

COUNTY OF HOWARD

The Board of Trustees of the Howard County Junior College District met for a regular meeting in the Fireplace Room in the Student Union Building on the Big Spring site and by telephone conference call on Monday, December 12, 2022.

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

Dr. John Freeman, Chairman
Maxwell Barr, Vice-Chairman
Adrian Calvio, Secretary
Dr. Marisha Beck
Raul Marquez
Ben Zeichick

Dr. Cheryl T. Sparks, Ed.D., President
Dr. Amy Burchett, Ed.D., Executive Vice-President
Pam Callan, Provost, San Angelo
Danny Campbell, Provost, SWCD
Monica Castro, Executive Dean, Lamesa
Brenda Claxton, Chief Fiscal Officer/Controller – by phone
Eric Hansen, Chief Technology Systems/Data Security Officer – by phone
Rhonda Kernick, Chief Human Resources Officer
Fabian Serrano, Chief Operations and Safety/Security Officer
Bryan Stokes, Chief Institutional Effectiveness Officer
Steve Smith, Chief Business Officer/Internal Auditor

Others present were:

Roger Cline, *Big Spring Herald*
Terry Deatherage, Security
Emma Garcia, Executive Assistant
Terry Hansen, Chief Special Projects Officer
Cindy Smith, Dean Student Success/Public Information Officer

Chairman Dr. John Freeman called the meeting to order at 12:53 p.m. in accordance with Texas Government Section, 551.045 with Dr. John Freeman, Maxwell Barr, Adrian Calvio, Dr. Marisha Beck, Raul Marquez, Ben Zeichick, and Dr. Sparks located in the Fireplace Room in the SUB on the Big Spring campus. 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 a remote connection utilizing a toll-free number for audio purposes. The public was also entitled to participate and address the Board onsite. The meeting was recorded and is available on the website.

Maxwell Barr led the invocation. Chairman Freeman welcomed guests. The public was invited to address the Board. There were no comments.

Next, Trustees considered routine matters including the minutes of the regular meeting held on November 14, 2022, the monthly checklist for November 2022, monthly reports of auxiliary services, personnel matters, and an internal audit report. Mr. Barr made the motion to approve the routine matters. Dr. Beck seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted in favor of the motion.

Trustees moved to New Business. The first item was Visioning/Future Directions.

Next, Dr. Sparks shared the COVID-19 Response Status #32 to date that is on the website. There were no changes to the *Open Howard College Plan*. Dr. Sparks referenced an article in the Texas Tribune indicating that Governor Abbot may be considering ending the state of emergency. Reports will continue until the state of emergency has been ended.

Trustees moved to the second item, Performance Measures/Outcomes.

Next, Trustees reviewed the Howard College Quick Facts. Dr. Sparks explained that this document is prepared on an annual basis. It provides a snapshot of those data points that people tend to ask about. Dr. Sparks then discussed specific information in the Quick Facts. Trustees thanked the team for creating the document each year and noted that it is a useful tool in their work.

Next, Dr. Sparks informed Trustees that the Howard County Leadership Summit will be held February 28, 2023, in the Coliseum from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Planning is in progress for the event, which will bring many of the governmental boards and other entities in the County together to share information. Trustees will attend to represent the College.

Next, Trustees reviewed the report on Student Roundtables. Dr. Sparks discussed that the Roundtables are held each Fall and Spring semester. She outlined how information is gathered from students and then acted upon by administrators. This process is a powerful way to engage students in the continuous improvement process.

Trustees moved to the third item, Monitoring.

Next, Trustees considered the Interlocal Agreement with the Texas Department of Information Resources/Communication Technology Division. Mr. Zeichick made a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement. Mr. Calvio seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted in favor of the motion.

Next, Trustees passed on handbook and catalog changes.

Next, Trustees considered the auction of Howard County Trustee properties to the highest bidder for cash, without reservation. Mr. Zeichick made a motion to approve the auction of Howard County Trustee properties to the highest bidder for cash, without reservation. Mr. Barr seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted in favor of the motion.

Next, Trustees considered change order #8 and were updated on construction/renovation projects at Big Spring and SWCD, on roof projects, flood updates, and received information on progress being made on the Library and Music Building renovations. Mr. Zeichick made a motion to approve change order #8. Mr. Marquez seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted in favor of the motion.

Next, Trustees were updated on the financial audit underway by Brenda Claxton.

Next, Trustees were updated on the implementation of the student information system by Eric Hansen. Data validation, modifications, and updates continue. Progress is being made and they are working to determine a "go live" date.

Next, Dr. Sparks reviewed the Board calendar of significant events. The January Board Meeting will be held January 23, 2023. The first December graduation at the San Angelo campus will be held December 15, 2022. Basketball games and mini-mester courses will be going on during the winter break.

Next, Dr. Sparks informed Trustees that Howard College has been selected by NJCAA as the game of the week for its basketball doubleheader on January 12, 2023. It will be broadcast on ESPN+ and there is much excitement about this game and work is being done to support the ESPN+ production team. Faculty, students, and staff are all being encouraged to attend the game and show support. This will be a valuable opportunity to share Howard College with a large audience.

Next, Dr. Sparks recognized the following college community members:

- Faculty member April Langehennig, of the Theater Department was spotlighted by the Texas Theater Association.
- Seven students were recognized as part of the All-State Choir. They will participate in an event in San Antonio in February.

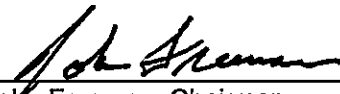
Trustees moved to the fourth item, Board Education and Development.

Next, Dr. Sparks shared that the Texas Association of Community Colleges (TACC) had updated the Legislative Appropriation Request (LAR) submitted for community colleges last summer to reflect support for the recommendations made by the Texas Commission on Community College Finance. She also shared information surrounding Howard County Day and Community College Day at the Capitol, which both happen to be on January 26. College administrators, college students, and other local groups will be in Austin for the event. Local high school students will join Howard College students in meeting with our elected State representatives to learn about the political process. Trustees were invited to attend.


Next, Dr. Sparks reviewed the status of new trustee training. Trustee Marquez has completed his required training. He reported on the training session he attended in Austin earlier this month. There is a Community College Association of Texas Trustees (CCATT) training for new Board members January 27, 2023 that Trustees are welcome to attend.

Lastly, Trustees considered the early release of the workday at noon on Friday, December 16, 2022, for all Howard College employees. This is the last normal workday prior to the Winter Break. Dr. Beck made a motion to release all Howard College employees at noon on Friday, December 16, 2022. Mr. Marquez seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted in favor of the motion.

There being no other business, Chairman Freeman adjourned the meeting at 1:50 p.m.



Dr. John Freeman, Chairman



Adrian Calvio, Secretary
By Brenda Madore