



**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS
LEE COLLEGE DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
April 16, 2026**

The Board of Regents of the Lee College District met on April 16, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at John B. Tucker Hall. Chairman Santana called the meeting to order stating that the meeting was duly posted and a quorum was present.

PRESENT: Gilbert Santana, Chairman; Pam Warford, Vice Chair; Mark Himsel, Secretary; Gina Guillory, Assistant Secretary (virtual); Weston Cotten, Mark Hall, Judy Jirrels, Heron Thomas

Jacob Atkin, Interim President

ABSENT: Daryl Fontenot

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Regent Judy Jirrels said the Invocation and led the Pledge to United States Flag and Texas Flag.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT – Bianca Calvillo, Puente program

English instructor Cristen Martin, who coordinates the Puente program at Lee College, explained the background and mission of Puente, and its footprint at Lee College, then introduced student Bianca Calvillo, one of four recipients of a Fall 2025 Puente scholarship.

Ms. Calvillo said she is a first-year Lee College student who emigrated to the United States at age 4. She discussed support provided by the Puente program to students such as her – first in her family to college, parents who attended neither middle school nor high school, feeling alone in navigating the system. Puente has been a source of belonging, encouragement, knowledge and new friends who have aspirations similar to hers, she said. Through Puente, she visited a large university for the first time, an experience which made her dream to attend a university feel even more within reach.

Ms. Calvillo said her experience has motivated her to support other students who are starting their journeys. Puente is a community that empowered her to overcome barriers, and to believe in her potential, she said.

23.26

DISPOSITION OF MINUTES

Regent Hall made a motion, seconded by Regent Cotten, that the Board approve the minutes for Building Committee Meeting, March 18, 2026; and Board Meeting, March 19, 2026.

The motion passed with no dissenting votes. Regent Fontenot was absent. Regent Guillory was present virtually but not voting.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Building Committee – On behalf of Committee Chair Daryl Fontenot, Regent Mark Himsel reported on the committee’s meeting Tuesday which included recommendation of a proposal to construct a fence around McNair Center, a facilities master plan update, a general update on a proposed land exchange between the City of Baytown and Lee College, status of T-V 8 demolition, a safety projects update, and a report on ADA Phase 2 and Life Safety projects.
- Policy Committee – Committee Chair Mark Hall reported the committee met April 6 and discussed numerous local policies contained in TASB Update 50. Of particular interest was Policy BBE regarding local information access, which resulted in lengthy discussion on a balance between needs of Administration and needs of individual board members, he said.
- Audit & Investment Committee – Committee Chair Judy Jirrels said the committee on Monday heard the quarterly investment report, which has been sent electronically to all board members. Audits for which work is in progress include Content Management and Records Retention, PAC Operations, Workday Implementation, Business Impact Analysis, and Cybersecurity, she reported.

Building and Facilities – Serving on the Building Committee are Daryl Fontenot, Chair; Mark Himsel and Pam Warford

Policy Committee – Serving on the Policy Committee are Mark Hall, Chair; Weston Cotten and Heron Thomas

Audit and Investment Committee – Serving on the Audit and Investment Committee are Judy Jirrels, Chair; Gina Guillory, and Mark Himsel

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

- **Graduation Achievement** – Mr. Atkin reported 923 students are on track to graduate, which would be the most in Lee College history for any spring semester.
- **Faculty Recognitions** – Instructors Ingrid Wallace and Lara Capson are recipients of the annual Lee College faculty Excellence in Education Awards, Mr. Atkin said. Ms. Wallace is the recipient for fewer than 10 years of service; Ms. Capson for more than 10 years.
- **Facilities Master Plan** – Among deliverables expected from Pfluger Architects at the end of the month is a revised facility condition index, Mr. Atkin said.
- **Workday ERP Implementation** – Mr. Atkin named the 20 work streams in process, noting one in yellow status is expected by the end of the week to be in green status with all of the others. He credited the IT, finance and HR teams for their work.
- **Dual Credit Education** – Mr. Atkin reported Huffman ISD this fall will change its partner for dual credit education from Lee College to Lone Star College. Reasons he suggested include difference in distance, lower cost, and Lee College’s challenge of identifying faculty members to commute to Huffman to teach classes on site. Number of students is 160-180.
- **Construction in Mont Belvieu** – Mr. Atkin presented photographs taken April 13 showing progress of construction at the Barbers Hill branch campus.
- **Sexual Assault Awareness** – Mr. Atkin showed photographs from the Cows for Consent event, which drew hundreds of students today to pet two miniature cows on campus.
- **National Champions** – The Lee College debate team earned the national championship last week, Mr. Atkin reported. He expressed appreciation for everyone who assisted the team. Five of the seven team members are from IMPACT Early College High School, he said.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION – ACADEMIC TEAM

Kelli Forde Spiers, Vice President of Student Affairs, presented two students who belong to the Lee College chapter of Phi Theta Kappa – Kamri White and Beya Almaraz. Ms. White was nominated to the All-USA Academic Team, and Ms. Almaraz was selected for the Coca-Cola Academic Team. Ms. Almaraz was awarded a \$1,300 scholarship in connection with her selection.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Financial Report – Renea Woodruff, Controller

Ms. Woodruff noted the college continues to prioritize liquidity, safety and yield in its investment strategies. As of March 31, revenues are at 88% of budget and expenses are 54% of budget, with 58% of fiscal year completed, she said. Discussing a comparison of salary & benefit expenses for the last three years, she noted that budgeting accuracy has sharpened for this area.

