

New Mexico Highlands University
Board of Regents Special Meeting
May 22, 2025

The New Mexico Highlands University Board of Regents held a special virtual meeting on May 22, 2025. The meeting was livestreamed via Zoom Platform. The university made every effort to accommodate members of the public as stated in the May 15, 2025, meeting announcement. Members of the public were able to access the livestream through the following link:
<https://nmhu.zoom.us/j/99373471046>

Call to Order – Chairman Frank Sanchez called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

Roll Call – Board Members present (via Zoom): Robert Lucero, Elaine Luna, Gary Tripp, Dr. Frank Sanchez

Administrative Personnel Present (via Zoom): Dr. Brandon Kempner, Acting Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs; Stephanie Gonzales, CPA/Vice President for Finance & Administration; Dr. Kimberly Blea, Vice President for Student Affairs; Mr. David Lepre, Vice President for Marketing, Communication & Government Relations; Dr. Paul Grindstaff, Vice President for Advancement.

Others Present (via Zoom):

Patricia Ives, NMHU Legal Counsel; Carlos Padilla, NMHU Legal Counsel; April Kent, HLC Liaison Officer; Roberta Ortiz, Executive Administrative Assistant; Amalinda Arguello, Executive Administrative Assistant. Numerous faculty members, staff, students, community members, and public participated in the meeting as it was streamed via Zoom.

Compliance with Meeting Notice Requirements

Chairman Sanchez stated that in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, the notice and agenda with the meeting date, time, and place for the May 22, 2025, special virtual meeting was posted in compliance with the NMHU Board of Regents Open Meetings Act Resolution.

Approval of the May 22, 2025, Special Virtual Meeting Agenda

Regent Tripp moved to approve the May 22, 2025, special meeting agenda as presented. Regent Luna seconded. Voting in favor: Regent Lucero, Regent Luna, Regent Tripp, and Chairman Sanchez. Motion carried.

Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) – Action Item

Regent Tripp moved to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) (**Attachment A**) as presented. Regent Luna seconded. Voting in favor: Regent Lucero, Regent Luna, Regent Tripp, and Chairman Sanchez. Motion carried.

Dr. Brandon Kempner opened discussion on the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA), noting the process used and handing off to Dr. Jenkins for further remarks.

Dr. Kathy Jenkins acknowledged the effort from both sides during negotiations, noting the long hours, passion, and the faculty's appreciation for administrative support. She emphasized mutual respect in the agreement process.

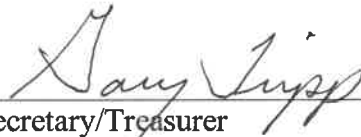
VPFA Gonzales responded to a question from Regent Lucero regarding how the agreement would be incorporated into official university policy or practice.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.



Chairman
NMHU Board of Regents



Secretary/Treasurer
NMHU Board of Regents