



Your **Community's** College

Temple College Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 15, 2026 – 6 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Alejandro Arroliga (Board of Trustees, Vice Chairman), Dr. Andrejs Avots-Avotins (Board of Trustees, Secretary), Mr. Harry Adams (Board of Trustees), Mr. John Bailey (Board of Trustees), Dr. Hope Koch (Board of Trustees), Dr. John (Jack) Myers (Board of Trustees), Ms. Lydia Santibanez-Farrell (Immediate Past Chair)

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Christy Ponce, President; Dr. Susan Guzmán-Treviño, Provost/Vice President, Academic Affairs and Student Services; Dr. Lorenzo Reyes, Vice President, Resource Development and External Relations; Ms. DeDe Griffith, Vice President, Workforce Development; Mr. Glenn Graham, Vice President and CFO, Administrative Services

OTHERS PRESENT

Juanita Lockett, Jeff Fritz, Caleb Hogue, Dana Riegel, Tracey Cooper, DeDe Griffith, Elizabeth Chivers, Shannon Bralley, Robbin Ray, Cynthia Gonzales, Lacey Hutton, Monica Lefner, Jennifer Ritter, Monique Gibson, Keneesha McDade, Priscilla Santana, John White, Chris Krejci, Treva Askey, Roland Gonzales.

1. Call to Order

Dr. Alejandro Arroliga called the meeting to order. The time was 6:00 p.m.

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Avots-Avotins offered the invocation, and Dr. John (Jack) Myers led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 3. Opportunity for Citizens to Address the Board

Dr. Alejandro Arroliga read the following: "Citizens who desire to address the Board on any matter listed on the agenda may sign up to do so prior to this meeting. Public Comments will be received during this portion of the meeting. Please limit comments to three minutes. No discussion or final action will be taken by the Board."

There were none.

Item 4. Consideration of Approval of Consent Agenda

Dr. Alejandro Arroliga asked if anyone had any items that they would like removed from the consent agenda

There were none.

Dr. Andrejs Avots-Avotins made the motion to approve, and it was seconded by Mr. Harry Adams.

All were in favor. None opposed. The motion carried.

Item 8.A. and Item 8.B. were taken out of order

Dr. Ponce introduced Jennifer Ritter, Temple College (TC) Financial Advisor, to the Board of Trustees (BOT) concerning Temple College bonds.

8.A. Consideration of Approval for Temple College District Summary Timetable for Issuance of Limited Tax Bonds, Series 2026.

Ms. Ritter shared that the action for the evening was to award the bond issue to TC CFO, Mr. Glenn Graham, and President, Dr. Ponce, for delegation pricing to start preparing the bond documents, getting the bond rating ready to go, underwriters and investors, everything lined up, and will return in early August to sell the bond issue, once certified values have been received in July.

Ms. Ritter reviewed a chart of one-year interest rates, which have the potential to change daily, but will be monitored during the summer. Voters were told during the election that the TC bond issue would not go up more than \$.03 on the debt service portion of the tax rate. The growth in the Temple College footprint was 1.13%, preliminary showed that of the \$158 million that voters approved, \$38,075,000 could be issued this summer, which was less than the previously assumed \$45,000,000. Certified values are due July 28, 2026, and the projected amount is around \$40,000,000, but not less than \$38,075,000. August 5, 2026, is the projected date to sell the bonds.

The proposed pricing officers will be Mr. Glenn Graham, Vice President & CFO, Administrative Services, or Dr. Christy Ponce, President.

8.B. Consideration and action with respect to "An Order Authorizing the Issuance of Temple College District Limited Tax Bonds in a principal amount not to Exceed \$158,000,000 for Designing, Constructing, Renovating, Improving, Upgrading, Updating, Modernizing, Acquiring and Equipping School Facilities; Establishing Procedures for the Sale and Delivery of the Bonds; Levying an Annual Ad Valorem Tax for the Payment of Said Bonds; Authorizing Execution of a Paying Agent/Registrar Agreement; and Authorizing Other Matters Related to the Issuance of the Bonds."

Bond Attorney Greg Salinas, Bond Council, stated that with \$.03, \$158 million would not be affordable in August. To better reflect the reality, \$158 million was moved to \$58 million. The other change was that the interest rate was changed to 5.25%. This order will last for one year.

