

RANGER COLLEGE
BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING AGENDA
August 26, 2024– 6:00 p.m.
Goleman Library Board Room

Members Present

Vanna Dains, Secretary

Bobby Murry

Shawn Wells

Doug Crawley

Jackie Stephens

Sandi Herod

Della Carey

Jo Anne Greenwood

CEO/Staff Present

Derrick Worrels, President

Dr. Lindy Matthews

Chuck Lemaster

Dr. Dayna Prochaska

Stan Feaster

Patti Woolam

Gabe Lewis

Luis Ramirez

Robert Culverhouse

Dixon Bailey

Ahmy Arca

Gaylyn Mendoza

Amy Spindle

Don Hilton

Shayla Honeycutt

Scott Norwood

Stephanie Worrels

Agenda Item #1- Call to Order Public Meeting

Regent Stephens called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Agenda Item #2- Invocation

President Worrels voiced the invocation.

Agenda Item #3- Pledge of Allegiance

Regent Stephens led the Board in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item #4- Public Comment for Individuals Not on the Agenda

No comments were made.

Agenda Item #5- President's Report

Last week we had a good start of the fall semester except we had some issues at the Brown County Center due to some renovations in the mall. We are working to rectify that issue. Although this is temporary we need to look at the bigger picture about moving forward and moving the Brown location. Saturday at Day of Champions we had a great turn out. We had students everywhere and they did a great job. We moved it up and this helped decrease the athletic schedule interruptions. If the students work now, they are going to be a good performer on the field. August 9, 2024 our employees asked us to give up a day off to help our students. Instead of 8-1 we worked 8-5 so we could better serve our students. He was proud and grateful of the employees. It is without a doubt that because of efforts like that our enrollment continues to grow. Last week we hit 2565.

Dr. Campion's daughter mentioned that he is doing well but has a slight decline in his memories. He did say that he wanted to be at the 5 pm meeting because he heard that we were kicking Coach Butler off the Board (he was joking).

Diana McCullough bragged on President Worrels and the Cross Country Coach and students.

Agenda Item #6- Receive Updates on the Rodeo Grounds (*Coach Rust and Lemaster*)

Chuck Lemaster gave a brief update on the rodeo ground. Waldrop submitted a revised value engineering proposal. We have asked Cody Jones to look at the building; however, he is having trouble getting contractors to work. If he was able to find contractors we would have to complete another RFP. This building will be 2400 square feet with a patio area and a large parking lot. It is nicely designed. We have two shipping containers sitting out there that will be our electrical pads. We are just now getting started on those. We have the water service out there. His only concern is the time that it is taking to complete this project. Llew has also add more gravel to key areas to help the students get in and out of the complex. We had 4 contractors come and look at the place but Waldrop was the only one that turned in a bid. Prices for everything have increased significantly over the past year. We are doing dirt work as we speak and it is getting ready to be built on. President Worrels mentioned that timing is crucial. Ms. Mendoza mentioned that we are almost done with phase 2 and we only have roughly \$250,000 left of the donation. Phase 3 includes the final touches on the RV hookups and the building.

Regent Crawley made and Regent Vanna seconded a motion to enter executive session. The motion carried unanimously. The Board entered executive session at 6:21 pm.

Regent Heord made and Regent Dains seconded a motion to reenter the open session. The motion was carried unanimously. The Board entered open session at 6:56 pm.

Agenda Item #7- Accept the Resignation of Regent Ron Butler Place 2 (*Stephens*)

The Board of Regents received and accepted Ron Butler's resignation letter.

Agenda Item #8- Consider and Approve Recommendation of the Policies and Procedures Committee Regarding DEAB (LOCAL) Policy (*Matthews*)

As a college we have to define our workweek. Administration has defined the College workweek as beginning on Monday at 12:00 am and ending at 11:59 pm on Sunday.

Regent Dains made and Regent Herod seconded a motion to approve the recommended changes to DEAB (LOCAL). The motion was carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #9- Consider and Approve Personnel Issues (*Spindle*)

Ms. Spindle presented personnel issues. Mr. Crawley stated that he appreciates the BIOs that she provides in the packets. President Worrels discussed that Dr. Cuadrado is our new grant writer. She has already written a \$300,000 grant.

Regent Crawley made and Regent Dains seconded a motion to approve personnel issues. The motion was carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #10- Conduct a Public Hearing for the 2024-2025 Proposed College Annual Budget (*Stephens*)

Regent Stephens welcomed comments and opinions from the community. No comments were made.

Agenda Item #11- Resume Regular College Board Meeting

The Board resumed the regular college Board meeting.

