1. Call to Order – Chairman Leveo V. Sanchez

2. Roll Call

3. Approval of Agenda

4. President’s Report

5. Executive Session – (1) Limited personnel matters related to the hiring, promotion, demotion, dismissal, assignment, resignation, or investigation or consideration of complaints or charges against an employee; (2) threatened or pending litigation subject to the attorney-client privileges in which the University may become a participant; and (3) real estate acquisition or disposal. Pursuant to provisions of NMSA 1978, §10-15-1(H)(2)(7)&(8)

6. Adjournment
New Mexico Highlands University  
Board of Regents Special Meeting  
September 2, 2011

The New Mexico Highlands University Board of Regents met for a special board meeting on September 2, 2011 in the President’s Conference Room in the Roger’s Administration Building on the New Mexico Highlands University main campus in Las Vegas, New Mexico. Chairman Sanchez called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

Attendance
Board Members Present: Mr. Leveo V. Sanchez, Mr. Jesus L. López, Mr. Frank Marchi, and Ms. Caitlin Syner. Ms. Nancy R. Long participated in the meeting via conference call.

Administrative Personnel Present: Dr. James Fries, President.

Others Present: Mr. Chris Burns, ASNMHU President; Ms. Carolina Martinez, Executive Administrative Assistant; and several other individuals including faculty and staff.

Approval of Meeting Agenda for September 2, 2011
Regent Marchi moved to approve the September 2, 2011 agenda as presented. Regent Syner seconded. Voting in favor were: Chairman Sanchez, Regent Long, Regent López, Regent Marchi, and Regent Syner. Motion passed unanimously.

President’s Report
President Fries informed the Board of the following:

- September 9, 2011 is census day; currently, student credit hours are up 3% from last year; center enrollment numbers are also up from last year
- The residence halls are at capacity
- The President’s Welcome BBQ was well attended by students, faculty and staff
- A new pizza parlor opened up on Bridge Street; it is a welcome addition for HU students and the Las Vegas community.
- He met with community leaders to discuss the possibility of a four-plex theater opening on Bridge Street
- A memorial service was held this morning for Dr. Regina Briefs-Elgin who passed away recently. Dr. Briefs-Elgin was a full professor in the English Department; she also served as the Director of the Writing Center. She will be missed by all of the campus community.
- A Re-Districting meeting was held on campus on August 30, 2011, approximately 30 New Mexico senators and representatives were in attendance.
- Preliminary results of the Reading Acceleration Program (RAP) show a case of one student improving from a 5.8 reading level to a 10.3 reading level, another student improved from a 7.2 to an 11.3 reading level during the four weeks.

Chairman Sanchez informed the Board that approximately 16 people attended the RAP follow-up meeting, including himself and Regent Marchi. During the meeting Dr. Maura
Pilotti, Director of RAP provided preliminary student results. Regent Marchi reported that the consensus at the meeting is that the program is needed but that there is also a need to accurately measure student's progress. Others who attended the meeting felt that if the university did not have an open enrollment policy that student reading levels would not be an issue. Meeting attendees agreed that RAP should be a larger program.

- The Lora Shields Building and the Natatorium remodel projects will be featured in the American School and University Architectural Portfolio's annual publication. The publication features approximately 160 nationwide projects and Highlands will have two featured in the 2011 publication.
- Federal funding for the Upward Bound program and the ARMAS program may be cut.
- The university's gas usage is down 18%; water usage is down 19%; and electricity is up 4% from last year. The savings are approximately $300,000 for the year, a substantial savings considering that the new residence hall opened last year.
- Dr. Jean Hill, Director of Institutional Research, researched national grade distributions and found that 46.4% of the grades NMHU gives are A’s as compared to the national average of 43%; NMHU gives fewer B’s, 23.9% as compared to 33.8%; more C’s, 16.2% compared to 14.9%; more D’s, 5.2% compared to 4.1%; and almost double the amount of F’s, 8.3% compared to 4.2% nationally. Findings indicate that although NMHU has open enrollment a student needs to show up to class, do the work and earn their grade.
- NMHU employs approximately 600 people.
- The Soccer team plays St. Rose from New York at 7:00 p.m. on September 3, 2011 at Perkins Stadium. St. Rose is the 3rd nationally ranked team in the country.
- The NMHU football team plays their first game against Eastern New Mexico University this Saturday at ENMU.
- Scheduling of the athletic facilities is becoming difficult because of the growing number of teams, team members, intramurals teams, student’s recreational needs, needs of the surrounding schools; and the community.
- Parking on campus continues to be a problem; however, the university continues to develop new lots and renovate existing lots to provide more parking spaces.

President Fries introduced Mr. Chris Burns, ASNMHU President and reported that Chris along with the ASNMHU is working with the AGS on a resolution to merge the two senate bodies.

Executive Session – (1) Limited personnel matters related to the hiring, promotion, demotion, dismissal, assignment, resignation, or investigation or consideration of complaints or charges against an employee; (2) threatened or pending litigation subject to attorney-client privileges in which the University may become a participant; and (3) real estate acquisition or disposal. Pursuant to provisions of NMSA 1978, 10-15-1 (H)(2)(7)&(8). Regent López moved to enter into executive session for the sole purpose of discussing the items listed. Regent Marchi seconded. A roll call was taken and voting in favor were: Chairman Sanchez, Regent Long; Regent López, Regent Marchi, and Regent Syner. Motion carried and the Board went into executive session at 2:09 p.m.

Chairman Sanchez moved to come out of executive session into open session. Regent Marchi seconded. Regent López stated for the record that only those items specified under the executive
session item were discussed and that no action was taken. Regents present confirmed. A roll call was taken and voting in favor of coming out of executive session into regular session were: Chairman Sanchez, Regent Long, Regent López, Regent Marchi, and Regent Syner. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was called back to order at 3:15 p.m.

Adjournment
Regent Syner moved to adjourn. Regent López seconded. Motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Chairman
NMHU Board of Regents

Secretary/Treasurer
NMHU Board of Regents