

New Mexico Highlands University
Board of Regents Regular Meeting
June 20, 2025

The New Mexico Highlands University Board of Regents met on June 20, 2025. The meeting was held at New Mexico Highlands University's Rodgers Administration Building, Board Room 107. Notice of the meeting was posted in the Rodgers Administration Building, on the NMHU Board of Regents website, and distributed to media as required. The university made every effort to accommodate members of the public as stated in the meeting notice. The meeting was also livestreamed via the following Zoom link: <https://nmhu.zoom.us/j/99373471046>.

Call to Order

Chairman Frank Sanchez called the meeting to order at 9:04 AM.

Roll Call

Board Members present: Dr. Frank Sanchez, Mr. Robert Lucero, Ms. Elaine Luna (via Zoom), and Mr. Gary Tripp

Administrative Personnel Present

Dr. Neil Woolf, President; Dr. Brandon Kempner, Acting Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs and Chief of Staff; Dr. Kimberly Blea, Vice President for Student Affairs; Stephanie Gonzales, CPA, Vice President for Finance & Administration; Dave Lepre, Vice President for University Relations; Paul Grindstaff, Vice President for Student & Donor Engagement (via Zoom); Mr. Scott Noble, Athletic Director

Others Present

Patricia Ives, NMHU Legal Counsel; Benito Pacheco, Associate Vice President of SEM; Joseph Dominguez, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs; Amalinda Arguello, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Board of Regents; Roberta Ortiz, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Vice President of Finance; Dr. Veena Parboteeah, Dean of the School of Business, Media, and Technology; Dr. Ana Nelson, Dean of the Facundo Valdez School of Social Work. Faculty, staff, students, and community members also participated in the meeting.

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 June 20, 2025, meeting were posted in a timely fashion and in compliance with the NMHU Board of Regents Open Meetings Act Resolution.

Approval of the June 20, 2025, Meeting Agenda – Action Item

Motion: Regent Tripp

Second: Regent Luna

Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Approval of Meeting Minutes – Action Item

April 3, 2025, Regular Meeting

Motion: Regent Tripp

Second: Regent Lucero

Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

April 29, 2025, Special Meeting

Motion: Regent Tripp

Second: Regent Luna

Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

May 22, 2025, Special Meeting

Motion: Regent Tripp

Second: Regent Lucero

Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Public Comments

No public comment.

Incorporation of MOA with Highlands Land Development Corporation – Action Item

Regent Lucero introduced the item and explained that the MOA supports the development of land around the golf course. The intent is to allow for flexible development under the New Mexico University Research Park Act.

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve the incorporation.

Motion: Regent Tripp

Second: Regent Lucero

Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Chairman Sanchez emphasized that the development is intended to create housing that will allow more faculty to live in Las Vegas. Chairman Sanchez credited President Neil Woolf for playing a key role in advancing the project and noted that the Reforestation Center will likely be the first development established on the property.

Dr. Brandon Kempner provided additional information on the Reforestation Center, explaining that its first funded project will involve placing greenhouses at the John T. Harrington Research Center in Mora. This initiative supports the seed bank project – a collaboration among EMNRD, UNM, and NMSU. The second funded project will establish a seed bank at NMHU’s golf course, which will be used to process and supply seedlings to the Harrington Center. This effort has the potential to create jobs and generate revenue through property rentals to the Center. Overall, the Reforestation Center represents a strong opportunity for collaboration with other institutions across the state to address the ongoing impacts of the Hermit’s Peak/Calf Canyon Fire on the local community.

Appointment of Board for Highlands Land Development Corporation – Action Item

Following clarification of number of HLDC board members to be appointed, Chairman Sanchez asked for a motion to appoint:

- Dr. Frank Sanchez (Board Chair)
- Robert Lucero (Vice Chair)
- Dr. Neil Woolf (President)
- Stephanie Gonzales (VP of Finance)
- Matt Martinez (Community Member)

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve the appointments.

Motion: Regent Tripp

Second: Regent Lucero

Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Executive Session

Executive Session for (a) discussion of limited Personnel Matters related to President Neil Woolf's performance evaluation pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 10-15-1(H)(2); (b) discussion of limited personnel matters related to the hirings and dismissals of Athletics Department, Information Technology Services Department employees and Provost, pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 10-15-1(H)(2); and (c) discussion of the potential purchase, acquisition or disposal of real property of the university, pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 10-15-1(H)(8)

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to enter executive session at 9:32 AM.

