The Board of Regents of South Plains College met on Thursday, September 10, 2020, at 12:30 p.m. in a Zoom format with the following present: Mr. Mike Box, Chairman; Mr. Bobby Neal, Vice Chairman; Mr. Ronny Alexander, Secretary; and other members of the Board; Mr. Richard Ellis; and Mr. Pete Pettiet; Others present were Dr. Ryan Gibbs; Dr. Stan DeMerritt; Ms. Teresa Green; Mr. Stephen John; Ms. Katie Walker of the News-Press; Mr. Jody Rose, of KLVT; Ms. Myrna Whitehead, News and Information Coordinator; and Dr. Robin Satterwhite.

Guests present: Ms. Robyn Reaves, Administrative Assistant to the President

Mr. Alexander 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. Alexander made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Second by Mr. Neal, vote to approve was unanimous.

The Chairman called on the Vice President for Student Affairs for his report. Dr. DeMerritt reported on the Fall 2020 preliminary enrollment in exhibit #4430. Dr. DeMerritt then stated that the residence halls are at 90% capacity; exhibit #4531. He also noted that in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, a group of apartments were intentionally left unoccupied in the Smallwood Apartment Complex to be used for students needing to quarantine. Finally, Dr. DeMerritt as the Board to approve the changed made to Policy FH: Equal Opportunity, Harassment, and Nondiscrimination (BP). See Exhibit #4532. Mr. Ellis made a motion to approve the policy, followed by a second from Mr. Alexander. The vote to approve was unanimous.

The Chairman called on the Vice President for Academic Affairs for his report. Dr. Gibbs informed the Board that the SACSCOC 5th year referral report has been finished.

The Chairman called on the Vice President for Business Affairs for her report. Ms. Green presented the Tax Office Report and Financial Reports. The Chairman asked if there were any questions regarding the reports, there being none, Mr. Neal made a motion that the Board accept the reports as shown in exhibits #4533 and #4534. Second by Mr. Pettiet and the motion carried unanimously. Ms. Green then presented a resolution asking the Board to approve a maximum of $1,500,000 be transferred from the Unrestricted Fund to the Science Building Construction Fund for the fiscal year 2020. See exhibit #4535. Mr. Alexander made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Mr. Neal seconded the motion and the vote to approve was unanimous.

The Chairman then called on the Vice President for Institutional Advancement to report. Mr. John asked Regents to consider a resolution (Exhibit #4536) designating Dereesa Reid of Vancouver, Wash., and
Terry Hill of Richmond, Wash., as Distinguished Alumni of South Plains College for 2020. Mr. John explained the process for selecting this year's distinguished alumni and said the Distinguished Alumni Recommendation Committee along with Dr. Satterwhite have recommended the two finalists for the award. Mrs. Reid is a native of Brownfield, Texas, and a 1981 graduate of SPC. She has worked 23 years in healthcare finance and administration and currently serves as the administrator of Shriner's Hospital in Portland, Ore. Mr. Hill is Levelland native and a 1980 graduate of SPC. His career has spanned more than 30 years in chemical distribution and he is the chief executive officer of the Maroon Group and the founder of Apex Distribution Consulting. Following the reading of the resolution, NAME made the motion to adopt the resolution. Motion was second by NAME. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. John then announced to the board that South Plains College has been selected to receive a $2,462,986 federal grant over the next five years from the Title V Strengthening Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program of the U.S. Department of Education. He said that an 18-member team, led by Dr. Gail Malone, chair of the College Literacy and Education Department and director of the Teaching and Learning Center, collaborated over a six-week period during January and February to prepare the grant application. The grant project will focus on implementing activities to improve college readiness, student success in high-impact, high-risk core curriculum courses, retention, GPA success, and graduation and transfer rates. Mr. John said this is the fifth Title V HSI grant the college has received over the past 16 years.

The Chairman called on the President for his report. Dr. Satterwhite began by asking the Board to approve a call for bids to begin demolition and abatement at the Lubbock Downtown Center. Mr. Ellis made a motion to approve Dr. Satterwhite’s request, Mr. Alexander seconded, and the vote to approve was unanimous.

Dr. Satterwhite then asked the Board to Call and Order an Election for positions #1, #2, and #6; exhibit #4537. He reminded the Board that the election was postponed during the April, 9, 2020 meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Finally, Dr. Satterwhite gave an update on the Fall 2020 semester. He stated that the semester is starting on a positive even with changes and modifications being made to accommodate mandates made by the Governor due to COVID-19. He noted that 76% of classes are either face-to-face or hybrid method and 24% of classes are exclusively online. These rations are only slightly different from traditional semesters in the past.

Meeting Adjourn.

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Chairman  Secretary