New Mexico Highlands University
Board of Regents Regular Meeting
December 12, 2025

The New Mexico Highlands University Board of Regents held a regular virtual meeting on December 12, 2025. The meeting was livestreamed via Zoom Platform. Notice of the meeting was posted in the Rogers Administration Building, posted on the NMHU Board of Regents website, and sent to local media as required. The university made every effort to accommodate members of the public as stated in the meeting announcement. Members of the public were able to access the livestream through the following Zoom link: https://nmhu.zoom.us/j/99373471046.

Call to Order
Chairman Frank Sanchez called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM.

Roll Call
Board Members present: Dr. Frank Sanchez, Mr. Robert Lucero, Ms. Elaine Luna, and Mr. Gary Tripp

Administrative Personnel Present
Dr. Neil Woolf, President; Dr. Dann Brown, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Stephanie Gonzales, CPA/Vice President for Finance and Administration; Dr. Kimberly Blea, Vice President for Student Affairs; Dr. Paul Grindstaff, Vice President for University Relations and Advancement; Dave Lepre, Vice President for Government Relations; Mr. Scott Noble, Athletic Director

Others Present
Dr. Brandon Kempner, Chief of Staff; Doajo Hicks, NMHU Legal Counsel; Amalinda Arguello, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Board of Regents; Benito Pacheco, Associate Vice President of SEM; Dr. Ian Williamson, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs; Jennifer Lindline, Faculty Senate Chair; Gina Marie Medina, Staff Advisory Chair; Lydia Okojie, Associated Students of NMHU President; Dr. Veena Parboteeah, Dean of the School of Business, Media, and Technology; Dr. Geri Glover, Professor of Counseling. Faculty, staff, students, and community members also attended.

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 December 12, 2025, meeting were posted in a timely fashion and in compliance with the NMHU Board of Regents Open Meetings Act.

Approval of the December 12, 2025, Meeting Agenda – Action Item
Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve the item.
Motion: Regent Lucero
Second: Regent Luna
Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Approval of the September 19, 2025, Meeting Minutes – Action Item
Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve the item. Regent Lucero moved to approve the item with an amendment to clarify the motion language across all minutes on the agenda.

Motion: Regent Lucero
Second: Regent Tripp
Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Approval of the September 30, 2025, Meeting Minutes – Action Item
Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve the item.

Motion: Regent Luna
Second: Regent Tripp
Vote: (3-0) – Motion carried, with Regent Lucero abstaining due to limited availability during the 9/30/25 meeting.

Approval of the October 30-31, 2025, Meeting Minutes – Action Item
Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve the item.

Motion: Regent Tripp
Second: Regent Lucero
Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Approval of the November 20, 2025, Meeting Minutes – Action Item
Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve the item. Regent Lucero moved to approve and requested that the record clearly reflect contingent approvals on certain prior action items (including a resolution regarding liquidation/transfer of university investments to the Foundation and a Highlands Development Corporation resolution), noting that approvals were conditioned upon a formal written resolution to follow at the 12/12/2025 meeting.

Motion: Regent Lucero
Second: Regent Tripp
Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Public Comment
Public comment was opened. No public comments were offered in person or online, and the public comment period was closed.

Vice President for Student Affairs – Dr. Kimberly Blea
Dr. Blea provided a detailed update on the Housing Task Force, formed to identify solutions to NMHU's housing shortage and address conditions of residential facilities. She stated that the Task Force is taking a multi-pronged approach, evaluating multiple housing types (residence halls, apartments, and other configurations) and considering community-wide constraints in Las Vegas affecting the rental market.

Key themes and proposals discussed included:

- Urgency to increase occupancy and available beds as quickly as possible, while aligning projects with longer-term planning.
- A new residence hall with a new-build concept.
- Consideration of demolition funding requests to the State (summer capital outlay process) for older facilities, additional facilities discussed as candidates depending on feasibility.
- Exploration of funding and delivery approaches, including the potential use of a ground lease structure with the Foundation.
- A modular concept using converted/retrofitted shipping containers as a potential interim or phased housing solution, with possible locations discussed.

