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∞WESTERN TEXAS COLLEGE FOUNDATION∞

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Minutes of October 26, 2021, Meeting

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Members Present: Mr. Jason West, , Mr. Sid Medina, Mr. Jay Waller, Ms. Janet Spence, Mr. Jason Tyler

Members Absent: Mr. Carter Wiggins, Mr. Mark McClain, Ms. Deborah Boyd, Mr. Eddie Peterson

Others Present: Dr. Barbara Beebe, Ms. Melanie Schwertner, Ms. Patricia Claxton, Ms. Emily Powell, Ms. Stephanie Ducheneaux, Mr. Britt Canada

Mr. Waller gave the invocation and Mr. West called the meeting to order.

Thank you, Jason Tyler, for joining the Foundation board.

### **Minutes**

Motion by Mr. Waller, seconded by Mr. Medina to approve the July 27, 2021, board meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Financials**

Motion by Mr. Medina, seconded by Mr. Waller to approve the August 31, 2021, financial report. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Edward Jones Financial Update – Trent Driggers**

We had a good year this year. Thank you for the opportunity to work with you. This college is very important to the community. Last year, we had a Zoom meeting, and your investment total was \$4.8 million. It is currently \$5,891,408.99. The funds are greatly diversified. Some are in fixed income, and some are in the stock market with big companies. We perpetuate when things are good and protect when they are not. If you ever have any questions, come to me. Unemployment is down, but most businesses in town are hiring. We need to watch interest rates. Things are in place for these funds to continue to do well.

Edward Jones Charitable Gift Fund: A convenient way to make a lasting impact. There are many ways to support a cause that's important to you. You might donate time by volunteering, give items directly to a charity or contribute money. How you give is a deeply personal choice, but those who choose to donate financially may find their contributions go further with the Edward Jones Charitable Gift Fund, a donor-advised fund (DAF).

What is a donor-advised fund? A DAF is a charitable-giving tool that allows you to make an irrevocable contribution to the fund, for which you can gain an immediate tax deduction. Over time, you can request distributions be made to IRS-approved, public charities of your choosing. The minimum initial contribution for Edward Jones Charitable Gift Fund is \$10,000. If you are interested, give Trent a call.

### **INSPIRE**

Mitch Brumelow discussed his application for undergraduate research and is requesting \$5,000. Before he leaves the college, he would like to have undergraduate research up and going. Faculty could be

mentors. Students would be the main benefactor, but we need funding to make it available. The Title V grant offered to help. We need equipment. Our autoclave is broken. To fix it would cost around \$4,000, and we can buy a good used one for \$4,000. The WTC science department would use WTC Foundation funds with concomitant efforts in promoting these programs through student recruitment and by demonstrating program success.

Resource	Cost
Autoclave	\$3500
Inert nitrogen and 5% hydrogen tanks (refilled plus pick-up and delivery)	\$500
Various media needed for bacteria research	\$750
Monies to advertise PBL to prospective students	\$250
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5000</b>

Jeffrey Martin discussed his WTC Ag Day event. There goal is to help support the current Ag programs, and the new Farm and Ranch Certificate/Degree Plan by involving area I.S.D's, farmers, ranchers, and businesses to increase enrollment at WTC. He is requesting \$5,000. This will be a full day event at the Coliseum. There will be a dinner that will help raise funds for the program in the future. He wants it to be fun and laid back. The \$5,000 will help with the cost of supplies, and giveaways for the farmers, ranchers, and students. Mr. Waller who is an instructor in the Farm and Ranch program said there are two categories of students: those that will graduate and those that are here. We are trying to channel interest for careers in our program. There is a love of Ag. We teach skills as tools to develop a career path.

Gary Miller discussed safety netting for the baseball and softball fields. He is asking for \$24,000. The safety net is in bad shape. They go out everyday and patch the holes. The balls literally go through the net. It is a safety issue, and they don't have enough money in their agency account. He is trying to get a firm quote, but they won't come out until we have the money. The speakers are worn out and are in the wrong spot. They are not the right type of speaker. Would like screens for the bull pens and fencing for the dugout. Can get welding to help put a cover on the top. It is open now which is another safety hazard. Is there a way to take it down in the summer and winter? He will ask. The last net lasted 5-6 years.

157' x 20' safety netting	Estimate \$11,000
10'x10' safety screen for bullpens and field work	2 each = \$2000
Outdoor stadium speakers	4 each = \$1500
Fencing for dugouts and cover for home dugout	Estimate \$9500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$24,000</b>

Richard Medina discussed his telescope upgrades for astronomy classes and public viewings. Cost is \$1494.99. He would like a QUARK H-Alpha Eyepiece Filter for \$1195.00. This filter is for prominence observations. A prominence is a detail of the chromosphere projected against the blackness of space behind the sun. He would also like a Revolution Imager Video Astronomy Camera – Version R2 for \$299.99. The Revolution Imager is a self-contained video astronomy camera with a portable battery-powered 7-inch monitor. It would improve observations by displaying the telescope's observations to multiple people at one time. Currently, the school's telescope only allows individual viewing. The equipment will be used at our observation lab. The purpose is to show students there is something else going on with the sun. He plans to do an observation of a shooting star.

Any questions or comments?

The baseball field is a facility. What is the chain of communication? It is not feasible to take the netting up and down. We need to look institutional for both baseball and softball netting.

Motion by Mr. Waller, seconded by Mr. Medina to approve the \$5,000 request for the autoclave, Inert nitrogen and 5% hydrogen tanks (refilled plus pick-up and delivery), various media needed for bacteria research, and monies to advertise PBL to prospective students. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Median, seconded by Mr. West to approve the \$5,000 for WTC Ag Day. Mr. Waller abstained from voting. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Waller, seconded by Mr. Tyler to approve \$4,000 for speakers and safety screens for bullpens. The sound system is priority, and if there is money left it will be used for the safety screens. Corey Knipe needs to help with the speakers. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Waller, seconded by Mr. Medina to approve the \$1494.99 for the QUARK H-Alpha Eyepiece Filter and Revolution Imager Video Astronomy Camera. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Potential New Board Members**

Jason Tyler agreed to serve. Jason Cave is over extended, but he appreciated being considered. Please be thinking of someone because we need to make sure we have a quorum.

### **General Update – Dr. Beebe**

We still haven't heard if we received the True grant. We are partnered with North Central Texas College. Small colleges can't do it by themselves. Dana Fahnrapp will be very excited if we get it because it will help her get a well control simulator. You have to go through a 40-hour class to become a well control specialist, and right now you have to go to Midland. If we can get the simulator, we can offer it here. The simulator cost \$400,000. We were supposed to hear by the 15<sup>th</sup> but we haven't yet. Forty-eight colleges requested \$28 million. We requested \$500,000 and NCTC requested \$1.5 million.

Upset with the outcome of the third special session. Community colleges asked for \$325 million, and it got reduced to \$100 million. It passed in the House but not the Senate. They gave universities \$1.3 billion and community colleges nothing. It shows how they don't value community colleges. Our TACC group is our lobbyist, and Dr. Beebe isn't sure what kind of job he is doing. It is really frustrating. A lot of it is the misunderstanding of the federal funds.

### **Information and Questions from Board Members**

How are things on campus? Things are going well. We currently don't have anyone with COVID. Sports are going well. The students are healthy and good.

How is Alex and the baby? Alex and the baby are doing well.

Motion by Mr. West, seconded by Mr. Tyler to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Next Foundation Board meeting: January 25, 2022

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

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Ms. Deborah Boyd, Secretary

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Mr. Jason West, President