

New Mexico Highlands University  
Special Board of Regents Meeting  
President's Conference Room  
Rogers Administration Building  
NMHU Main Campus  
Las Vegas, NM 87701  
March 20, 2013 at 11:30 pm

1. Call to Order – Chairman Leveo V. Sanchez
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda for March 20, 2013
4. Approval of the Minutes from January 25, 2013 and February 18, 2013
5. President's Report
6. Executive Session – (1) bargaining strategy preliminary to collective bargaining; (2) threatened or pending litigation subject to the attorney-client privilege 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)(5)(7)&(8)
7. Adjournment

New Mexico Highlands University  
Board of Regents Special Meeting  
President's Conference Room  
NMHU Main Campus  
Las Vegas, NM 87701  
March 20, 2013 at 11:30 a.m.

The New Mexico Highlands University Board of Regents held a special meeting on March 20, 2013 in President's Conference Room in the Rogers Administration Building on the New Mexico Highlands University main campus in Las Vegas, New Mexico. Chairman Sanchez called the meeting to order at 11:40 a.m.

**Attendance**

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

Administrative Personnel Present: Dr. James Fries, President; and Dr. Fidel Trujillo, Dean of Student Affairs.

Others Present: Ms. Carolina Martínez, Executive Administrative Assistant; and numerous other individuals in the audience, including faculty, staff, students, community representatives, and media.

**Approval of Meeting Agenda for March 20, 2013**

Regent Long moved to approve the March 20, 2013 agenda as presented. Regent Marchi seconded. Voting in favor were: Chairman Sanchez, Regent Long, Regent López, Regent Marchi, and Regent Martinez. Motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of the Minutes from January 25, 2013 and February 18, 2013**

Regent López moved to approve the minutes from January 25, 2013 and February 18, 2013 as presented. Regent Long seconded. Voting in favor of the motion were: Chairman Sanchez, Regent Long, Regent López, Regent Marchi, and Regent Martinez. Motion passed unanimously.

**President's Report**

President Fries congratulated Chairman Sanchez on his re-appointment to the NMHU Board of Regents and welcomed Mr. Michael Martínez, newly appointed student regent, to the Board.

President Fries reported the following:

- Student union building construction is nearing completion. The Bookstore is already operating out of the new SUB. Einstein Bros Bagels is planning a soft opening on March 29, 2013. Inspections of the SUB are nearly complete. A SUB grand opening date will be identified once the full building occupancy certificate is received.
- The legislative session has wrapped up. The budget bills as approved by the legislature were sent to Governor Susana Martínez for final approval. The bills will fund the increased cost for the Educational Retirement Board employer contribution. A 1% compensation package is still included in the bill. After the ERB and compensation package are factored out of the budget, the operational funding increase will be minimal.

Contingent upon approval by Governor Martínez, the New Mexico Forest & Watershed Restoration Institute will receive a \$100,000 increase and the Athletic Department will receive a \$100,000 recurring increase. In addition, there is a funding request for one-time funding for the Athletic Department that would be used in part for athletic; intermural; and recreational facilities.

The \$2.3 million for the Trolley Building remodel was approved during the legislative process. The university is hopeful Governor Martínez will approve the funding.

The Lottery Bill passed by the legislature will use \$10 million in one-time funding to get the lottery program through one more year. It is not certain whether the funding will be sufficient to cover the funding gap.

There is a bill for \$20 million in endowment match; if approved by the Governor, Highlands will have available \$900,000 from that pool to use as a match to encourage endowment gifts. The University would have to raise \$360,000 to represent the 40% match requirement. President Fries suggested that a campaign to raise the match to establish a sustaining source of funding for a Center for Teaching Excellence at Highlands be developed. As written, the endowment can be used for faculty salaries; student scholarships; or other programs that would support the university's impact, but a Center for Teaching Excellence would help all programs.