For fiscal year end, current estimate is a surplus of \$2.4 million, Ms. Woodruff said, on revenue projecting at \$1.5 million over budget and expenses projecting at nearly \$800,000 under budget. However, she said, myBooks expenses later this year should reduce the amount that expenses are under budget, resulting in an overall surplus less than is projected and less than in years past. She touched briefly on budget status for facility projects, capital projects and restricted funds.

Resignations and Retirements – Jacob Atkin, Interim President

Linda Torrez-Mann, Mental Health Therapist – Resignation
Henry Duke, Faculty, Welding - Huntsville Center – Resignation

PUBLIC COMMENT

Paula Lee encouraged attendance of the Bay Area Philharmonic Orchestra concert in celebration of the country's 250th birthday. The concert, which will include high school students performing alongside orchestra members, will be Saturday, May 2, at 7:30 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center.

ITEMS OF ACTION

A. PERSONNEL

24.26 **CONSENT Agenda – Consideration of New Hire**

The Administration recommends that the Board approve the new hire as presented:

Mr. Chidiebere Nwaogbo, Faculty, Physics

Regent Warford made a motion, seconded by Regent Cotten, that the Board approve the Administration's recommendation.

The motion passed with no dissenting votes. Regent Fontenot was absent. Regent Guillory was present virtually but not voting.

B. NEW BUSINESS

25.26 **Consideration of Adoption of Board Policy Revisions for Local Policies**

The Administration and Board Policy Committee recommend that the Board approve and adopt the revisions to Local Board Policies as presented and recommended by the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Update 50.

Regent Hall made a motion, seconded by Regent Cotten, that the Board approve the recommendation.

The motion passed with no dissenting votes. Regent Fontenot was absent. Regent Guillory was present virtually but not voting.

26.26 Consideration of McNair Center Fencing Purchase and Installation

The Administration recommends that the Board authorize the President or his designee to negotiate final terms and approve the purchase and installation of fencing for the McNair Center for the sum of \$265,951.12.

Regent Himsel made a motion, seconded by Regent Jirrels, that the Board approve the Administration's recommendation. Chairman Santana and Regent Himsel noted the style of the fencing, and that the result of this project will surround the entire property with fencing.

The motion passed with no dissenting votes. Regent Fontenot was absent. Regent Guillory was present virtually but not voting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board of Regents closed the Open Session at 6:36 p.m. and convened into Executive Session at 6:40 p.m. in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act regarding:

1. Consult with legal counsel regarding advice on any item on the agenda. [TX Gov't Code § 551.071]
2. Discussion regarding Real Property [TX Gov't Code § 551.072]
3. Discussion of Lee College Interim President's duties and responsibilities [TX Gov't Code § 551.074]

No action is taken while the Board is recessed into Executive Session.

The Board ended Executive Session at 7:21 p.m. and reconvened into Open Session at 7:23 p.m.

ITEM OF ACTION

A. NEW BUSINESS

27.26 Review and Consider Resolution for Declaration of Surplus Tracts of Land Located at 909 Decker Drive and 2 Price Street and Exchange of Same with the City of Baytown for Tracts of Land Located at 1004 Market Street, 1006 Market Street, 1010 Market Street, and 1011 West Texas Avenue, and Related Actions

The Administration recommends that the Board approve the presented Resolution authorizing the conveyance of the land located at 909 Decker Drive and 2 Price Street to the City of Baytown in exchange for land located at 1004 Market Street, 1006 Market Street, 1010 Market Street, and 1011 West Texas Avenue and further authorizing the Administration to negotiate final terms and execute all necessary conveyance instruments and take all related action.

Regent Hall made a motion, seconded by Regent Cotten, that the Board approve the Resolution as presented and recommended. Regent Himsel asked for confirmation that this action is in no way a joint venture with the City – that no business is involved, other than the land swap. Mr. Atkin confirmed this is only an exchange of property – that there is no shared responsibility or investment on the part of Lee College regarding the ExxonMobil Event Center, or on the part of the City regarding any facilities owned or operated by the college, now or in the future.

The motion passed with no dissenting votes. Regent Fontenot was absent. Regent Guillory was present virtually but not voting.

MATTERS OF CONCERN FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Santana declared the meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Chairman, Board of Regents

Secretary, Board of Regents