Motion: Regent Lucero

Second: Regent Tripp

Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Reconvene in Open Session

Motion to reenter open session. Only matters listed in the motion to close were discussed and no action(s) necessary.

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to return to open session at 11:55 AM.

Motion: Regent Lucero

Second: Regent Tripp

Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Emeritus Faculty Nomination – Action Item

President Woolf introduced the nomination of Professor David Lobdell for the emeritus nomination. Dr. Kempner highlighted that David Lobdell has been a committed, long-time faculty member that embodies what the University desires from a professor. As a nationally/internationally renowned iron pour artist who put Highlands on the map for 3D sculpture and lived in Las Vegas his entire career, Dr. Kempner underlined that David is very deserving of this recognition.

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve the emeritus nomination.

Motion: Regent Tripp

Second: Regent Lucero

Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Lunch Break

The Board discussed plans to engage different stakeholder groups during lunch at future meetings. The current session included HR and Payroll staff. No public policy was formulated, no public business was discussed, and no motion was required.

Chairman Sanchez moved for Board of Regents to table agenda items 12 and 13, proceed to item 15 for lunch, then return to item 12 and proceed with the rest of the agenda.

Motion: Regent Lucero

Second: Regent Tripp

Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:02 PM.

Chairman Frank Sanchez called the meeting back into order at 1:03 PM.

President's Report – Dr. Neil Woolf

Enrollment, HLC Update, and Other

President Woolf presented an update on the Foundation's fundraising progress, highlighting a 40% increase over the past year, with \$6.3 million raised toward a \$10 million goal. Additional achievements included a 94% increase in donations to the endowment corpus, a 76% increase in unrestricted funds, a 13% increase in restricted funds, and a 56% increase in in-kind gifts.

Vice President Grindstaff contributed to the presentation by outlining the launch of several new giving societies, including the 1893 Society, President's Circle, and the Parents and Families Giving Society. He also introduced SPURS (Students Promoting University Resources and Stewardship). Paul concluded by emphasizing the Foundation's goal of fostering a culture of philanthropy and noted that efforts are underway to increase communication and visibility of fundraising initiatives to both internal and external stakeholders.

President Woolf highlighted positive fall enrollment trends, noting an 8% increase in full-time enrollment. A key highlight was the 12% growth in full-time student enrollment, which supports improved retention, degree progress, and continued financial aid eligibility. He noted that while the Albuquerque and Farmington Centers are currently not performing as strongly as other centers, improvements are anticipated, particularly with the launch of a new online BSW program in Albuquerque. He also mentioned that enrollment in the College of Arts and Sciences remains relatively flat at this time.

Regent Tripp inquired about the University's current online marketing strategies. President Woolf deferred to Dr. Patrick Wilson, who provided an overview to the group about the University's partnership with the platform Risepoint. Dr. Wilson explained the value of Risepoint as a partner in marketing specific academic programs, noting that the platform operates on a revenue-sharing model, where a portion of tuition revenue is exchanged for marketing services. He highlighted that Risepoint has exceeded enrollment projections, bringing in more students than originally expected. He concluded by stating that there is potential to expand the partnership further, as Risepoint has the capacity to support additional growth – provided the University has the necessary processes and faculty resources in place.

President Woolf introduced the Sandbox initiative, describing it as a transformational opportunity for the institution. The concept behind Sandbox is to connect students directly with venture capital, offering a hands-on, educational experience that includes relevant coursework in the field. The initiative involves collaboration with an existing program and faculty to ensure a comprehensive and impactful learning environment. President Woolf touched on the possibility of Sandbox coursework fitting into existing Computer Science and Media Arts coursework with the potential to gain accreditation as its own program in the future. He then introduced Chris Crittenden, co-founder of Sandbox, to the group.

Chris outlined a long-term vision to transform higher education by partnering with institutions like Highlands. His strategy involves pairing a traditional university with a tech-forward partner. He emphasized that small institutions are ideal for this model due to their flexibility and appetite for innovation. He praised Highlands for its proactive, solutions-oriented mindset and openness to experimentation within regulatory frameworks.