Operating Rules and Guidelines include:

- The final maturity of the bond will not exceed July 1, 2056.
- The true interest cost of the bond will not exceed 5.25%.
- The delegation will expire if not exercised by June 15, 2027.

Q&A Session:

Dr. Jack Myers asked if two bond sales were anticipated. Ms. Ritter said there would probably be three bond sales. Dr. Myers shared that Temple ISD is selling bonds as well, and would this affect the taxpayers with both Temple ISD and Temple College selling bonds? Ms. Ritter is the Temple ISD advisor as well and stated the Temple community will not be affected.

Dr. Andrejs Avots-Avotins wanted to confirm the max would be \$38 million. Ms. Ritter confirmed that at under \$.03, this was the max. However, with economic growth, things could change. If it cannot be reached with three sales, then there may need to be four sales.

The motion was made to adopt the order described in 8.B. of the Agenda, and modified as discussed in this meeting, not to exceed \$58 million.

Dr. Myers made the motion to approve, and it was seconded by Dr. Koch. All approved, and the motion carried.

Item 5. Student, Employee, and Faculty Spotlights

Associate Vice President of Student Services and Enrollment Manager, Shannon Bralley, presented the Student and Employee Spotlights:

Student Spotlight Keneesha McDade, testing center student worker, was recognized for her outstanding performance, professionalism, and dependability.

Employee Spotlight Monique Gibson, Director, Testing Center, for her incredible leadership.

Item 6. President's Report

Dr. Christy Ponce provided the President's Report and shared the following:

Dr. Ponce recognized Coach Fran Garman, former TC basketball coach, guided Temple Junior College to the first-ever National Junior College Athletic Association Women's Basketball Championship in 1975, served as a head coach for U.S. Teams at the 1979 World University Games, the 1983 Pan American Games, where the U.S. won gold medals in both events, served as assistant coach for the U.S.A. Select Team in 1978, manager for the 1981 U.S.A. Jr. National Team, head coach for the 1992 U.S.A. National Team, and assistant coach for the 1983 World Championship Team. Coach Garman was inducted into the NJCAA Hall of Fame.

TC softball team came in as runner-up to the National Championship and will be celebrated at our next board meeting.

Dr. Ponce was the speaker at Legacy Early College High School graduation, and celebrated students who were also college graduates.

DeDe Griffith was the Key Spotlight Speaker at the Taylor Chamber Luncheon and was the keynote speaker at the Hutto Executive Leadership Forum, where she was able to spotlight Temple College.

TC Mental Health Counseling Center: A&M Central was awarded a grant to open a Counseling Center on campus. The Texas Bio Science Board approved another grant to hire a director to run the TC Mental Health Counseling Center, and oversee Master's degree counselors to serve Temple

College and our Temple Community. They will be housed in the One College Center admissions area.

Dr. Robin Ray hosted a group of Taylor Leaders who toured Temple College.

7. Reports

A. Dr. Chris Krejci provided the Faculty Council Report. Dr. Krejci announced the elections for the Faculty Senate and will serve a two-year term. Appointed positions will serve a one-year term. One correction was made: the Texas Community College Teachers Association (TCCTA) salary study in 2025 was at 48 institutions. And, shared Chad Cryer's Barnhart Award speech.

Dr. Hope Koch asked if, at the community college level, there are salary differences for nursing compared to liberal arts? Dr. Krejci stated it was his understanding that salaries are determined according to steps, such as experience steps, not necessarily different field steps. But, high need areas can offer an additional kind of pay/salary. Dr. Ponce shared that it is a comparison of base pay, and there is some incentive pay, overloads, clinical hours, or things that are added to different roles.

Dr. Arroliga asks how many people vote for the faculty senate. Dr. Krejci explained that the voting had been opened to everyone, but would have to check for the exact numbers.

Dr. Hope Koch asked if TCCTA is advocating for inflation increases or market-rate salaries. Dr. Krejci stated that TCCTA does not advocate for either; they just provide information. Dr. Ponce shared that the group that provides that information is the Texas Business Officers CFO's, based on state appropriations, the market, and they are able to get a good comparison.

