

**FINAL
MINUTES**

**SPECIAL MEETING
DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
GULF COAST STATE COLLEGE**

June 30, 2023

3:00 p.m.

William C. Cramer, Jr. Seminar Room

Members Present: Bill Cramer, Jr. (presiding), Tricia Berry, Boyd K. Bulger, Dr. Abel De La Rosa, Frank A. Hall, C. David Powell, Floyd D. Skinner, Joe K. Tannehill, Jr., Caroline Windham, Dr. Cheryl Flax-Hyman, and Board Attorney Derrick Bennett

- 1. Call to Order** Chair Cramer called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and stated that today's meeting would be one of the most important in the history of the College.

- 2. Welcome to Guests** Mr. Cramer welcomed guests, thanking all those who were a part of the presidential search process. Mr. Cramer commended Dr. Cheryl Flax-Hyman for her exemplary work serving as Interim President, and expressed his gratefulness for her dedication to the college.

- 3. Approval of Minutes** Chair Cramer requested approval of the minutes of the June 26, June 27, June 28, and June 29, 2023, presidential interviews. Mr. Powell moved and Mr. Hall seconded approval as presented. The vote was recorded as follows: Berry, aye; Bulger, aye; De La Rosa, aye; Hall, aye; Powell, aye; Skinner, aye; Tannehill, aye; Windham, aye; and Cramer, aye.

- 4. Discussion of the Presidential Process** Mr. Cramer reviewed the process of the search up to this point and stated that today's task would be to make the final selection for president. He asked each trustee to vote for their top two candidates on the Presidential Candidate Preference Ballot (with no ranking) and sign the ballot.
 - Dr. Saul Reyes
 - Mr. Glen McDonald
 - Dr. Gilbert Evans
 - Dr. Deidre Price

Following collection and tabulation of the ballots, Dr. Gilbert Evans and Mr. Glen McDonald emerged as the top two candidates. The votes were recorded as follows:

Dr. Saul Reyes

- Frank A. Hall
- C. David Powell
- Caroline Windham

Mr. Glen McDonald

- Tricia Berry
- Frank A. Hall
- C. David Powell
- Floyd D. Skinner
- Caroline Windham

Dr. Gilbert Evans

- Tricia Berry
- Boyd K. Bulger
- Bill Cramer, Jr.
- Dr. Abel De La Rosa
- Floyd D. Skinner
- Joe K. Tannehill, Jr.

Dr. Deidre Price

- Boyd K. Bulger
- Bill Cramer, Jr.
- Dr. Abel De La Rosa
- Joe K. Tannehill, Jr.

Trustees comments follow:

- Ms. Berry acknowledged that this was a well-thought out process and that due to financial readiness and strong managerial strengths, Mr. Glen McDonald would make a great president.
- Dr. De La Rosa stated that all candidates had strong qualities and were mission-focused. While Mr. Glen McDonald had financial background, Dr. De La Rosa pointed out the legal experience and student interaction that Dr. Evans had acquired in his years in higher education.
- Mr. Bulger noted the connectivity and passion expressed by Dr. Evans during his campus visit.

- Mr. Tannehill stated that he has known Mr. McDonald for years and that he has confidence in his business experience. He also noted that Dr. Evans was a true collaborator.
- Ms. Windham stated that the surveys were insightful. She added that Dr. Reyes had the heart of a researcher, and Mr. McDonald was a community leader.
- Mr. Powell noted that all candidates were outstanding and would bring different strengths to the college. He also stated the importance of the board making a strategic decision to hire the right person.
- Mr. Skinner thanked Dr. Flax-Hyman for her leadership of the college as Interim President. He acknowledged that although all candidates were qualified, he felt that Dr. Flax-Hyman could act as a mentor to Mr. McDonald to best serve the college.
- Mr. Hall noted the difficulty in coming to this decision, but someone who could be an effective fundraiser, collaborator, and strategist would be the best combination of all the factors the college needs.
- Mr. Cramer thanked all who provided input on the surveys received and that all were taken into consideration as trustees make the best decision for the college.

After the trustee comments, Mr. Cramer asked that trustees mark their Presidential Preference Ballots with the name of the candidate they believed would best serve Gulf Coast State College.

The votes were recorded as follows:

Mr. Glen McDonald

- Tricia Berry
- Frank A. Hall
- C. David Powell
- Floyd D. Skinner
- Caroline Windham

Dr. Gilbert Evans

- Boyd K. Bulger
- Bill Cramer, Jr.
- Dr. Abel De La Rosa
- Joe K. Tannehill, Jr.

Mr. Bulger moved and Mr. Hall seconded a motion to unanimously accept the vote of Mr. Glen McDonald as president of Gulf Coast State College. The vote was recorded as follows: Berry, aye; Bulger, aye; De La Rosa, aye; Hall, aye; Powell, aye; Skinner, aye; Tannehill, aye; Windham, aye; and Cramer, aye.

Chair Cramer stated that, subject to contract negotiations, it was his pleasure to announce that the next president of Gulf Coast State College would be Mr. Glen McDonald. Mr. Bennett requested that the board authorize Chair Cramer to negotiate the terms of the final contract and bring it back to the board at the next meeting and, in the event the first selection contract fails, Mr. Cramer will proceed with the runner up. Mr. Hall moved and Mr. Powell seconded the motion as presented. The vote was recorded as follows: Berry, aye; Bulger, aye; De La Rosa, aye; Hall, aye; Powell, aye; Skinner, aye; Tannehill, aye; Windham, aye; and Cramer, aye.

4. Adjournment

Chair Cramer adjourned the meeting at 3:36 p.m.

Secretary

Chairman