

New Mexico Highlands University
Board of Regents Special Meeting
Roger's Administration Building
President's Conference Room
NMHU Main Campus
Las Vegas, New Mexico 87701
September 9, 2009 at 9:00 am

1. Call to Order – Chairman Leveo V. Sanchez
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda for September 9, 2009
4. MOU with Las Vegas Police Department – Action Item
5. Construction Contract for Felix Martinez Building Project – Action Item
6. Executive Session – (1) Real estate acquisition or disposal. Pursuant to provisions of NMSA 1978, §10-15-1(H)(8)
7. Purchase of Las Vegas Properties: 1106 Columbia Avenue and 1004 Mora Avenue – Action Item
8. President's Report
 - Student Union Plans/Financing
 - FY10 and FY11 Budget Issues
 - HLC Accreditation Visit
 - Strategic Plan
 - Other
9. Persons Wishing to Address the Board
10. Adjournment

**New Mexico Highlands University
Board of Regents Meeting
September 9, 2009**

The New Mexico Highlands University Board of Regents met for a special session on September 9, 2009 at the Margaret J. Kennedy Alumni Hall, on the New Mexico Highlands University main campus in Las Vegas, New Mexico. Chairman Sanchez called the meeting to order at 9:10 am.

Attendance

Board Members Present: Mr. Leveo V. Sanchez, Mr. Pete Aguilar, Mr. Jesus L. López, Mr. Gregory A. Rael. Board Members Absent: Ms. Nancy R. Long.

Administrative Personnel Present: Dr. James Fries, President; Dr. Gilbert Rivera, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. William Taylor, Vice President for Finance & Administration, and Ms. Judy Cordova-Romero, Vice President for Student Affairs.

Others Present: Ms. April Kent, Faculty Senate Executive Committee At Large Member; Mr. Wade López, ASNMHU President; and Ms. Carolina Garduño, Executive Administrative Assistant and numerous other individuals in the audience, including faculty, staff, students, community representatives, and media. The Board meeting was broadcast live via instructional television video to the NMHU Farmington, Rio Rancho, Santa Fe, and Raton Centers, and over the KEDP Radio Station.

Approval of Meeting Agenda for September 9, 2009

Regent López moved to approve the September 9, 2009 agenda. Regent Rael seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Sanchez, Regent Aguilar, Regent López, Regent Rael. Motion passed unanimously.

MOU with the Las Vegas Police Department – Action Item

Vice President Taylor presented the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Las Vegas Police Department (**Attachment A**). Vice President Taylor informed the Board that legal counsel had reviewed the MOU. Vice President Taylor asked that the Board allow President Fries and the administration to continue negotiations of the MOU until an agreement is reached by all parties. Regent López moved to approve the authorization of President Fries to negotiate with the Las Vegas City Police Department until the MOU is finalized. Regent Aguilar seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Construction Contract for the Felix Martinez Building Project – Action Item

Ms. Marisol Greene, Facilities Director, informed the Board that the University sent out a Request for Proposal (RFP) and listed criteria instead of sending out a request for bids for the project. Ms. Greene informed the Board that two companies, Franken Construction of Las Vegas and White Sands Construction from Alamogordo were the only companies that submitted proposals. Ms. Greene reported that Franken Construction won on both the criteria requests and pricing points (**Attachment B**).

Regent Aguilar asked for the final project figure for the lowest bidder. Ms. Greene said the lowest figure was \$2,184,979 including New Mexico gross receipts tax.

President Fries noted that the lowest proposal was \$185,000 without gross receipts tax less than the other proposal.

Regent López moved to approve the award of the construction contract of the Felix Martinez Building to the Franken Construction Company in the total amount of \$2,184,979.38. Regent Rael seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session – (1) Real estate acquisition or disposal. Pursuant to provisions of NMSA 1978, 10-15-1 (H)(8). Regent López moved to enter into executive session for the sole purpose of considering real estate acquisition or disposal as allowed by section 10-15-1 (H)(8) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act 1978. Regent Aguilar seconded the motion. A roll call was taken and voting in favor were: Chairman Sanchez, Regent Aguilar, Regent López, and Regent Rael. Motion carried and the Board went into executive session at 9:20 am.

Regent López moved to come out of executive session into open session. Regent Rael seconded the motion. For the record, Regent López stated that only matters of real estate acquisition were discussed in executive session and no action was taken. Regents present confirmed the statement. A roll call was taken and voting in favor of the motion were: Regent Sanchez, yes; Regent Aguilar, yes; Regent López, yes; and Regent Rael, yes. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was called back to order at 10:20 am.

