board. Mr. Zeichick made the motion to continue with the *Open Howard College* plan as presented. Mrs. Bennett seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted in favor of the motion.

There being no other business, Trustees adjourned at 1:24 p.m.



Dr. John Freeman, Chairman



Adrian Calvio, Secretary
By Julie Bailey