

Collin County Community College District Board of Trustees

2017-6-7

June 27, 2017

Resource: Sherry Schumann

Senior Vice President, Academic, Workforce, and Enrollment Services

AGENDA ITEM: Approval for the District President to Execute a Contract for Grant Related Services with Thomas Downs, Downs Governmental Affairs.

DISCUSSION: Collin College contracted with Thomas Downs during the 2016-2017 year. During the course of the contract, Thomas Downs provided us with information about available grant opportunities before we had access to the information via other sources. He helped us develop an understanding of how grant funds are appropriated, the emergence of funding opportunities, and the role of the advocate in the process. Thomas Downs provided us with information about national trends in community college programming and is working with us to establish Centers of Excellence in particular workforce areas which will position us for future grant awards and partnerships. He has made us aware of pending legislation which, if passed, will open the door for training and funding at the community college level. He is providing opportunities for Collin leadership to connect with key governmental agencies and speak directly with national leaders who figure significantly in workforce funding. The approval of this recommendation will allow the District President to execute a contract with Thomas Downs to extend the research and to assist Collin in building meaningful relationships, critical to the growth of grant and revenue streams. The terms of the contract will be for a one year period at a contract cost not to exceed \$42,000, paid in monthly installments of \$3,500 each, for the completion of identified deliverables.

DISTRICT PRESIDENT'S RECOMMENDATION: The District President recommends approval of the authority to execute the contract for grant related services with Thomas Downs, Downs Governmental Affairs.

SUGGESTED MOTION: "Mr. Chairman, I make a motion that the Board of Trustees of Collin County Community College District approve the authority for the District President to execute a contract for grant related services with Thomas Downs, Downs Governmental Affairs, for a one year period at a contract cost not to exceed \$42,000, paid in monthly installments of \$3,500 each, for the completion of identified deliverables."