Agenda Item #12- Consider and Approve FY 2024-2025 Annual Budget (*Mendoza*)

Fiscal Year 2024 was a record-setting year in Ranger College's student enrollment. We are fortunate to have been challenged by the growth. With increased enrollment we have enjoyed a marked increase in our number of graduates. This year we held three full graduation ceremonies which points to the fact that our efforts not only attract new students but also retain them through graduation. 2024 has demonstrated the positive direction of the work in which we are collectively engaged.

Building a Talent Strong Texas is the state's higher education strategic plan. Increased students enrollment as well as increased acquisition of credentials at Ranger College is in line with the state's strategic plan. With the 88th Legislature Session and the passing of House Bill 8 in June 2023, Texas is transforming the way it funds community colleges. Texas is moving us away from

the static system tied primarily to students' time in class to a modern and dynamic outcomes-based formula that reflects the needs of our world-class economy. Going forward it will remain critical for Ranger College to develop programs that attract and nurture students from their enrollment through the day they walk across our stage.

During the 2023-2024 fiscal year, several key employees have been attending extensive Jenzabar One training while maintaining their normal day to day responsibilities. Their objective in addition to their normal day to day function is to upgrade our entire Student Information System (SIS) from the current and outdated Poise system SIS to the more efficient and user friendly Jenzabar One. Jenzabar One is a comprehensive system that will bring the College to speed with a modern management system. This new SIS is instrumental for our Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), 6+6 = Pathway to Success, which will increase student success by reinventing the outreach, onboarding, and advising experience for our students. Ranger College is expected to "Go Live" with the upgraded Jenzabar One system this October.

During the past fiscal year, the College continued to focus on our three wildly important goals (WIGs) as addressed in our 2023-2028 Strategic Plan. These WIGs include (1) increase enrollment, (2) improve communication, and (3) improve facilities. In line with the three WIGs, the College upgraded its Web Content Management System to provide a modern, updated website design. The College also completed Phase I of the new HSI Pathways Center and Phase I and II of the Rodeo grounds. The Board also approved a new roof and paint for our Student Support Services Building and an entry fountain outside the auditorium on the Ranger Campus. As we move into the next fiscal year, we can anticipate that we will continue to be afforded ever-changing opportunities to problem solve and overcome obstacles. The mission of Ranger College is to transform lives and give students the skills to be a positive influence in their communities. Ranger College seeks to provide a safe and quality learning environment for our students and staff. By upgrading our student information system, improving communication systems, providing targeted advising to potential, new, and returning students, and offering in-person instruction as well as a robust list of online courses, we can feel confident in continuing to offer our students a safe and flexible learning opportunity.

While enrollment for Fall 2025 has been consistent with the prior year, we have implemented positive changes to ease the flow in applying, advising, and enrolling our students in order to remove the known challenges in this process. Due to the large increase in last year's enrollment, our final numbers are projected to be comparable to Fall 2023.

With enrollment projections consistent with the fall 2023 semester, revenues for the College remain a challenge. Because revenues from property taxes account for only 2.4% of the College's total revenue, Ranger College must rely on tuition and fees for a third of its revenue. For your comparison, other community colleges receive 45% of their funding through property taxes and only 22% are maintained through tuition and fees. With the State's new funding model, State Appropriations will account for approximately 32% of the Ranger College's total revenue. Budgeted expenditures for fiscal year 2025 are focused on maintaining current operations within available resources and support the Strategic Plan that was recently approved for 2023 through 2028. Key budget initiatives include:

- Continuing costs for implementing our Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)

- Increasing salaries for current employees by \$350,000

- Adding ten new positions since the fiscal year 2024 adopted budget, which is an increase of approximately \$460,000

- Continuing resources for expanding dual credit enrollment to bring college success at the high school level

- Increasing numbers of personnel to serve our increasing enrollment

- Increasing scholarships to provide for our increasing enrollment

- Maintaining funds set aside to improve our facilities

- Increasing expenses related increased costs due to current economy

Regent Stephens asked about the capital expense softball field. Ms. Mendoza stated that because of years of drainage it slopes too much and it was brought up to level it out more but the bid is a lot more than what we were thinking.

Regent Murry made and Regent Crawley seconded a motion to approve the 2024-2025 proposed college annual budget. The motion was carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #13- Conduct a Public Hearing for the 2024 Proposed Property Tax Rate (Stephens)

Regent Stephens fielded any questions from the community. No comments were made.

The Board of Regents is required annually to set the tax rate for the Ranger College taxing district.

The 2024 property tax levy to fund maintenance and operations expenditures exceeds the 2023 maintenance and operations property tax levy. The proposed tax rate for 2024 adopts the voter-approval tax rate. As required by law, a Notice about 2024 Tax Rates was posted on our website on August 6, 2024 , and the notice of public hearing on tax increase was posted on our website on August 6, 2024 and published in the newspaper on August 15, 2024.

