The Board of Regents of South Plains College met on Thursday, August 9, 2012, at 11:45 a.m. in the Regency Dining Room for lunch. After lunch, the Board members adjourned to the Board of Regents Room for their regular meeting at 12:30 p.m. with the following present: Mr. Mike Box, Chairman; Mr. Bobby Neal, Vice Chairman; Ms. Linda Patton, Secretary; and other members of the Board; Mr. William Clements; Mr. Ken Williams; and Mr. Ronny Alexander. Others present were Mr. Jim Walker; Ms. Cathy Mitchell; Mr. Tony Riley; Mr. Stephen John; Mr. Dan Hook; Mr. John Rigg, of the News-Press; and Dr. Kelvin Sharp.

Members absent: Mr. Pete Pettiet
Mr. Williams gave the opening prayer.
Mr. Box led the pledge to the United States Flag.
The Chairman asked if there were any changes to be made to the minutes; there being none, Mr. Neal made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Second by Mr. Alexander, vote to approve was unanimous.
The Chairman called on the Vice President for Academic Affairs for his report. Mr. Walker reported that most faculty positions have been filled. See Exhibit #3720.

The Chairman called on the Vice President for Student Affairs for her report. Ms. Mitchell reported that the SPC Health and Safety Committee has been conducting the safety audit, using a comprehensive form provided by the Texas School Safety Center, since January of this year. The committee is made up of employees from all SPC locations and many different departments. The audit addresses facilities, emergency operations plans and safety and security practices. Most of our areas, particularly in the realm of facilities and safety & security practices, met or exceeded the suggested guidelines. Recent surveys indicate our employees, as well as our students, see SPC as safe and secure. There are areas that came to light that do need to be addressed. We are in the process of developing action plans to address these. Most of them fell under the area of our emergency operations plans. The Health and Safety Committee will continue to review findings of the audit and begin developing and implementing actions plans to meet recommended standards and continue to provide a safe and secure environment for everyone.

The Chairman called on the Vice President for Finance and Administration for his report. Mr. Riley presented the Tax Office Report and Financial Reports. The Chairman asked if there were any questions regarding the reports, there being none, Mr. Williams made a motion that the Board accept the reports as shown in Exhibits #3721 and #3722. Second by Ms. Patton and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Riley also presented two resolutions for resale of property; 1) Raul Delgado; Account #R17122; Exhibit #3723; motion by Mr. Neal to approve; second from Mr. Williams; vote to approve was unanimous. 2) William D. Thomas and Vivian Almager; Account #R19275; Exhibit #3724; motion by Mr. Clements to approve; seconded by Mr. Alexander; vote to approve was unanimous.

The Chairman called on the Vice President for Institutional Advancement for his report. Mr. John reported that eight orientation sessions have been held this year with 655 students and 545 family guests participating. Two additional orientation sessions are scheduled for the Levelland Campus on August 10, 2012 and August 14, 2012. To date, 181 students and 114 guests have registered for these two final sessions. In total, the college is expecting more than 836 students to participate in orientation, a 13% increase over last year. Mr. John explained that different orientation programs are scheduled simultaneously for students and family members and discussed the orientation activities for each session. He also reported that an analysis of student success for last summer’s orientation participants indicated that these students generally enroll in a greater number of credit hours, have a higher course completion rate, have a better grade point average and have a higher retention rate than do new students who do not participate in orientation. He commended the faculty and staff who assist with New Student Orientation for their commitment to the program.

Dr. Sharp recommended the Board of Regents maintain the existing tax rate of .24795. He stated that this action would generate about $1.9 million in additional tax revenue. Dr. Sharp emphasized the need for additional revenue as the college plans a new residence hall and expands Cosmetology into the old Wal-Mart building. Motion by Mr. Neal; second by Mrs. Patton; Mr. Box – for; Mr. Neal – for; Mr. Pettiet – absent; Mr. Alexander – for; Mr. Clements – for; Mrs. Patton – for; and Mr. Williams – for; approved.
Public hearings will occur Monday, August 20, 2012 at 5 p.m. and Thursday, August 23, 2012 at 8 a.m. A special meeting to set the tax rate and approve the budget for 2012-13 will be held Tuesday, August 29, 2012 at 4 p.m. The public hearings and special meeting will be held in the Board of Regents Room.

Meeting adjourned.

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Chairman

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Secretary