Mr. Crittenden went on to explain how the Sandbox initiative aims to create the world's best model for preparing students for careers in tech. It follows a dual-outcome model in which students are supported in building tech startups. If their startups don't succeed, they emerge as

highly capable hires for high-growth tech companies. The program integrates real-world startup experience into students' academic journeys, offering a safe environment to explore entrepreneurship while building skills across the tech stack.

Chris closed by sharing his personal motivation for launching Sandbox, citing his background at BYU and desire to help students with less privilege and access after working with youth in underserved communities. Chris concluded by sharing his goal of making a top-tier educational experience accessible to all students – especially those often overlooked by traditional systems.

Approval of Stu Clark Building - Room Naming – Action Item

Dr. Woolf transitioned to the next agenda item, the room naming ceremony for the Dr. Pete Campos Learning Center, which took place the previous evening. He introduced a short commemorative video created by Vice President Lepre. The video, which was then shared with the board, highlighted Dr. Campos's deep connection to Highlands University and his long-standing dedication to the success of its students.

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve the room naming.

Motion: Regent Lucero

Second: Regent Tripp

Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Other Updates Continued

The theme “Reinvest in Our Future – Transforming NMHU into a 21st-Century Learning and Living Environment,” is a focus on campus revitalization, academic modernization, athletics investment, and outreach expansion. Priorities include increasing student housing capacity from 530 to 1,000 beds, modernizing classrooms and instructional tools, reimagining the library as a community hub, and developing an athletics facilities master plan aligned with NCAA Division II standards. Tribal partnerships continue to grow, with active engagement in language preservation and recruitment efforts in communities like Acoma and Taos Pueblo. A recent meeting with the Governor covered new academic programs, infrastructure, and community development, while NMHU gained national recognition on C-SPAN for its leadership in wildfire recovery. The University now serves as fiscal agent for a \$100 million federal grant and participates in the Wildfire Alliance to help shape national policy.

Becoming the first public university in the U.S. to achieve net-zero carbon operations is a long-term goal. Current efforts target reducing CO2 emissions (estimated at 6,000 metric tons annually) through energy-efficient buildings, EV fleet conversion, and land-based offsets. Development planning continues for key areas including the golf course, student housing, and future health program space, with conceptual design support from local developers. Community engagement efforts are also underway, with successful events hosted at the President's Residence and ongoing outreach to artists, donors, and local stakeholders in support of initiatives like Star Access and potential museum development.

Auditor Presentation of the FY24 University, HSI, and Foundation Audits

Paul Garcia, audit partner with Carr, Riggs & Ingram, presented the FY24 financial audit via Zoom. The audit followed a risk-based approach and covered the University, Foundation, and Stable Isotopes. The University received an unmodified opinion, indicating financial statements were fairly presented in accordance with GAAP. However, the audit identified two material weaknesses, two noncompliance findings, and two other matters.

The Foundation and Stable Isotopes also received unmodified opinions, with one finding each. Management's responses and corrective actions are included in the report.

Exit conferences and report deadlines vary, with the University report due in January 2025 and Foundation/Isotopes by November 2024. Appreciation was expressed to all involved, and the audit team will return later this year for the single audit portion. The Finance Committee noted a positive trend in financial oversight and audit outcomes.

Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs - Dr. Brandon Kempner

Dr. Kempner presented a request to approve two new certificate programs: an Undergraduate Certificate in Supply Chain Management and a Graduate Certificate in Supply Chain Management. Both programs have completed the full internal governance process at Highlands – including approval by the department, Dean, Academic Affairs Committee, Faculty Senate, and Provost. As certificates, they do not require state approval and conclude with Board of Regents approval.

The initiative was led by Dean Veena Parboteeah in collaboration with LANL, to meet specific workforce needs. Dr. Parboteeah and business faculty dedicated significant time to developing the proposals. Industry feedback indicates strong enthusiasm for the new offerings.

These certificates mark the second phase of Highlands' collaboration with Los Alamos National Lab, aimed at professionals in supply chain management. The effort was sparked by a conference hosted by Gary Chavez of the New Mexico Procurement Association, identifying a statewide need for public procurement skills. Dr. Joseph Milczewski., whose position is grant-funded by LANL, played a key role in developing the program.

The certificate is an extension of the January 2024 approval of supply chain concentrations and allows students to earn a certificate alongside their degree. A master's program in Supply Chain Management is currently in development, with a target launch of Fall 2025, positioning Highlands among an elite group of institutions nationally.