B. Provost, Academic Affairs and Student Services Report. No report was presented.

C. Vice President & CFO, Administrative Services Report. Mr. Glenn Graham reviewed the May 2026 Financials.

D. Vice President of Workforce Development Report, DeDe Griffith, introduced Daniel Cochran and Robert Quinn, Semiconductor Technicians, who will be helping build our programs and connecting TC with our community. Ms. Griffith shared the importance of industry partnerships, the Samsung grant, and introduced purchasing Universal Robotics, Festo Metrology Training Equipment, and Water Reclamation Training Unit.

E. Vice President, Development & External Relations Report, Dr. Reyes, shared progress and updates on Grant Development Activities, which include five major grant applications (federal, state, and foundation). The total funding requested is \$2,502,592.

Early wins include the Moody Foundation, which awarded \$759,474. Dr. Reyes also shared that only nominated institutions were eligible to apply for the Moody Foundation's Rural M-Pact Fund.

Mr. Harry Adams asked if transportation was a challenge in our rural communities. Dr. Reyes affirmed that transportation was a challenge, and this is being addressed in the grant proposals.

Dr. Avots-Avotins wanted to know how the Moody Foundation grant money was determined and what it was based on. Dr. Reyes shared that it was for dual credit, and the funding was for staffing, transportation, support services such as child care, and basic needs. Dr. Ponce shared that part of

the criteria to apply for this grant was to bring all of the superintendents together and ask them what they most needed.

8. New Business

8.A. and 8.B. were presented earlier.

C. DeDe Griffith requested the board consider purchasing Universal Robotics and Festo Metrology training equipment from Advanced Technologies Consultants through the TIPS Cooperative Contract #250802 for the Temple College Taylor Location, funded by the Samsung Equipment Grant (Account #160108).

Dr. Koch made the motion to approve, and it was seconded by Dr. Myers. All approved, and the motion carried.

D. DeDe Griffith requested the board to consider the purchase of a Water Reclamation and Treatment Training Station from Advanced Technologies Consultants through the TIPS Cooperative Contract #250802 for \$355,434.00 for the Temple College Workforce and Visual Arts Building. The purchase will be funded through the Capital Campaign Naming and Equipment Budget. The equipment will support workforce training and academic programs in water reclamation, wastewater treatment, environmental technologies, semiconductor manufacturing support systems, and industrial sustainability.

Dr. Arroliga asked if the price includes maintaining the equipment. Ms. Griffith shared that the purpose of this equipment is for the students to learn to maintain the equipment and learn the processes. Dr. Avots-Avotins asked where the next closest one was and what was its size. Ms. Griffith stated there is no other in any other college, and talked about where it will be located in Bay 2 of the Workforce Building when the board visited in the past. Dr. Avots-Avotins asked if this program will provide certification for students. Ms. Griffith shared that it is a certificate program, and embedded in the program is the opportunity for students to get a water operator license.

Mr. Harry Adams made the motion to approve, and it was seconded by Dr. Avots-Avotins. None opposed, and the motion carried.

E. Mr. Glenn Graham asked the board to approve a change order in the amount of \$1,000,000 to the New Health Sciences Building Project to include renovations to the current pedestrian bridge spanning Veterans Memorial Boulevard. The additional costs will be provided by the City of Temple in conjunction with a resolution passed by the City Council of the City of Temple authorizing an interlocal agreement with Temple College.

Mr. Harry Adams asked how long the renovations will last. Dr. Ponce said it will be a couple of months. Dr. Avots-Avotins asked is the bridge is safe right now for pedestrian travel. Mr. Graham confirmed the bridge is safe, and the renovations are cosmetic.

Dr. Myers made the motion to approve, and it was seconded by Dr. Avots-Avotins. None opposed and the motion carried.

Item 9. Miscellaneous

There were no miscellaneous items.

10. Executive Session to Consider Personnel, Legal Matters, and Real Estate

There was no executive session.

11. Adjournment

The time was 7:35 p.m., and the motion to approve adjournment was made by Dr. Koch and seconded by Dr. Myers.

All were in favor, none opposed. The motion carried.