Louisiana
Community
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College System

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LOUISIANA COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM

TO: Dr. Monty Sullivan
LCTCS President

APPROVED
LCTCS BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
6/12/19

THROUGH: Joseph F. Marin
Chief Operations Officer

FROM: Anthony Brown
Director of Operations, Risk and Emergency Management

DATE: May 31, 2019

SUBJECT: ACT 959 Project for River Parishes Community College

FOR BOARD ACTION

Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Board authorize the System President and the Chancellor of River Parishes Community College to complete all of the requirements and execute all documents necessary to construct a Process Equipment Trainer (PET) using the Act 959 process. Approvals from the Board of Regents, Facility Planning and Control, and the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget are required for this process.

Background: Act 959 (La. R.S. 39:128) of 2003 permits certain capital projects to be performed by an institution without going through the traditional capital outlay process. Construction and renovation projects not exceeding $5,000,000 from self-generated, auxiliary income, grants, building use fees, and donations are permitted through this process with proper approvals. Local and federal funds can also be used for these projects.

River Parishes Community College in conjunction with the RPCC Foundation and community partners are in the process of building a state-of-the-art, fully operational glycol processing unit called the RPCC Process Equipment Trainer (PET) on the Gonzales campus. The PET, with guidance from industry-based advisory panels, will be integrated into the course curriculum for Process Technology, Instrumentation, and Electrical degree, diploma and technical certificate programs. Additionally, students in the crafts curricula, including but not limited to pipefitting, welding, crane operations, and millwright will utilize the PET. Industry partners will utilize the PET for their on-boarding and continuing education programs.

RPCC and the RPCC Foundation, in concert with industry partners (primarily BASF, ISC, Shell, Rubicon, Performance Contractors, Emerson, GEO Heat Exchangers, Lift Tech, Entergy, and Methanex), embarked on a "Community Build" to meet the next generation needs of our industrial partners nearly two years ago. To date, the RPCC Foundation is accounting for $1,931,800 of donated cash, equipment and in-kind services including management and engineering services. The remaining need is for construction of the foundation, purchase of the piping and construction services to put the unit

together. The RPCC Foundation continues to seek donations of cash, equipment, and services.

Fiscal Impact: The construction costs proposed are not to exceed $3,000,000. As previously noted, the PET a combination of donated funds, services, and equipment will be used to construct the PET. Proposed workforce agreements with industry partners will significantly offset the operating expenses.

History of Prior Actions: N/A

Benefits to the System: The Process Equipment Trainer (PET) will be a state-of-the-art training unit that will elevate the skills and proficiencies of RPCC students and provide better-trained graduates that are well prepared to work in the high wage industrial sector. LCTCS will benefit through improvement in attainment of the 2020 goals: Doubling the Annual Earnings of Our Graduates, Increasing the Number of Students Serviced, and Quadrupling Partnerships with Business and Industry.

Monty Sullivan

Approved for Recommendation to the Board
Dr. Monty Sullivan, President

6·12·19

Date