- Renovation feasibility discussions for older housing stock (including infrastructure needs such as plumbing/electrical and interior reconstruction costs).

Board discussion included questions and comments on phasing, funding pathways, and ensuring that proposed solutions are realistic and compliant with required approvals. Dr. Blea and staff indicated that additional details would continue to be developed and brought forward as options are refined.

Vice President for Advancement and University Relations – Dr. Paul Grindstaff
Dr. Paul Grindstaff presented an update on Foundation activities, financial strategy, and university relations, emphasizing collaboration with the University on housing initiatives and athletics facilities. He addressed stakeholder and media questions regarding athletics investments and underscored the Foundation's ability to support both housing and athletics without reliance on multiple state outlay requests.

Dr. Grindstaff reported that the Foundation is utilizing creative financing strategies to keep debt off the University's balance sheet. Discussions with the State Investment Council and State Board of Finance affirmed this approach as the preferred method. The Foundation will securitize facilities and future rental revenue, with the growing endowment providing additional support for debt service. He also reported that Foundation investments are performing well and that expanded federal and state government relations efforts have been established. He referenced recent meetings in Washington, D.C., including discussions regarding a 42-acre parcel, and noted opportunities for strategic acquisition.

An update was provided on the comprehensive capital campaign, which exited the silent phase in September. The campaign goal is $10 million, with more than $10.2 million raised to date, and an internal stretch goal of $20 million by Fiscal Year 2027.

Dr. Grindstaff reported on the launch of "Project Purple," an internal giving initiative tied to Giving Tuesday, which resulted in a 31% year-over-year increase in contributions and significantly increased faculty and staff participation.

Additional updates included organizational changes within Advancement and University Relations, Foundation support for student recruitment efforts, growth of student support funds, and collaboration with Student Affairs to streamline student hardship funding through a unified application process.

Board members expressed appreciation for the Foundation's leadership, improved coordination with the University, and growing momentum in advancing institutional priorities.

Faculty Senate Report – Dr. Jennifer Lindline
Dr. Lindline reported on Faculty Senate activities from October through December, including meeting cadence and actions taken. Highlights included Faculty Senate review/approval of academic program revisions (including references to online programming and University Studies revisions), and graduate-related governance items such as transcript policy changes and updates to the definition of graduate faculty.

Additional points noted:
- Faculty Senate engagement with elements of the 2035 Mission, Vision, and Strategic Plan governance draft.

- Recognition of faculty engagement efforts and appreciation for committee/subcommittee work supporting governance and academic quality.
- Ongoing workstreams related to graduate catalog/handbook content and policy alignment.

The Board thanked Dr. Lindline and the Faculty Senate for their work and discussed shared governance responsibilities and expectations.

Staff Advisory Report – Gina Marie Medina
The Staff Advisory report portion of the transcript reflects an update delivered by Gina-Marie Medina, who reported she had recently been selected as President of the Staff Senate.

Reported updates included:
- Efforts to build Staff Senate membership and fill officer roles.
- Named officer roles were referenced (including Treasurer and Parliamentarian).
- A stated goal to have a full Staff Senate in place by February 15, 2026.
- Plans for staff development and a focus on reestablishing relationships across the University and with the Board.
- Commitment to provide a more developed update/presentation at the next Board meeting.
- Regents expressed appreciation for the leadership and encouraged continued updates.

Associated Students of NMHU Report – Lydia Okojie
The ASNMHU report summarized student governance activity and priorities. Key points included the Senate's meeting activity during the semester and initiatives supporting student professional development and engagement.

