

New Mexico Highlands University
Board of Regents Special Meeting
President's Conference Room
Rodger's Administration Building
NMHU Main Campus
Las Vegas, New Mexico
May 23, 2008 at 9:00 am

1. Call to Order – Chairman Javier Gonzales
2. Approval of Agenda for May 23, 2008
3. Selection of a Residence Hall Contractor – Action Item
4. Selection of a University Auditing Firm – Action Item
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) bargaining strategy preliminary to collective bargaining; (3) threatened or pending litigation subject to the attorney-client privilege in which the University may become a participant; and (4) real estate acquisition or disposal. Pursuant to provisions of NMSA 1978, §10-15-1(H)(2)(5)(7)&(8)
6. Adjournment

**New Mexico Highlands University
Board of Regents Special Meeting
May 23, 2008**

The New Mexico Highlands University Board of Regents met for a special session on Friday, May 23, 2008 in the President's Conference Room in the Rodger's Administration Building on the NMHU Main Campus in Las Vegas, New Mexico. Acting Chairman Lopez called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

Attendance

Board Members Present: Mr. Jesus L. Lopez, Ms. Sherry Salas, Mr. Leveo Sanchez, and Ms. Nancy R. Long who participated in the meeting via conference call. Board Members Absent: Mr. Javier M. Gonzales.

Acting Chairman Lopez stated for the record that everyone present could hear Regent Long and that she was able to hear everyone.

Present: Dr. James Fries, President; Ms. Judy Cordova-Romero, Vice President for Student Affairs; Dr. Bill Taylor, Interim Vice President for Finance & Administration; Ms. Nicole Parra-Perez, ASNMHU President; Mr. Ivo Awasung, AGS Vice President; and Ms. Carolina López, Board of Regents Administrative Assistant.

Approval of the Agenda for May 23, 2008

President Fries recommended the removal of Item #5 Executive Session from the agenda.

Regent Salas moved to approve the May 23, 2008 agenda with the amendment proposed by President Fries. Regent Long seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Long, Acting Chairman Lopez, Regent Salas, and Regent Sanchez. Motion passed unanimously.

Selection of a Residence Hall Contractor – Action Item

President Fries presented the Selection of a Residence Hall Contractor (Attachment A) proposal and reported that Franken Construction was the lowest bidder. President Fries informed the Board that Franken's bid plus other costs exceeded the \$17 million budget that the Board had designated for the project. President Fries reported that costs increased due to the State's requirement that all new buildings be LEED Silver Certified, and the possible purchase of a water pump to increase water pressure from the city water main in order to meet requirements for the fire sprinkler system. President Fries informed the Board that in an effort to reduce costs the university would purchase internet cables and appliances directly from manufacturers reducing overhead costs and eliminating taxes. The facilities department would landscape the area to further reduce costs. President Fries informed the Board that with the various deductions, the general construction cost would be \$14,344,000 with the additional \$225,067 for Alternative #3 (water pressure enhancing devices) and deductive changes of \$610,045 bringing the construction cost projection to \$13,959,022. President Fries stated that when soft costs plus \$700,000 for furniture and \$75,000 for landscaping materials are included, the project cost reaches the \$17 million figure.

President Fries proposed that Option #2, the basic construction plus alternative #3 be approved by the Board.

Acting Chairman Lopez asked President Fries to state for the record, the names and bid amounts of the all of the companies that submitted proposals to determine if Franken Construction was the lowest bidder. Acting Chairman Lopez stated that providing the bid information was required by law.

President Fries stated the names and base bid amounts as follows:

	<u>Base Bid</u>	<u>Option #1</u>
Franken Construction	\$14,344,000	\$209,000
Bradbury Stamm	\$14,825,000	\$202,000
Crestline Building Corp.	\$15,866,000	\$190,000

Acting Chairman Lopez asked if the Regents were satisfied that Franken Construction was the lowest bidder. All Regents present including Regent Long, who was present via conference call, stated yes.

Regent Long commended the Administration for their hard work to keep the project within budget; work towards LEED Silver Certification; and water conservation efforts.

President Fries informed the Board that work on the site utility relocation and the proper compacting and backfilling of the soil in the Hi-Rise basement was on schedule.

President Fries stated that the university's goal to begin construction on June 1, 2008.

Acting Chairman Lopez commented that he was glad the project was underway and that a local contractor was the lowest bidder because they employ a local workforce. President Fries noted that the subcontractors are also local.

President Fries recommended the approval of Option #2 as outlined be awarded to Franken Construction.

Regent Long moved to award the Residence Hall contract to Franken Construction Company of Las Vegas, the lowest responsible bidder as stated for the record by President Fries. Regent Salas seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Selection of a University Auditing Firm – Action Item

President Fries presented the University Auditing Firm proposal (Attachment B).

President Fries informed the Board that RFP's were sent out to firms on the approved audit firm list within the State of New Mexico and that advertisements were placed in the Albuquerque Journal, The Santa Fe New Mexican, and the Las Vegas Optic. President Fries reported that Kardas, Abeyta and Weiner P.C. was the only firm to submit a proposal.

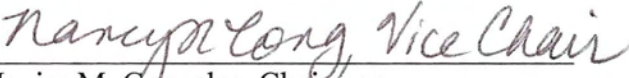
President Fries informed the Board that the auditing fees are significantly higher due to increased auditing hours to meet expanded State requirements.

Regent Salas moved to approve Kardas, Abeyta and Weiner P.C. as the university's auditing firm for a second three-year term. Regent Long seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

President Fries thanked the Board for taking the time to attend the Special Meeting and announced that the next Board meeting is scheduled for July 11th; the Academic Affairs and Budget & Finance Committee Meetings are scheduled for July 2nd; and the Buildings & Grounds and Student Affairs Committee Meetings are scheduled for July 3rd.

Adjournment

Regent Long moved to adjourn the meeting. Regent Sanchez seconded the motion. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:30 am.



Javier M. Gonzales, Chairman
NMHU Board of Regents



Sherry Salas, Secretary/Treasurer
NMHU Board of Regents