

**Employee Advisory Committee  
Division of Facilities  
April 18, 2006**

Members Attending

Silvia Cortez	Charlotte Jones	PJ Jones
Lisa McVey	Steve Nelson	Roger Padon
Craig Peterson	Sandra Roney	Vicki Schlieper
Cleo Tucker	Lawrence Vega	

Members Absent

Gina Braaton	Bob Harvey
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Guests

John Summers	Connie Taylor
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Ex-officio Members

Charles A. (Chuck) Sippial, Sr.	Jane Schneider	Rosie Schoenfeld
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Steve Nelson, vice chair, began the meeting at 9:06 a.m.

**Minutes**

The minutes from the March meeting were approved.

**Vice President's Report B Chuck Sippial**

Budget meetings are currently being held. We still do not know if there will be money available for merit increases. The Division of Facilities recently presented their budget to the President and Provost and received compliments on the quality of the presentation.

Life Sciences Building - The project is moving forward. Transportation Services will post a map regarding the new traffic routes on Old Main. The northside of Old Main will be closed and used for the construction trailers. Lamar and Houston streets will remain open.

Parking Task Force - Joe Powell is chairing the Parking Task Force and they are determining the best parking solutions for our campus. The removal of 24-hour reserved spaces was recommended, but the recommendation met with resistance from faculty members.

Other Construction - The General Service Complex and State Chemist Buildings remain on schedule. The Mitchell Building and TIGM are moving along as well.

State Surplus - TAMU has heard the state has an \$8B surplus, but no information has been available on how the surplus will be used.

Tuition Revenue Bonds - TAMU has requested \$150M in Tuition Revenue Bonds. This funding would allow the University to increase the size of the buildings planned for construction on both sides of the current Jack K. Williams Administration Building.

Fuel Prices – The University will not receive any additional money from the state to help offset high gas prices. Current budgets will be adjusted accordingly and some purchases may be placed on hold. Carpooling has been suggested for those employees working in the outlying communities.

Graphics Services – Some space in the Old Graphics Services will be used by the Life Sciences Building to prepare lab mock-ups so professors can determine how their lab should be built. This process should cut down on change orders and help move the project along quicker. Also, a small portion of the space in Graphics Services is being remodeled so it can be used as storage space for Theater Arts. Construction trailers will be placed in front of Graphics Services on Ireland Street for the Utilities replacement project.

Ross Street – The Utilities replacement project will be completed first. Hopefully Ross Street will be repaired in conjunction with the Bell Tower underpass.

West Campus II – Money for this project comes from leftover 138kV money and Energy Conservation money. This satellite plant is needed for the General Services Complex, LARR, Vet. Tower, Rural Public Health and the new TIGM building.

Utilities Capital Plan – Bill Perry requested that Physical Plant look at the \$95M plan and determine possible implementation dates, how to save and/or borrow money, how to increase rates, and how to replace the turbine generators.

Agencies Billed for Utilities – Dr. Gates has said the University would not operate on the backs of our students. For this reason, all agencies will be billed for their services (utilities, custodial, maintenance, landscaping, etc.)

O&M Building – The covered entrances are completed and all panels have been checked. The O&M Building is not being torn down.

Injuries – Any time there is an accident, please follow the proper procedures and report the accident immediately to your supervisor. Recently, there was a bike/pedestrian accident and proper procedures were not followed.

**Benefits B Alissa Schroeder**

No report available.

### **Old Business**

EAC Election – No custodial nominations were received by the deadline, so nominations for Custodial will be taken until 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 21. Some custodial employees stated they had not received fliers. Rosie Schoenfeld will contact Custodial Services to determine where the fliers are since she personally delivered them, bundled by each crew, to the Custodial office on Thursday, April 6.

PJ Jones will be meeting with Rod Weis on April 19 regarding the cover bus stops on Agronomy Road.

### **New Business**

Body Odor - Employees in Physical Plant Accounting continue to have difficulties with an employee and body odor. Jane Schneider will look into this matter since it is not an EAC issue.

Chain of Command - Employees are asked to follow the chain of command when there is a problem. If that process does not work, then they should go to higher levels. Everyone at every level is held accountable.

English or Spanish - Employees are allowed to speak English or Spanish in their crews. Jane Schneider will gather more information on this topic.

Position reclassifications – Human Resources Classification and Compensation has been holding paperwork on positions longer than normal.

Licensing Fees – Physical Plant in the past has paid for licensing fees for plumbers. Recently Physical Plant has stopped paying this fee for people that are not required to have a license as part of their job requirement.

### **Adjournment**

Charlotte Jones made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lisa McVey seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m. The next EAC meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 30, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. in 218 Administration Building.