Purchase of Las Vegas Properties: 1106 Columbia Ave. and 1004 Mora Ave. – Action Item
Regent López moved to authorize and empower President Fries to purchase or offer to purchase the following land and real estate within the city of Las Vegas; the property owned by James and Helen Ortiz on 1106 Columbia Avenue for \$48,000 and the property owned by the Ulibarri's on 1004 Mora Avenue for \$98,000 (**Attachment C**). Regent Rael seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Regent López called on President Fries to discuss the plans for the properties. President Fries informed the Board that after the 1004 Mora Avenue property is inspected, discussions will be held to consider renovation for a coffee house or other facility to serve students; or demolition of the house. President Fries informed the Board that the 1106 Columbia Avenue property will be demolished to expand parking in the area.

President's Report

- **Student Union Plans/Financing**

President Fries reported that the university is working with Studio Southwest on the Student Union project. The financing for the Student Union project is moving forward as well with the New Mexico Finance Authority including the project in its next round of financing on September 22-23, 2009. The NMFA will need confirmation from NMHU to move forward on the financing. President Fries proposed a Special Board of Regents meeting for October 6th or 7th to authorize the Student Union financing.

- **FY10 and FY11 Budget Issues**

President Fries announced that the FY10 and FY11 budgets continue to be an issue for all state agencies. Vice President Taylor reported that the State is looking at budget reductions of 3%-5% for all state agencies.

President Fries informed the Board that Dr. Peter White has resigned from his position of Cabinet Secretary for Higher Education and that Governor Richardson appointed Dr. Viola Flores to replace him.

- **Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Accreditation Visit**

President Fries stated that the self study committee is working hard to prepare for the HLC accreditation visit scheduled on November 2-4, 2009. President Fries informed the Board that the self study draft report (**Attachment D**) was included in the meeting packets.

- The Strategic Plan and the Campus Master Plan Committees are working hard to complete plans to move the university forward.
- Student enrollment head count is up 6% and the student credit hour count is up 4% from last year.
- President Fries indicated that he plans to appoint an Enrollment Committee to thoroughly review enrollment, scholarships, retention and recruiting issues at the main campus and centers.
- The Associated Graduate Student Senate is having difficulty recruiting senators and getting organized, further information will be available once it is determined whether there is an interest and need for the AGS.
- NMHU submitted three capital projects that will be presented to the Higher Education Department tomorrow. The projects include: renovations to the Lora Shields Science Building; the Natatorium; and the Trolley Building.

Chairman Sanchez recognized Ms. April Kent, Faculty Senate Executive Committee at Large Member. Ms. Kent stated that the Faculty Senate had nothing to report at this time.

Chairman Sanchez called on Mr. Wade López, ASNMHU President to report on behalf of the ASNMHU. President López informed the Board that the ASNMHU held a Fiesta during the first week of school to welcome students. President López reported that the ASNMHU is working on scheduling events for this year's homecoming.

Persons Wishing to Address the Board

Mr. Ted Maestas, H-Club President invited the Board to the H-Club Hall of Fame Induction Banquet scheduled for September 24, 2009. Mr. Maestas stated that 10 inductees would be honored at the banquet.

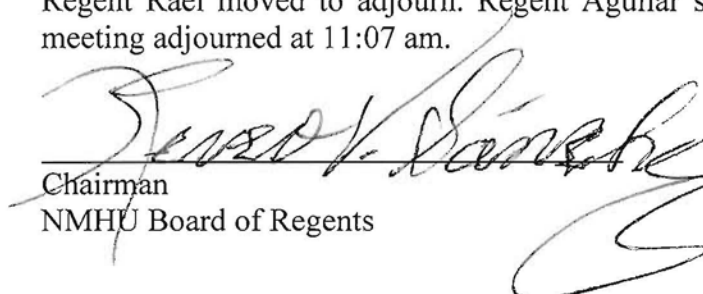
Mr. Maestas stated that at the Board of Regents meeting held in March, Regent López approved that President Fries appoint a committee for the naming of buildings and that to date no one from the H-Club had been appointed to that committee.

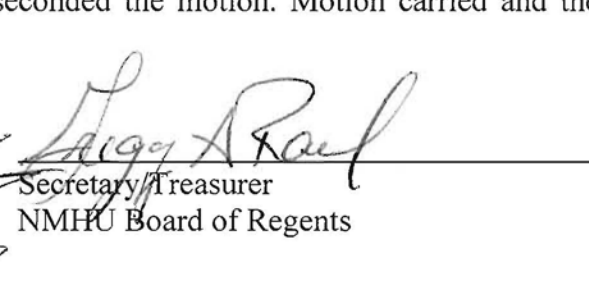
President Fries responded that a Naming of Buildings Policy Committee had not yet formed because he was waiting for students and faculty to return to campus. President Fries informed Mr. Maestas that when a committee is formed he would contact the H-Club for a representative.

President Fries noted that when the new student center is built that the Athletic Department would move into the old Student Center and that signage would be placed to indicate that the building was named after Stu Clark.

Adjournment

Regent Rael moved to adjourn. Regent Aguilar seconded the motion. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 11:07 am.


Chairman
NMHU Board of Regents


Secretary/Treasurer
NMHU Board of Regents