Highlights included:
- Eight Senate meetings held during the semester.
- Support for student travel related to research activities and professional development.
- Funding support for professional society memberships and student engagement activities.
- Recognition of campus events including the Santa Fe Gala and the 2025 Bueno Matanza.
- Vacancies noted for Graduate Senator positions (including representation areas such as Social Work and the School of Business), with plans to communicate during the following semester to fill positions.
- Planned upcoming initiatives including an ASNMHU week to increase visibility and host student-facing engagement activities (meet-and-greet, informational sessions, and interactive events).

Legal Counsel – Doajo Hicks
The Board reviewed proposed policy, charter, and resolution updates, prioritizing committee charters and resolutions over the full policy and bylaws provided in the packet. Regents Lucero and Luna emphasized the importance of ensuring the work is completed thoughtfully and correctly, noting that tabling the bylaws and policies would allow the Board and University to continue moving forward while conducting a more thorough review. Regent Lucero expressed support for the President's recommendation to proceed with review and approval of the committee charters and resolutions while allowing additional time for more detailed review of the bylaws and policy materials. Regent Lucero formally moved that the Board table discussion and action on policies and bylaws until a future meeting, moving forward with consideration of the charters and resolutions as presented.

Motion: Regent Lucero
Second: Regent Luna

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

Proceeding with the review of the committee charters and resolutions, Mr. Hicks explained that the proposed committee structure is intended to improve efficiency and reduce the length of regular Board meetings.

Mr. Hicks presented the following four committee charters to the Board for consideration and action.

Board Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee – Action Item
Charter consolidates oversight of academic and student affairs under a single committee to promote alignment between academic programs and student success initiatives. The committee is responsible for reviewing academic policies, program proposals, student support services, enrollment strategies, and initiatives impacting retention, persistence, and graduation outcomes.

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve the item.

Motion: Regent Lucero
Second: Regent Tripp
Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Board Athletics Committee – Action Item
Charter defines the committee's role in providing oversight and guidance related to intercollegiate athletics. Responsibilities include monitoring athletic program compliance, facilities planning, financial sustainability, student-athlete welfare, and alignment of athletics with the University's mission and strategic priorities.

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve the item.

Motion: Regent Lucero
Second: Regent Tripp
Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Board Finance and Audit Committee – Action Item
Charter outlines the committee's responsibility for oversight of the University's financial health, budgeting processes, internal controls, audit functions, and fiscal policy. The committee reviews financial statements, audit reports, risk-related financial matters, and major financial transactions, and provides recommendations to the full Board regarding fiscal stewardship and accountability.

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve the item.

Motion: Regent Lucero
Second: Regent Luna
Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Board Governance, Compliance, and Enterprise Risk Committee – Action Item
Charter establishes a standing committee responsible for oversight of Board governance practices, policy compliance, and enterprise risk management. The committee will review Board bylaws, policies, and procedures; monitor compliance with applicable laws and regulations; and provide guidance on institutional risk identification and mitigation strategies. The committee will also support Board self-evaluation and governance best practices.

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve the item. Regent Lucero moved to approve the item with three revisions: defining the term 'Committee,' specifying that the committee shall consist of two Regents, and identifying the committee chair as the University's Compliance Officer.

Motion: Regent Lucero
Second: Regent Tripp
Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Chairman Sanchez appointed Regents Lucero and Luna to serve on the newly formed Governance, Compliance, and Enterprise Risk Management Committee.

Mr. Hicks then presented the following four resolutions to the Board for consideration and action.

Resolution Assigning Development and Management Responsibilities for Golf Course Property to New Mexico Highlands University Development Corporation – Action Item

Legal Counsel presented a resolution which would assign development and management responsibilities for the University golf course property to the newly formed New Mexico Highlands University Development Corporation, while retaining University oversight of golf course operations. Mr. Hicks confirmed that the resolution includes a corrected land description totaling approximately 173 acres and incorporates an exhibit map reflecting the property.

