

**NAVARRO COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 PUBLIC HEARING
MINUTES**

The Navarro College Board of Trustees gathered in the Bulldog Board Room located in Walker Dining Hall on the Corsicana Campus Monday, September 9, 2019 to conduct the first of two public hearings regarding the Board's intent on setting the ad valorem tax rate. All trustees were in attendance including: Chairman Phil Judson, Vice-Chairman Billy Todd McGraw, Secretary-Treasurer Richard Aldama, A. L. "Buster" Atkeisson, Faith Holt, Loran Seely, and Kim Wyatt.

Others in attendance included:

Dr. Kevin G. Fegan	District President
Ms. Teresa Thomas	Vice President, Finance and Administration
Ms. Sina Ruiz	Vice President, Enrollment Management and Instl. Effectiveness
Ms. Marcy Ballew	Vice President, Human Resources
Dr. Carol Hanes	Vice President, Academic Affairs
Ms. Maryann Hailey	Vice President, Student Services
Dr. Harold Housley	Vice President, Operations and Instl. Advancement
Ms. Stacie Sipes	Director, Marketing and Public Information
Mr. Barry Sullivan	Director, Information Technology
Mr. Guy Featherston	Dean, Midlothian Campus and Health Professions
Ms. Leslie Smith	Executive Assistant to the District President
Rev. Dr. George Procter-Smith	Navarro County Taxpayer

Call to Order

Chairman Judson called the meeting to order at 12 noon on Monday, September 9, 2019. He stated the purpose of this meeting was to conduct a public hearing regarding the Board's intent to set the ad valorem tax rate at \$0.1164 per \$100 valuation. The proposed tax rate will decrease the amount paid on the average home by \$6.55 from the amount of taxes imposed on a property of the same value last year.

Public Hearing

Chairman Judson acknowledged Dr. George Procter-Smith's request to address the Board. He asked Dr. Smith to begin by stating his name and place of residence.

After stating his name and address, Dr. Procter-Smith thanked the Board for allowing him to address them on the subject of tax rates for the fiscal year 2019-2020. He requested the Board consider not adopting the proposed rollback tax rate of \$0.1164 per \$100 valuation, but rather remain with the current tax rate of \$0.1218/\$100. He stated his argument was two-fold: (1) most taxpayers can afford the difference of \$0.33 and (2) the amount that could be generated could make a huge difference in the Navarro College budget if it were applied, for example, to the need for student financial assistance. He stated taxes are a good thing and they are how police, firemen, and first responders are paid and equipped. Most importantly, taxes are "how we educate our youth who are the future lifeblood and welfare of our community." He stated that speaking as a Navarro County taxpayer, he was happy and proud to support a quality community college in its quest for national recognition. He concluded by asking the Board to "not be afraid to stick with the current rate. It is already a low rate, and the College needs the money."

Chairman Judson expressed appreciation for Dr. Procter-Smith's comments. He stated no action could be taken at this time.

After confirming there were no other requests to speak to the Board, Chairman Judson announced that a second public hearing would be held on Thursday, September 12, in the Bulldog Board Room at 12 noon. He then asked for a motion to convene.

Adjournment

Trustee Wyatt moved to adjourn. Trustee Aldama seconded the motion and the decision was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 12:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard L. Aldama". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Richard L. Aldama, Secretary-Treasurer
Navarro College Board of Trustees