

New Mexico Highlands University
Board of Regents Special Meeting
President's Conference Room
Rodgers Administration Building
NMHU Main Campus
Las Vegas, New Mexico 87701
Wednesday, April 29, 2015 at 1:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order – Chairman Sanchez
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda for April 29, 2015
4. Finance and Administration – Mr. Max Baca
 - A. Finance and Administration Report – Mr. Max Baca
 - a. FY16 Budget Proposal – Action Item
 - b. Ethics/Conflict of Interest Policy – Action Item
 - c. Other
5. President's Report – Dr. Jim Fries
6. Executive Session – (1) Limited personnel matters related to the hiring, promotion, demotion, dismissal, assignment, resignation, of or investigation or consideration of complaints or charges against any individual or public employee; (2) bargaining strategy preliminary to collective bargaining; (3) threatened or pending litigation subject to the attorney-client privilege in which the University is or 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).
7. Public Action as Necessary on Closed Session Discussions – Action Item
8. Adjournment

**New Mexico Highlands University
Board of Regents Special Meeting
April 29, 2015**

The New Mexico Highlands University Board of Regents held a special meeting on April 29, 2015 in the President's Conference Room in the Rodgers Administration Building on the New Mexico Highlands University main campus in Las Vegas, New Mexico. Chairman Sanchez called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m.

Attendance

Board Members Present: Ms. Ryan Andrews-Armijo, Mr. Frank Marchi, Ms. LouElla Marr-Montoya, and Ms. Sandra Turner, and Mr. Leveo V. Sanchez

Administrative Personnel Present: Dr. James Fries, President; Dr. Teresita Aguilar, Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs; and Mr. Max Baca, Interim Vice President for Finance & Administration

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

Approval of the April 29, 2015 Meeting Agenda

Regent Turner moved to approve the April 29, 2015 meeting agenda as presented. Regent Marr-Montoya seconded. Voting in favor were: Regent Andrews-Armijo, Regent Marchi, Regent Marr-Montoya, Regent Turner, and Chairman Sanchez.

Finance & Administration – Mr. Max Baca

Mr. Baca provided an extensive description/outline of the budget processes (**Attachment A**).

FY16 Budget Proposal – Action

Mr. Baca provided an overview of the budget, Exhibit 1 (**Attachment B**). A lengthy description of the budget was held with the following highlights:

- Revenue projections are up, slightly over \$1 million, this is driven by the increased tuition which was authorized by the Board at the April 24, 2015 meeting.
- The university has a budget of approximately \$75 million which includes restricted and unrestricted funds.
- Budgeted revenues are down approximately \$29K as compared to last fiscal year.

Regent Marchi moved to approve the FY16 Budget as presented subject to verification of the FTE's and finalization of balances (**Attachment C**). Regent Turner seconded. Voting in favor were: Regent Andrews-Armijo, Regent Marchi, Regent Marr-Montoya, Regent Turner, and Chairman Sanchez.

Ethics/Conflict of Interest Policy – Action

Mr. Baca reported that the Employee Code of Conduct must be approved by the Board every four years.

Regent Turner moved to approve the Employee Code of Ethics/Code of Conduct Policy as presented (**Attachment D**). Regent Marchi seconded. Voting in favor were: Regent Andrews-Armijo, Regent Marchi, Regent Marr-Montoya, Regent Turner, and Chairman Sanchez.

Other

- Mr. Baca informed the Board that Mr. Justin Aragon was hired as the interim Golf Pro.
- The university's 5-year capital plan will be brought to the Board for approval at the next meeting. The plan is due at the New Mexico Department of Finance by June 1, 2015.

President's Report – Dr. Jim Fries

President Fries announced the following:

- Dr. Pete Campos announced his retirement, as President of Luna Community College, effective June 30th. He served as LCC's president for seven years.
- The NMHU Women's Softball Team won 3 games this weekend and are headed to the RMAC playoffs.
- A number of geology students received scholarship awards from the New Mexico Geological Society. The research grants are \$1K and \$2K awards.
- The Vatos Rugby Club, 7-Team, placed 2nd at Nationals last year. They are one of 8 teams of about 300 small college teams around the country that will be playing for the national championship this year.
- An Honors Orientation was held last Friday, 18 students participated. Five orientations sessions have been scheduled throughout the summer.
- Research Day was held on April 10, 2015, there were 40 poster presentations and 7 oral presentations given by both graduate and undergraduate students.
- The Career Fair was a huge success with 60 employers and 450 students participating.
- The U.S. Forest Service selected NMHU as its site for a 5-state internship hiring event.
- He and Mr. Baca attended a New Mexico Board of Finance meeting last week. Both the electrical distribution system (\$900,000 project) and the Trolley Building Project (\$8.3 million) were approved by the BOF.
- Transfer of the Raton property to the City of Raton is on track and closure of the transfer will occur in the near future.
- The State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) legislation which allows Highlands and other institutions to deliver online courses across the country passed and was signed by Governor Susana Martínez. The New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED) will enter into a contract with the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE). Highlands will be applying for participation at the cost of \$4,000/year at which point NMHU will have reciprocity with most if not all states across the country.
- NMHED met with the Council of University Presidents regarding endowment funding. Comprehensive universities are eligible for 18% of \$990K. NMHU could receive a challenge grant of up to \$245,000 if all comprehensive institutions applied for the match.
- Contractor bids for the Trolley Building Project are due on May 7th.
- Fall enrollment numbers are up by 14% on the main campus and up by 7% at the centers from this same time last year; summer enrollment is up by 9% on the main campus.
- Approximately 220 NMHU scholarships have been accepted to date.

- There are 945 potential graduates this year with a little over 50% of those being at the undergraduate level.
- Both Western New Mexico University and NMHU were invited to join the Lone Star Conference. Eastern New Mexico University is already part of the Lone Star. Moving from the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference to Lone Star would financially benefit WNMU. If Highlands joined Lone Star, a benefit would be that it would enhance in-state rivalries another would be the elimination of winter mountain travel. However athletic budgets at some Lone Star schools exceeds any in the RMAC.
- The athletic facilities need to be addressed. The track is deteriorating and the turf on the football field is nearing life expectancy. The NMHU Women's Indoor Track Team placed third in the nation for division II and yet Highlands does not have an indoor facility. Highlands also has a problem with the field and track situation in the sense that the boundaries for a soccer field are at the edge of the turf which does not meet soccer regulation. If money is invested to rebuild the field and track, it would be rational to look at options for providing a larger margin for soccer.

Executive Session – (1) limited personnel matters related to the hiring, promotion, demotion, dismissal, assignment or resignation of or the 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 is or 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). Regent Marchi moved to enter into executive session for the sole purpose of discussing the items listed. Regent Turner seconded. A roll call was taken; voting in favor were: Regent Andrews-Armijo, Regent Marchi, Regent Marr-Montoya, Regent Turner, and Chairman Sanchez. Motion carried. The Board entered into executive session at 3:07 p.m.

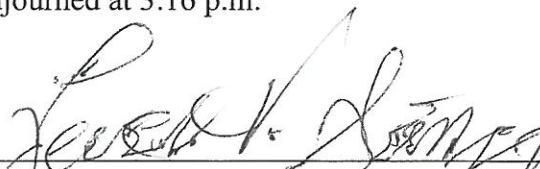
Regent Marchi moved to return to open session. Regent Turner seconded. Regent Marchi stated for the record that only those items specified under the executive session were discussed and no action was taken by the Board. Regents present confirmed. A roll call was taken and voting in favor of returning to open session were: Regent Andrews-Armijo, Regent Marchi, Regent Marr-Montoya, Regent Turner, and Chairman Sanchez. Motion carried unanimously and the Board returned to open session at 3:15 p.m.

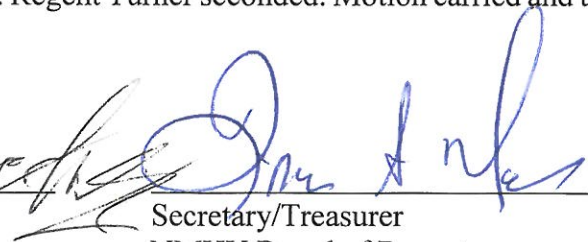
Public Action as Necessary on Closed Session Discussions – Action Item

No action was taken.

Adjournment

Regent Marr-Montoya moved to adjourn. Regent Turner seconded. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 3:16 p.m.


Chairman
NMHU Board of Regents


Secretary/Treasurer
NMHU Board of Regents