

Ranger College
Special Board of Regents Meeting Minutes
August 3, 2026– 6:00 p.m.
Golemon Library Board Room

Members Present

Jackie Stephens, Chair
Shawn Wells, Vice-Chair
Vanna Dains, Secretary
Doug Crawley
Sandi Herod
Della Carey
Jim Cockburn
Robin Russell

Absent

Gay Ann Wolford

CEO/Staff Present

Dr. Derrick Worrels, President
Dr. Lindy Matthews
Gaylyn Mendoza
Amy Spindle
Dr. Dayna Prochaska
Debbie Karl
Ahmy Arca
Robert Culverhouse
Patti Woolam
Stan Feaster
Chuck Lemaster
Don Hilton

Scott Norwood

Evelyn Guillen

Agenda Item #1- Call to Order Public Meeting

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

Agenda Item #2- Invocation

Dr. 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

- a. Texas Association of Community College Presidents Meeting:
 - i. Budget & Funding: Lengthy discussions on budget and budget reductions were had at the last TACC Conference. Significant debate on whether the "dynamic formula" is truly dynamic, as colleges are meeting or exceeding goals but not being fully funded. An article highlighted that community colleges surpassed goals initially thought unattainable by the state. The Commissioner acknowledged low public confidence in four-year education, leading to a push for academic transfer advising. Data presented on transfer persistence (24 out of 111 students persisting to graduate) was questioned for lacking disaggregated data, particularly regarding part-time vs. full-time students. Community colleges are united in advocating for funding, not wanting to return to previous "handcuff" forms of funding. CFOs are receiving last-minute information, exemplified by a 6.9% budget cut (11.9% for Ranger College) being announced unexpectedly. Advocates suggested raising property taxes, but this raised questions about the need for supplemental state funding if local taxes are increased. The next legislative

session will be crucial for recouping funds, though any changes wouldn't take effect until the following year. This year, attendance was restricted to presidents due to the nature of the scenario, but will revert to allowing at least three administrators per college next year.

Agenda Item #6- Proposal for the 2026 Ad Valorem Tax Rate and Scheduling of a Public Hearing, if needed (Mendoza)

Ms. Mendoza discussed that the Board of Regents annually proposes a tax rate for the upcoming tax year for the Ranger College taxing district. The applicable tax rates per \$100 of appraised value as provided by the Eastland County Appraisal District;

- 2025 Adopted Tax Rate- M&O \$0.016767
- 2025 Adopted Tax Rate- I&S \$0.241707
- 2025 Adopted Tax Rate \$.0258474
- 2026 No-New-Revenue Tax Rate \$0.252089
- 2026 Voter-Approval Tax Rate \$0.216343
- 2026 Debt I&S Tax Rate \$0.197985
- 2026 No-New-Revenue M&O Tax Rate \$0.016999
- 2026 Voter-Approval M&O Tax Rate \$0.018358

The no-new revenue and voter-approval tax rate calculations are reporting decreases in rates from the previous year adopted tax rate. If the Board of Regents proposes a tax rate that exceeds the no-new-revenue tax rate but does not exceed the voter-approval tax rate, a public hearing is required on the proposed tax rate prior to adopting the tax rate. However, with the voter-approval tax rate calculated to be less than the previous year's rate, a public hearing is not required. Notice of the public hearing or meeting to vote on the tax rate must be made seven days prior to the public hearing or meeting to vote. As required by law, the Notice of Tax Rates and the Tax Rate Calculation Worksheet were posted on our website on July 29, 2026. The proposed tax is necessary to fund debt service costs from the General Obligation bonds authorized by District voters on November 8, 2016, as well as facility and operating costs for the 2026 tax year.

Regent Crawley made and Regent Wells seconded a motion to enter executive session pertaining to real property. The motion was carried unanimously. The Board entered executive session at 6:16 PM. The Board re-entered the open session at 7:05 PM.