Regent Lucero disclosed that a personal relationship exists with Titan Development Counsel, which has been selected by the Development Corporation as developer. Furthermore, Regent Lucero stated that he resigned his position with the Development Corporation prior to the selection of a developer. It was also clarified that the Board's action assigns authority to the Development Corporation and that the selection of the developer was not made by the Board, thereby presenting no conflict of interest.

Following Regent Lucero's request to amend the resolution with assignment of standardized numbering, Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve the item.

Motion: Regent Tripp
Second: Regent Luna
Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Resolution Authorizing Liquidation of Endowment Fund and Transfer to NMHU Foundation for Management with State Investment Council – Action Item
The Board considered a resolution authorizing the liquidation of an endowment fund and transfer of the proceeds to the NMHU Foundation for management with the State Investment Council. During discussion, a revision was proposed to remove reference to a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) listed as an exhibit, as it was not included in the meeting materials. A second revision established standardized resolution numbering, which is to be applied across all resolutions, including those most recently approved.

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve the item.

Motion: Regent Lucero
Second: Regent Tripp

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

Resolution of Acknowledging Employee Handbook Contributions and Establishing a Comprehensive Policy Governance Framework and Compliance Modernization Initiative – Action Item
The Board reviewed a resolution acknowledging prior contributions to employee handbooks and establishing a comprehensive policy governance framework and compliance modernization initiative. Legal Counsel explained that the resolution creates a structured policy hierarchy distinguishing Board policies, institutional policies, and operational policies, and charges the President and Legal Counsel with forming policy committees utilizing shared governance processes.

Regent Lucero inquired as to whether the proposed resolution could conflict with existing collective bargaining agreements (CBA). Legal Counsel advised that the resolution would not create CBA conflicts and explained that the new policy governance framework will ensure compliance through shared governance processes, applicable law, and publicly accessible policies. Regent Lucero expressed support for the framework and suggested removing references to statutory provisions not applicable to the University.

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve the item. Regent Lucero moved to approve the item with revisions to assign the resolution number as 2025-12-12-001 and to remove all references to NMSA 1978 Section 21-13.

Motion: Regent Lucero
Second: Regent Tripp
Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Adoption of Comprehensive board Policies, Board Bylaws, Board Procedures, and Rescission of Prior Policy Guide Handbook – Action Item
The Board tabled consideration of the adoption of comprehensive Board bylaws, Board policies, Board procedures, and rescission of prior policy guides. The Governance Committee was directed to meet in advance of the next Board meeting to review the materials, incorporate feedback from Regents and stakeholders, and bring recommendations forward for future consideration.

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to table the item. Regent Lucero moved to table the item with the proposal that the governance committee meet in advance of the next board meeting.

Motion: Regent Lucero
Second: Regent Tripp
Vote: Unanimous (4-0) – Motion tabled

Lunch Break
The Board recessed for a luncheon with members of the New Mexico Legislature. Chairman Sanchez announced that no public policy would be formulated, no public business would be discussed, and no action would be taken.

President's Report – Dr. Neil Woolf
Dr. Neil Woolf provided an update on accreditation, community engagement, legislative priorities, facilities planning, and strategic direction.

Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Focused Visit

Dr. Woolf reported that the University met accreditation standards following the recent Higher Learning Commission focused visit. HLC identified one area of "meets with some concern" related to demonstrating general education learning outcomes and requested continued progress reporting through an interim report as part of the next comprehensive review cycle in 2027–2028. Dr. Woolf noted that assessment systems are in place and progress is ongoing.

HLC also reviewed institutional resource capacity, including prior concerns related to payroll, human resources, and audit findings. Dr. Woolf reported that these matters have been resolved to the Commission's satisfaction and are no longer areas of concern, while continued improvement efforts remain underway. Appreciation was expressed to faculty, staff, and administrators who supported the review process.

Matanza and Community Engagement
Dr. Woolf reported on the successful Matanza event, highlighting strong participation by students, faculty, staff, and the community. He noted that the University plans to expand use of the cultural park space through additional seasonal events and educational programming.