Approval of Supply Chain Management Certificate - Undergraduate – Action Item

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve the undergraduate certificate.

Motion: Regent Tripp

Second: Regent Luna

Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Approval of Supply Chain Management Certificate - Graduate – Action Item

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve the graduate certificate.

Motion: Regent Tripp

Second: Regent Luna

Vote: Unanimous approval – Motion carried

Vice President for Finance & Administration – Stephanie Gonzales, CPA

Quarterly Report and Certification (FY25/Q4) – Action Item

Stephanie Gonzales, Vice President of Finance, presented the Quarterly Financial Certification Report required by the Higher Education Department (HED) for the fourth quarter of FY2025. The certification addresses the institution's overall financial health, with an emphasis on cash flow stability. The goal is to answer "no" to all compliance-related questions, indicating no financial concerns. The fiscal table presented reflected "no" in all categories.

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve the Q4 quarterly report.

Motion: Regent Lucero

Second: Regent Tripp

Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Annual Meeting of Highlands Isotopes Corporation – Action Item

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve recess of the Board of Regents meeting and reconvene as the Board of the Highlands Stable Isotopes Corporation at 2:29. PM.

Motion: Regent Lucero

Second: Regent Tripp

Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Chairman Frank Sanchez called the meeting of the Highlands Isotopes Corporation Board into order at 2:30 PM.

The Board of Regents received the annual update for the Highlands Stable Isotopes Corporation, presented to address a prior-year audit finding related to the absence of an annual meeting.

During the meeting, FY25 financial activity was reported, including approximately \$66,000 in royalty revenue and \$12 in expenses related to the annual report filing with the Secretary of State. A projected transfer of approximately \$66,000 to the University was noted. A motion to acknowledge receipt of the annual report was unanimously approved by Regents Lucero, Luna, Tripp, and Chairman Sanchez.

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to acknowledge the annual report as presented.

Motion: Regent Lucero

Second: Regent Tripp

Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Chairman Sanchez then called to adjourn as the Board of the Highlands Stable Isotopes Corporation and reconvene back as the NMHU Board of Regents.

Motion: Regent Lucero

Second: Regent Tripp

Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Counsel confirmed for the record that the annual meeting of the Highlands Stable Isotopes Corporation was properly noticed as part of the board meeting agenda.

Regent Lucero and Chairman Sanchez both motioned to resume the regular board meeting and proceed with the next agenda item, 17-C.

Motion: Regent Lucero

Second: Regent Tripp

Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

EFOP (CAP Matrix, Unaudited Financial Statements) – Action Item

Vice President Stephanie Gonzales presented the Quarterly EFOP (Enhanced Fiscal Oversight Program) update, as required by the New Mexico Higher Education Department (HED). The presentation included the updated Corrective Action Plan matrix and unaudited financial statements.

VP Gonzales reported significant progress in addressing prior audit findings, particularly in the HR and payroll departments. At the start of FY24, staffing in these areas was limited, but both departments are now nearly fully staffed, with 8-9 FTEs in HR and two employees in payroll, which has transitioned under HR and the business office. The implementation of Paycom, along with a dedicated HR task force, has led to improvements in internal controls and workflow efficiencies. These efforts have directly addressed three to four FY24 audit findings.

Additional improvements include:

- A soft month-end close process implemented in January
- Monthly account reconciliation on the balance sheet
- Progress on fixed asset tracking, with staff training and software integration now underway

VP Gonzales noted that last year's delayed audit report was due to a cyberattack, but this is not expected to be an issue in the current fiscal year. Planning meetings with auditors are already in motion to ensure timely submission. She also reported that the audit finding for the Foundation is believed to be resolved, and the finding for the Highlands Stable Isotopes Corporation has been resolved with the recent annual meeting.

The unaudited financial statements as of March 31, 2025, were reviewed, with the following highlights:

- Cash balance: nearly \$9 million
- Grant receivables: over \$11 million
- Instruction & General (I&G) revenue: nearly 100% earned
- Student financial aid: 99% spent
- Renewals & Replacements: 111% spent due to additional unbudgeted state funding
- Most expenditures are on track, with no significant overruns expected

Regent Lucero and Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to accept the EFOP (CAP Matrix, Unaudited Financial Statements) as presented.