A bill generated through the NMHU Center for Education and Study of Diverse Populations (CESDP) would potentially bring \$850,000 to Highlands. CESDP would work with school districts across New Mexico to enhance teacher preparation and student success. The bill is also awaiting final approval from the Governor.

- Sequestration at the federal level has impacted Highlands by way of the Build America Bonds that are partially funding the student center interest costs. The Build America Bonds program has been hit by sequestration which increased the university's share of the interest cost by approximately \$16,500/year. Fortunately the college work study and SEOG financial aid programs at Highlands do not appear to be impacted by the sequestration. Dr. Trujillo added that the financial aid programs were not affected by the first round of budget cuts however, it is not known if funding will be cut later. Dr. Trujillo informed the Board that the Student Support Services program budget was cut by 5% amounting to \$28,000.
- The Registrar's Office revised the degree posting policy. Degrees will now be posted as the work for the degree is completed rather than at the end of the semester. This policy change will benefit students as they apply for jobs or graduate school.
- Steve Jones, NMHU Baseball Coach, has achieved his 500<sup>th</sup> win; a major milestone in any coaches career.
- Mr. Joe Staley, NMHU Foundation Board member and Yale alum, has been working with the Yale Alumni Office on a program called "YaleGale". The Yale program works with colleges and universities in other countries to familiarize them with the way Yale runs their alumni program and the kind of success they have achieved. Mr. Staley invited the Yale Alumni

Office staff to meetings to work with NMHU to effectively build our alumni program. The Board of Regents members are invited to attend the meetings on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

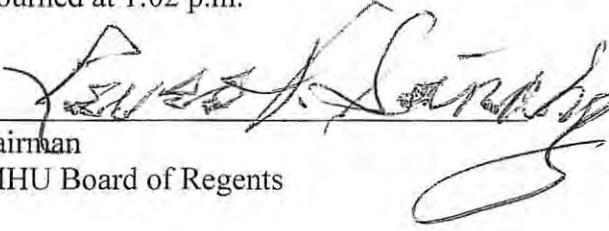
Chairman Sanchez asked, assuming the \$2.3 million remains in the budget for the Trolley building, what are the next steps for the university. President Fries responded that an RFP for architectural services to identify a firm to work with NMHU on the design and a detailed construction plan for the project would be next and would also identify how much of the project could be completed with the existing funds. All of the estimates for the remodel of the building have been \$2 million over available funds. The project can be phased and how most effectively to do so would be part of what the university would discuss with the architect. Chairman Sanchez asked if there was a time limit to utilize the \$6 million G.O. Bond appropriation. President Fries reported that the GO Bond funds must be encumbered within four years or by June 30, 2016.

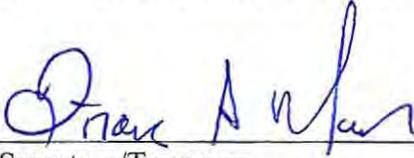
**Executive Session – (1) bargaining strategy preliminary to collective bargaining; (2) threatened or pending litigation subject to the attorney-client privilege in which the University may become a participant; and (3) real estate acquisition or disposal. Pursuant to provisions of NMSA 1978, §10-15-1(H)(5)(7)&(8).** Regent López moved to enter into executive session for the sole purpose of discussing the items listed under executive session. Regent Marchi seconded. A roll call was taken and voting in favor were: Chairman Sanchez, Regent Long, Regent López, Regent Marchi, and Regent Martinez. Motion carried and the Board went into executive session at 12:05 p.m.

Regent López moved to come out of executive session into open session. Regent Long seconded. Regent López stated for the record that only those items specified in the motion to enter into executive session item were discussed and 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 Martinez. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was called back to order at 1:00 p.m.

#### Adjournment

Regent Marchi moved to adjourn. Regent Martinez seconded. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

  
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Chairman  
NMHU Board of Regents

  
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Secretary/Treasurer  
NMHU Board of Regents