Regent Crawley made and Regent Cockburn seconded a motion to approve to set the 2026 proposed tax rate at the voter-approval tax rate of \$0.216343 per \$100 of taxable value and schedule the meeting to vote on tax rate on August 24, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the Goleman Library Board Room. The motion was carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #7- Mandatory Student Accident Policy and Secondary Athletic Insurance Policies for the 2026-2027 Academic Year (Mendoza)

The College purchases a Student Accident Policy for all the College's students that are on our campuses. The College then charges the students that are on our campuses a Mandatory Student Accident Policy Fee of \$35 per year. The revenue generated from this fee is estimated at \$45,500 and is applied to the student accident policy for the 2026-2027 year. This estimate is consistent with prior years. With this policy in place by the College, the co-pay on the athletic insurance is reduced from \$250 per injury to \$0 per injury.

The College purchases Secondary Athletic Insurance to cover injuries to student athletes. For 2026-2027, our current Broker (HUB/Dissinger Reed) calculated our loss ratio from the past 6 years of claims and premiums. Our loss ratio has fluctuated from 32% in 2019, 10% in 2020, 13% in 2021, 43% in 2022, 61% in 2023, 89% in 2024, 44% in 2025, to 5.8% thus far in 2026. The decreases in loss ratio for 2020 and 2021 were related to the Covid years. In 2018, we began requiring student athletes to provide personal insurance as their primary coverage and adding the student accident policy. However, over the two past years, claims paid were over \$95,000 and claims paid over the past three years were around \$195,000. Consequently, the cost of the secondary athletic insurance policy offered by the current carrier increased by \$4,030. The quote includes a 5% increase from the present year. The total premium for both the student accident policy and the secondary athletic insurance coverage is \$128,030 for 2026-2027.

Additionally, the College is required by NJCAA to maintain a Catastrophic Insurance Policy. This policy contains a Catastrophic Cash benefit through Zurich American Insurance Company with a premium of \$10,963 for the 2026-2027 year, which is an increase of \$2,193 or 25% , in premium from the present year.

The current policy expires July 31, 2026. In order to have coverage for student athletes, the College will need to sign the contract for this coverage to make certain that athletes have coverage for injuries.

Regent Herod made and Regent Dains seconded a motion to approve the Mandatory Student Accident Policy and Secondary Athletic Insurance policies provided by HUB/Dissinger Reed in the amount of \$45,500 and \$82,530, respectively, for the 2026-2027 academic year. Also, the Board of Regents approves the Catastrophic Insurance Policy containing a catastrophic cash benefit through Zurich American Insurance Company in the amount of \$10,963 for the 2026-2027 year. The motion was carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #8- Personnel (Spindle)

- **New Hire and Separations**

- a. Additions**

1. Margarite Anderson
2. Ricardo Amador
3. Emma Babb
4. Lauren Bednar
5. Doug Berry
6. Vanetta Chapman
7. Lacey Clark
8. Heath Cook
9. Susan Cotten
10. Asheal Davis
11. Robyn Dobbs
12. Romelia Garcia
13. Lawna Greene
14. Kerek Hogg
15. Lizette Paceley
16. Mark Pittman
17. Katie Ralph
18. Jana Reid
19. Sidney Sisemore
20. John Taylor
21. Brenda Trumble

22. Gudisa Adnow
23. Dana Almengor
24. Anfernee Bascombe
25. Lex Christie
26. London Durant
27. William Foy
28. Daniel Henneke
29. Seth Rainey
30. Jaden Wells
31. She'Ray Wilson

b. Separations

1. Babette Cuadrado
2. David Frank Jr.
3. Steven Gilbert
4. Lance Hawvermale
5. Dalton Rodriguez

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

● **Title Change**

1. Evelyn Guillen: Associate Vice President of Erath Center & Ranger REACH

Regent Cockburn made and Regent Herod seconded a motion to approve the title change for Evelyn Guillen. The motion was carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #9- Board Meeting Minutes 5-18-2026

Regent Dains made and Regent Russell seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2026 meeting. The motion was carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #10- Announcements:

a. Upcoming Events

The next Board meeting will be August 24, 2026 instead of August 31, 2026.

First day of classes will be August 24, 2026.

Regent Cockburn mentioned that he has been following the TRIO grant renewals and it looks like we should be getting an approval notification soon.

Agenda Item #11- Adjourn

Regent Herod made and Regent Dains seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion was carried unanimously. The meeting ended at 7:30 PM.

Chairman, Jackie Stephens

Secretary, Vanna Dains