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### Board of Regents Meeting Minutes, November 3rd, 1971

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# MINUTES

## Organizational Meeting of the

### BOARD OF REGENTS TYLER STATE COLLEGE

Held in the Texas Room of the Blackstone Hotel  
Tyler, Texas

November 3, 1971

The Board of Regents, Tyler State College convened at 1:00 P. M. with all members present as follows: Temporary Chairman, Presiding: Mr. H. J. McKenzie, Mr. C. Quentin Abernathy, Mr. David K. McKie, Mr. Robert G. Schleier, Mr. Dean W. Turner, Mr. Jeff Austin, Jr., Mr. Neal E. Velvin, Mr. Jack C. Morgan, and Dr. B. H. McVicker.

Members of the Staff of the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System present were Dr. Bevington Reed and Mr. Walter Guttman.

#### Visitors registered in attendance were:

Mr. Russel B. Watson, Jr.	Tyler, Texas
Ms. Belinda Germany	Tyler, Texas
Mr. Steve Blow	Tyler, Texas
Mr. Billy Williamson	Tyler, Texas
Mr. Freeman Carney	Tyler, Texas
Mr. Frank Bronager	Tyler, Texas
Mr. Harry Loftis	Tyler, Texas
Mr. Bobby Perdue	Tyler, Texas
Mr. Harold Smotherman	Tyler, Texas
Mr. Ronald E. Fix	Tyler, Texas

The meeting was called to order by Temporary Chairman H. J. McKenzie who stated that with the approval of all concerned, Mrs. Marie Halbert had been asked to serve as secretary of the meeting.

On motion of Mr. David McKie, which was duly seconded, the following Agenda was approved:

- I. Invocation
- II. Approval of Agenda
- III. Election of Officers
- IV. Consideration of Personnel Matters
- V. Adjournment

The invocation was offered by Mr. C. Quentin Abernathy.

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Election of officers was declared as the next order of business and Mr. Jeff Austin, Jr. took charge of the meeting. Mr. Dean Turner nominated Mr. H. J. McKenzie as Chairman. This nomination was duly seconded and Mr. H. J. McKenzie was elected unanimously and he again assumed the chairmanship of the meeting.

Nominations were declared open for Vice-Chairman. Mr. Neal E. Velvin nominated Mr. Jack Morgan as Vice-Chairman. After this nomination was seconded, Mr. Jack Morgan was elected Vice-Chairman unanimously.

Nominations were declared open for secretary and Dr. B. H. McVicker nominated Mr. Robert Schleier. This nomination was seconded and Mr. Robert Schleier was elected unanimously as secretary of the Board.

Chairman McKenzie then appointed Mr. Dean Turner to head a committee to design bylaws for the college and submit them to the next meeting. Mr. Turner asked that he have the assistance of two other attorneys on the Board, Mr. Jack Morgan and Mr. Robert G. Schleier. These gentlemen agreed to serve as a group to prepare bylaws.

Chairman of the Board, Mr. McKenzie offered his office at 1517 W. Front Street, Tyler, Texas as a temporary headquarters for the Board of Regents until permanent offices can be established elsewhere. The Post Office Box is 1142 and Mr. McKenzie stated that it is listed in the telephone book as H. J. McKenzie, Consultant. This offer was accepted by the Board of Regents.

It was moved and seconded that the next meeting of the Board of Regents of Tyler State College be held at 2 P. M. on November 17, 1971 in the Texas Room of the Blackstone Hotel, Tyler, Texas. This motion carried.

Chairman McKenzie expressed appreciation to Mr. Billy Williamson for all he has done to help with this effort, getting the legislative bill passed that created the college last June.

Mr. Billy Williamson stated that there was nothing in the world that he has looked forward to as much as he has this moment. He said "I feel like this college is what I was placed in this world for and I am extremely glad to see that it has reached the point that it has, and if the Good Lord is willing, we will get it forward and running. I want to offer my services to the Board in any way I can be of assistance to you".

Dr. Bevington Reed, Commissioner of the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System, offered personal congratulations on the organizational meeting of the Board of Regents and predicts that if this meeting is a model, all meetings will be handled with dispatch. He told the Board that they are unique in accepting a challenge of starting a new school without any funds and hopes this is not a precedent, as this places a great responsibility on the Board.