Motion: Regent Lucero

Second: Regent Tripp

Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Resolution Authorizing the issuance of and sale of the Regents of New Mexico Highlands University System Refunding Revenue Bonds, Series 2025 in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$16,000,000 – Action Item

AND

Resolution Authorizing the Submission of an Application for Financial Assistance and Project Approval to the New Mexico Finance Authority – Action Item

Vice President Stephanie Gonzales introduced Mark Valenzuela, managing principal of Bosque Advisors, and Ian Bearden of Modrall Sperlring, who presented an overview of a proposed debt refinancing strategy for the University's outstanding bond obligations.

The University currently holds two outstanding debts:

- 2009 Build America Bonds (taxable, with a federal subsidy)
- 2012 Tax-Exempt Bonds

The refinancing is being considered due to the favorable interest rate environment, with potential for further rate improvement during the next five months – allowing time to complete the

transaction. A key benefit of refinancing includes the release of over \$1 million in reserve funds currently held by the New Mexico Finance Authority (NMFA), provided the University secures a qualifying bond rating.

Estimated savings include:

- \$132,000 annually on the 2009 bonds
- \$200,000 annually on the 2011 bonds

Total net present value (NPV) savings: \$1.5 million, meeting the State's 3% NPV savings requirement

The proposed transaction would:

- Refinance approximately \$7.2 million in current debt
- Use \$6.24 million in new borrowing, supplemented by reserve funds
- Incur approximately \$100,000 in associated costs (legal, advisory, rating)

Responding to a question from Regent Lucero, the advisors confirmed that recent audit findings did not negatively impact bond rating potential, citing increased cash reserves and available revenue as positive credit factors.

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve both agenda items 17-D (Bond Issuance Authorization) and 17-E (Financial Assistance Application) as presented.

Motion: Regent Lucero

Second: Regent Tripp

Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Approval of Employee Policy Guidebook – Action Item

A revised Employee Policy Guidebook, with background provided by Acting Provost Dr. Brandon Kempner, was presented. The revision stems from union negotiations conducted in 2020-2021, during which an agreement was reached but never formally presented to the Board for approval. The issue was recently raised by Dr. Jenkins in coordination with the HR Director. It was noted that, Section 10, which includes policies such as drug testing, was not negotiated and requires further discussion.

Board members raised concerns regarding:

- Whether Section 10's omission was due to administration or faculty.
- Inconsistencies between the guidebook and the current Collective Bargaining Agreement (e.g., Section 6.3 listing Spring Break as a holiday).
- The need to align the manual with current agreements before adoption.

Regent Lucero and Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to table the item and direct the President and administration to revise the guidebook in accordance with the current CBA and present the revision back to the Board for consideration at a future meeting.

Motion: Regent Tripp

Second: Regent Luna

Vote: Unanimous (4-0) – Item Tabled

HR Task Force Update

Vice President Stephanie Gonzales provided a brief update on the progress of the HR Task Force. Significant strides have been made in developing and implementing an electronic faculty contract

workflow, which is now actively processing contracts. The system has received positive feedback from Dr. Jenkins and others, particularly regarding functionality and timely notifications.

The task force is also working on:

- Developing an improved offboarding process
- Automating the student contract workflow
- Prioritizing a long list of action items for continued system improvements

Vice President for Student Affairs - Dr. Kimberly Blea

Approval of Title IX Policy– Action Item

Dr. Kimberly Blea, Vice President for Student Affairs, presented Item A, an action item requesting approval of revisions to the University’s Title IX policy. The updates are in response to recent federal regulatory changes affecting higher education institutions and serve to ensure continued compliance.

The Board previously approved the current Title IX policy on October 14, 2021. The proposed revisions are minor and include:

- The ability to solicit external services for aspects of the Title IX response process
- Clarified language regarding confidential reporting, including virtual mental health providers and disclosure requirements under New Mexico law

Chairman Sanchez motioned to approve the Title IX Policy.

Motion: Regent Tripp

Second: Regent Lucero

Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Faculty Senate Report – Dr. Jennifer Lindline

Dr. Gloria Gadsden, Vice Chair of the Faculty Senate, presented on behalf of Dr. Lindline, who was traveling.

