



Board Update

February 25, 2025

Frank Patterson, Director, Emergency & Risk Management, & Ranch Operations

The Mission of the McLennan Community College Highlander Ranch

To enhance student success, foster collaboration across educational programs, and create a financially sustainable operation that enriches both the College and the broader community.

Ranch Review – Leadership, Community Engagement

- Held Listening sessions with each academic program.
- Met with Ranch Advisory Committee leadership (next committee meeting: (Tentative March 18, 2025)).
- Restructuring Ranch Advisory Committee to include program advisory board members.
- Met with Agri-life and Extraco Event Center leadership to support partnerships and to seek professional advice.



Ranch Review – Resource Management

- Reviewing budgets for all areas and evaluating operational practices, seeking efficiencies.
- Continuing to evaluate facilities including a comprehensive list of items that need attention.
- Prioritizing critical maintenance items.



Ranch Review – Recent Steps

- New signage to assist in wayfinding and connecting Ranch to main campus
- 3 New Heifers for Agriculture and Agribusiness Programs (Foundation funds)



Financial Considerations

- Highlander Ranch Hand staff payroll was moved from operational expenses to physical plant account for FY2025.
- Physical Plant payroll for Ranch work needs be charged to individual departments.
- Additional CIP funds have been requested in budget reallocation process.
- Current CIP fund expenditures are not reflected in 2025 financials.

(Sept. 1-Jan. 31)

Revenue	2025	2024
Continuing Education	\$138,714	\$252,107
Horse Boarding	\$123,122	\$245,344
Operational	\$6,800	\$29,650
Veterinary Technology	\$62,623	\$86,051
Agriculture	\$30,400	\$44,738
TOTAL	\$361,658	\$657,890
Expenses	2025	2024
Continuing Education	\$142,680	\$307,075
Horse Boarding	\$84,757	\$170,681
Operational	\$44,026	\$198,665
Veterinary Technology	\$113,202	\$241,329
Agriculture	\$14,426	\$25,261
Insurance Costs (Estimated)	\$17,082	\$15,529
Unrelated Business Income Tax (UBIT)	\$10,000	\$11,132
TOTAL	\$426,174	\$969,672
Net	(\$64,516)	(\$311,782)
Additional Expenses	2025	2024
Capital Improvement Fund	\$0	\$87,560
Net (with Capital Improvement Fund)	(\$64,516)	(\$399,343)

Initial Recommendations

- **Prioritize maintenance and a full evaluation of the Ranch and its programs before committing to new projects.**
- **Create a utility & infrastructure map.**
- **Improve pasture management to reduce feed costs and enhance land sustainability.**
- **Evaluate our livestock and horses.**



Initial Recommendations (part 2)

- **Assess our current educational programs** to ensure they align with the new state funding formula.
- **Rent facilities for activities** to generate income and further enhance educational programs.
- **Ensure necessary repairs** to maintain the Ranch's integrity.



Success at the McLennan Community College Highlander Ranch

We have employees who are passionate about what they do. Our students are dedicated learners, gaining hands-on experience and valuable skills through our programs.

Success can be achieved by strengthening the educational programs through data-driven decision-making, incorporating input from program advisory committees, and leveraging the support of the Ranch Advisory Committee.

A photograph of a green field with two horses grazing, framed by blue geometric shapes. The word "Questions?" is written in a dark blue, italicized font across the center of the image. The background shows a grassy field with two horses, one on the left and one on the right, both facing right. There are several large, leafy trees in the background, and a white fence is visible behind them. The sky is light blue with some clouds. The image is framed by blue geometric shapes on the left and right sides.

Questions?