

**MINUTES OF THE
WORKSHOP AND SPECIAL MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
LONE STAR COLLEGE SYSTEM
DISTRICT SERVICES AND TRAINING CENTER
TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER BOARDROOM
5000 RESEARCH FOREST DRIVE
THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS 77381
January 24, 2008
5:30 p.m.**

PRESENT: Mr. Randy Bates, Chair
Ms. Stephanie Marquard, Vice Chair
Mr. John Fox, Secretary
Ms. Priscilla Kelly, Assistant Secretary
Dr. Richard Campbell
Mr. Chris Daniel
Dr. David Holsey
Mr. David Vogt

ABSENT: Mr. Alan Quintero

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Bates called the workshop and special meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 5:39 p.m. after determining a quorum was present.
- II. **CERTIFICATION OF THE POSTING OF THE NOTICE OF THE MEETING:** Chancellor Carpenter confirmed that the Notice for the meeting had been properly posted. No action was required. A copy is attached as Exhibit "A."
- III. **WORKSHOP:**

Presentation by Citizens' Facilities Review Committee

Mr. Ray Laughter, vice chancellor of external affairs, presented the process that was used to determine facilities needs in the System. A Citizens' Facilities Review Committee, comprised of more than 80 members, was formed to look at a wide range of data about our community and our colleges to identify the college system's facility needs, prioritize those needs and present a plan to the Board. If a decision is made to hold a bond election, the committee has offered to assist the System in notifying the voting public the college system's need for a bond issue. Mr. Laughter introduced committee member Mr. Andy Dill, president of the Community Chamber of Commerce of East Montgomery County. Mr. Dill reported that the Lone Star College System currently has an enrollment of 50,000 students. The system has enrolled 24,000 more students since the last bond referendum was passed in 2000. The 2008 spring enrollment is 6% higher than 2007 spring enrollment. If the system continues its current rate of growth, the projected enrollment in 2015 would be 80,000 students. The committee determined that it is important to start addressing these needs now. Mr. Dill stated the committee would support a bond amount that would not increase the tax rate. The committee supports

looking at all means for financing for the projects. The proposed bond projects estimated cost would be \$461,670,000. Ms. Cindy Gilliam, vice chancellor of business affairs and chief financial officer, reported the System's financial advisors indicated that the System could issue \$423,000,000 in bonds without raising the tax rate. No action was taken.

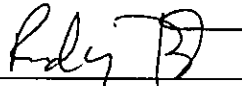
Dr. Carpenter introduced Rand Key, Senior Vice Chancellor and Helen Clougherty, Special Assistant to the Chancellor/Board Liaison.

IV. POLICY REPORT AND CONSIDERATION:

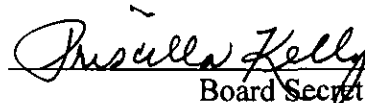
Consideration of Approval of Charging a Fee for Credit Distance Learning Courses (ACTION ITEM 1): upon a motion by Ms. Kelly and a second to the motion by Mr. Fox, the Board unanimously approved a \$10 per credit hour charge for distance learning courses effective with fall 2008 semester. A copy is attached as Exhibit "B."

V. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

ATTEST:



Board Chair



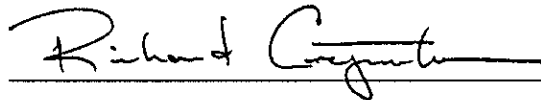
Board Secretary

Exhibit "A"

**Certification of Posting of Notice to the January 24, 2008
Workshop and Special Meeting of the
Lone Star College System's
Board of Trustees**

I, Richard Carpenter, Chancellor of the Lone Star College System, do hereby certify that a notice of the Workshop and Special Meeting was posted on Friday, the 18th day of January, 2008, in a place convenient to the public in the Administration Office of the District Services and Training Center and on all college campuses and on the district website. Special notice of the meeting was provided to the news media as required by Section 551.001 et seq., Texas Government Code.

Given under my hand this the 18th day of January, 2008.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Richard Carpenter", is written over a solid horizontal line.

Richard Carpenter
Chancellor

Exhibit "B"

Policy Report and Consideration

(ACTION ITEM 1)

Board Meeting 1-24-08

Request: Consideration of Approval of Charging a Fee for Credit Distance Learning Courses

Chancellor's

Recommendation: That the Board of Trustees approve a \$10 per credit hour charge for distance learning courses effective with the fall 2008 semester.

Rationale:

The Lone Star College System intends to expand distance learning course delivery into a highly coordinated eCampus with system-wide course design standards, expanded programs available online, peer review to assure consistent quality, expanded online services for students and a clear branding and marketing plan.

A review of national best practice in distance learning indicates that a dedicated funding stream for online education is essential for quality, support for student success, and scalability. The recommended fee should support:

- expansion of degrees and courses available online;
- enhanced online student services such as tutoring, advising, registration, and technology assistance;
- marketing to students;
- instructional design process;
- implementation of quality standards;
- expanded training and assistance for faculty.

The current distance learning budget is not sufficient to provide the necessary services and infrastructure required to meet student needs. The addition of a dedicated distance learning fee is an essential next step in the ongoing development of the LSCS distance learning program. Based on an evaluation of national best practice for an effective distance learning program, a distance learning fee of \$10 per credit hour for all credit distance learning courses is recommended.

Fiscal Impact: It is estimated that this fee will generate approximately \$1 million dollars at the current level of participation.

Resource: Cindy Gilliam

832-813-6512