Chairman McKenzie recognized Mr. Harold Smotherman who was present as having worked very hard in getting this college started. The Chairman also stressed the fact that



the Board is operating without any funds and that donations, gifts and endowments for the college will be appreciated. "Just let everyone know that any little thing will be appreciated", he said.

At this point, Mr. Billy Williamson placed the first dollar bill on the table as a contribution to the college.

Chairman McKenzie stated that the Board has ten offers for 200 acre sites which may be used to locate the college. "We are still receiving these site offers and we have no restrictions. Anyone who can make a donation of 200 acres of land in the city or within close proximity to the City of Tyler is welcome to do so," stated Mr. McKenzie.

Mr. Ronald E. Fix, representing the East Texas Chapter of the Texas Society of Professional Engineers, appeared before the Board and offered the assistance of his Chapter in making a study of the sites and would let the Board have recommendations in an engineering capacity after such a study. This would be without getting into the plans for the college but would make a master plan recommendation to the board for the campus site of the college. Chairman McKenzie stated that this is a very generous offer from this Society.

The Chairman recognized Mr. Watson Wise for his work with the Coordinating Board and appreciation was expressed to Mr. Wise, as well as to all parties whose leadership, help and support had made this effort possible.

Mr. Dean Turner expressed his appreciation for the people of the Tyler Chamber of Commerce, especially Mr. Freeman Carney, Manager of the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Jack Morgan rose and thanked the Tyler Chamber of Commerce on behalf of the Board of Regents for the delicious lunch served them at noon today.

A representative of television station KLTU asked for an interview by the Board of Regents. After some discussion and agreement that the soon-to-be-built college needs all the publicity it can get, the Board of Regents decided to go to the station as a group for an interview with the television station's news department after adjournment of the meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Board, motion was made and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:00 p. m.

Respectfully submitted:

Robert G. Schleier, Secretary

November 4, 1971

Mr. Harold J. McKenzie  
P. O. Box 1142  
Tyler, Texas 75701

Dear Mr. McKenzie:

First let me congratulate you upon your unanimous selection as chairman of the Board of Regents of Tyler State College. I know that the job ahead of you will be difficult but I concur heartily in the endorsement which your colleagues gave you by this selection. Also, I would like to thank you for the courtesies shown to me and Mr. Guttman yesterday.

In regard to several matters which we talked about, we have mailed to you under separate cover a copy of the Senior College Constitutional and Statutory Law. In addition to that, we are enclosing with this letter a copy of the program of the Upper-Division Association meeting in Corpus Christi on November 12 and a listing with addresses of the Legislative Budget Board and the Governor's Office Division of Operations Analysis. These are the two agencies with whom your requests for financing will be filed.

I am also enclosing a copy of the minutes of the Coordinating Board meeting which might be helpful to the young lady when she begins her work in transcribing your minutes. I have checked and the agencies of the State which should receive copies of your minutes are the Legislative Budget Board, the Governor's Office Division of Operations Analysis, the Coordinating Board, the State Auditor, the State Comptroller, and the Texas State Library.

I have informally checked Section 3 (h) of Senate Bill 419 as per our discussion and find that the interpretation we had was correct. The institution may receive gifts which they handle as local items. Your lawyer members of the Board know about establishing a depository for that purpose, and the monies appropriated by the Legislature will be run through the Treasurer's Office. This is normal procedure as Mr. Guttman indicated to you yesterday.



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I was tremendously impressed with the members of the Tyler Board of Regents and with their interest in doing not just a good job but an outstanding job as they work toward getting the new institution off and running. My congratulations to them and again my congratulations to you.

If we can be of further assistance to you, all you have to do is to let us know.

By the way it looks now as if no one from the staff will be able to attend your next Board meeting, but I believe that at that time you will have your rules and regulations underway and certainly would not need our assistance. If, however, something unusual arises which we can talk about on the telephone, please let us know and be assured that if my schedule or that of a senior staff member should change so that we could be with you for the 17th, we certainly will try to do so.

Sincerely,

Bevington Reed  
Commissioner

Enclosures