Agenda Item #14- Resume Regular College Board Meeting

The Board resumed the regular college Board meeting.

Agenda Item #15- Consider and Approve 2024 Property Tax Rate (Mendoza)

Regent Crawley made and Regent Greenwood seconded a motion to approve the resolution to set the 2024 tax rate of \$.257029 per \$100, which includes a maintenance and operations tax rate of \$.015477 per \$100 of taxable value and an interest and sinking tax rate of \$.241552 per \$100 of taxable value. The motion was carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #16- Consider and Approve May 2024 Financial Statements (Mendoza)

Ms. Mendoza discussed the May 2024 Financial Statements.

Total Assets- \$43,917,188

Total Liabilities- \$29,759,350

Net Position- \$12,894,882

Donations have increased.

Regent Stephens asked about the \$7,000 check for Desdemona. Ms. Mendoza mentioned that we purchased the house across from Meyerson. TrainingDivision.com is our continuing ed where we contract out for EMT.

Regent Wells made and Regent Murry seconded a motion to approve the May 2024 financial statements. The motion was carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #17- Consider and Approve June 2024 Financial Statements (*Mendoza*)

Ms.Mendoza discussed the June financial statements.

You will see an increase in the state basic aid. We are paid in October, February and June. State aid and FAST saw increases as well as the JET grant. Miscellaneous increases are our interest income. Rates have picked up since last year. Workforce is based on the State SDF grant. Donations have come in a little bit and we are getting more. She pointed out that in the June financials we closed the CDC in May so we will see a little revenue. We have gone up from the beginning value to the ending value due to the state payment that came in.

Checks over \$500: Stephens asked about the progress of the fountain. Regent Murry asked about the ice machine rental. Ms. Mendoza stated that the ice machine has been upgraded but is not keeping up. Regent Crawley asked about the quality of GWD. President Worrels mentioned that the Regent Murry made and Regent Dains seconded a motion to approve the June 2024 financial statements. The motion was carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #18- Consider and Approve Property Insurance for 2024-2025 (*Mendoza*)

Ms. Mendoza discussed that Ranger College purchases property and casualty insurance policies annually. The list of policies also includes excess crime, cyber liability, active assailant, as well as workers' compensation. Texas education institutions are seeing large increases in premiums due to the increased number of claims arising from Texas severe weather patterns. Insurance carriers have also been updating property values to match recent replacement costs which are insured property values are \$72,557,519, which is an 8% increase. The proposed premium for 2024-2025 , included in the accompanying proposal is \$398,598.58, an increase of 22%. I requested information from our insurance company for how the market has been affected by the weather factors as well as a list of insurance providers that were contacted for quotes.

Regent Herod made and Regent Murry seconded a motion to approve the property and casualty insurance coverage proposal package for fiscal year 2024-2025 with USI for \$398,598.58. The motion was carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #19- Consider and Approve Purchase of a Used 2023 Ford Transit Passenger Van (Mendoza)

Ms. Mendoza discussed that Ranger College athletic teams are in need of another passenger van. Our 2017 Chevy passenger van was in an accident earlier this month and is currently not drivable. Our athletic schedule is already in full swing, and transportation is a must. There are times that the buses and/or bus drivers are not available. Our athletic teams are having to rent multiple minivans and/or cars or contract a charter company to transport the teams to their events when buses or drivers are not available. This has proven to be more costly than the travel and maintenance costs of our current vans.

The current market for passenger vans is nearly extinct. New vans now must be ordered from the manufacturer and are about 18-24 months out on delivery. Used vans can be located but are sold before we can go through the required purchasing regulations. Therefore, appropriate Regent Crawley made and Regent Dains seconded a motion to approve the purchase of a used 2023 Ford transit passenger van from Bayer Ford for \$65,162.25. The motion was carried unanimously. ‘

Agenda Item #20- Announcements:

a. Upcoming Events

- i. Day of Champions- August 24, 2024
 - ii. 2024 Educational Gala- September 28, 2024
- We will recognize Coach Butler for the Lifetime Achievement Award.
 - President Worrels mentioned that the new grant writer is looking at grants specifically for a generator. It is a pretty big task but it is needed.
 - If you see something that talks about a young gentleman winning a gold medal in the Olympics. He registered and enrolled here but he did not attend.

b. The date of the Next Board Meeting is September 30, 2024

Agenda Item #21- Adjourn

Regent Herod made and Regent Dains seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion was carried unanimously. The meeting ended at 7:55 pm.

Chairman, Jakie Stephens

Secretary, Vanna Dains