Dr. Gadsden reported that the Faculty Senate approved several academic program changes during the 2024-2025 academic year, including:

- Course revisions in Biology, Psychology, Criminal Justice, Sociology, Counseling, Business, and University Studies
- New course proposals in Social Work and Sociology
- Program revisions for MSW, MS Psychology, MA English, BA University Studies, MS Nursing, and MA Counseling
- New undergraduate and graduate certificates in Supply Chain Management

The Senate approved two key policy statements:

- A voluntary syllabus statement on immigration enforcement
- A Statement on Collegiality, emphasizing mutual respect and collaboration in the academic community

Additional updates included:

- A Student-Faculty Research Funding Initiative, launching in AY 2025-2026
- Senate collaboration on the Fall 2025 HLC visit, supporting data reporting and outcomes assessment
- Completion of annual evaluations for administrators, deans, and department chairs; 33% faculty participation with feedback highlighting concerns about administrative transparency, hiring practices, and prioritization of projects over academics

The Senate is also seeking volunteers for Legislative Interim Strategy Teams, and thanked President Woolf for including faculty in these efforts.

All Board Regents responded positively, expressing appreciation for the report's transparency and affirming the Board's commitment to listening, collaboration, and institutional growth. They recognized past challenges but emphasized a hopeful outlook and praised the ongoing work of Chairman Sanchez and President Woolf.

Staff Advisory Report

Officer Carlos Nevarez presented on campus updates, planned upcoming Senate elections, and stated the need for additional members to join.

Associated Students of NMHU Report – Lydia Okojie

Ms. Okojie provided updates on ASNMHU which included the ability for the group to sponsor students to attend the most recent NABA Conference in Nevada. She also mentioned that they are seeking new students to become involved with ASNMHU.

Regent Reports

Finance & Administration Committee Update – Regent Lucero

Regent Lucero noted that Vice President Gonzales had thoroughly addressed all aspects of the Finance updates during the day's comprehensive session.

Academic Affairs Committee Update – Chairman Sanchez

Chairman Sanchez announced that he will convene the first committee meeting following the arrival of the incoming Provost on July 1, 2025.

Athletics Committee Update – Regent Tripp

Regent Tripp introduced Scott Noble as the new Athletic Director at NMHU. He shared that the Athletics Committee is currently reviewing coaching salaries to ensure the University remains competitive with peer institutions and is positioned to attract and retain top coaching talent. Additionally, the committee is exploring facility improvements and evaluating the potential for adding new sports programs in the future.

Cowboy Research Park Ad hoc Committee Update – Chairman Sanchez

Chairman Sanchez provided a brief overview of the committee's composition and recent activities, highlighting the expertise of its members in real estate and city planning. He noted that, with the MOA approved during this meeting, he anticipates accelerated progress toward achieving the committee's project goals.

Gene Torres Golf Course Ad hoc Committee Update – Chairman Sanchez

Chairman Sanchez expressed enthusiasm about the continued growth of the University Golf Course, noting a significant increase in membership and activity. He shared that he is looking forward to working collaboratively with the Golf Course Committee and exploring new opportunities and partnerships to further enhance the facility.

Hall of Fame hoc Committee – Regent Luna

Regent Luna shared an update on behalf of Mr. Dave Luna, current Hall of Fame President, emphasizing the importance of honoring past champions and preserving their legacy. The Hall of Fame is currently working on the distribution and display of photo exhibits at the Wilson

Complex, with Gina Hartman assisting in the strategic placement of the pieces to maximize visibility and impact. Select photos will be displayed at the Wilson Complex, while additional exhibits will be placed throughout campus (specific locations are still being determined). Regent Luna also recognized NMHU alumnus Ted Maestas as the founder of the Hall of Fame and its accompanying banquet. He is credited with launching initiatives that continue to provide financial support for NMHU Athletics.

Chairman’s Discussion and Planning of Future Board Meetings and Workshop

Chairman Sanchez noted that while no workshop dates have been scheduled at this time, a Special Board Meeting is being planned for the coming weeks. The Board is also looking ahead to the next Regular Board Meeting, scheduled for September 19, 2025.

The final item of discussion was a farewell to long-serving legal counsel, Pat Ives. The Board expressed its deep appreciation for her invaluable guidance and dedicated service to the University and extended best wishes for her well-deserved retirement.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Sanchez moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Regent Luna

Second: Regent Lucero

Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:55 PM.



Chairman
NMHU Board of Regents



Secretary/Treasurer
NMHU Board of Regents