Legislative Priorities and Facilities Needs
Dr. Woolf reviewed preparations for the upcoming legislative session, including unified higher education priorities related to employee compensation, building and equipment renewal, and economic development partnerships. He outlined the University's specific requests aligned with Destination Highlands, including athletics support, housing, library renovation planning, and research recovery funding. Dr. Woolf reported that campus-wide deferred maintenance exceeds $100 million and emphasized the importance of planning funds to position projects for future legislative investment.

Athletics Facilities Planning
Dr. Woolf provided an overview of phased athletics facilities improvements, including replacement of the existing track and playing surface and construction of a new grandstand. He noted that preliminary design concepts were presented for informational purposes and that the University is refining options to improve functionality, amenities, and revenue opportunities.

Strategic Identity and Planning
Dr. Woolf discussed ongoing work to refine the University's strategic identity and marketing direction, emphasizing alignment with mission, academic excellence, and regional engagement. He noted that the updated strategic plan was included separately on the agenda for Board consideration.

Dr. Randall Gann Marketing Presentation
Dr. Randall Gann presented a proposed strategic narrative and marketing approach intended to support and socialize the Destination Highlands framework. Dr. Gann reported that student decision-making is increasingly influenced by belonging, purpose, and authentic experience, and he stated that Highlands' location and identity align well with those preferences.

Dr. Gann introduced "Highlands Elevated" as a unified narrative identity (distinct from a short-term marketing campaign) organized around experience, culture, and purpose, and aligned with the Destination Highlands pillars. He outlined a concept for narrative modules to be used in video and related recruitment messaging, beginning with a Destination Highlands module and additional modules featuring student and alumni stories. Examples discussed included:

- Forestry as an initial featured program due to existing, near-complete content and the program's distinctiveness in New Mexico
- A graduate/leadership pathway module highlighting New Mexico-based leadership and workforce impact
- A social work module emphasizing Highlands' role in educating professionals who strengthen New Mexico communities

Dr. Gann also described a planned approach to expand the culture component through student-led storytelling in a way that resonates with prospective students. The presentation included an emphasis on a unified statewide identity across centers and online programming – a single Highland's identity with multiple access points.

Dr. Ian Williamson – Mission, Vision, and 2035 Strategic Plan – Action Item
Dr. Ian Williamson presented the 2035 Strategic Plan, including updated mission and vision statements, and recommended Board adoption. Dr. Williamson reported that the plan was developed over more than a year by a Strategic Planning Committee consisting of faculty, staff/administrators, a student, and a community member, with representation across academic units and key constituencies. He noted that the draft plan was distributed broadly for feedback, generating more than 200 survey responses, and was subsequently reviewed by the Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, and Student Senate, with final edits incorporated.

Dr. Williamson summarized the plan's five goals:

1. Innovative, interdisciplinary, and experiential education
2. Holistic student success
3. Community engagement
4. Enrollment, institutional capacity, and fiscal responsibility
5. Organizational success

He noted that the updated mission and vision are more explicitly student-centered and written. Dr. Williamson also outlined recommended implementation steps, including establishing a structure to support execution and accountability (e.g., a strategic action committee), promoting and communicating the plan, using key performance indicators, aligning unit-level plans with the University plan, and supporting implementation through strategic budgeting.

Board members expressed appreciation for the inclusive process and clarity of the mission/vision, offered implementation suggestions including aligning committee work with existing initiatives already underway.

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve the item.

Motion: Regent Luna
Second: Regent Tripp
Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Vice President for Academic Affairs/Provost – Dr. Dann Brown

Fall 2025 Curriculum and Instruction Ed.D. Program Proposal – Action Item
Dr. Dann Brown presented an overview of a proposed Doctor of Education (EdD) program and requested the Board's consideration for approval of the program proposal, with related course approvals to be brought forward at the next Board of Regents meeting.

Dr. Brown explained that the EdD is a professional doctorate designed to be regionally responsive and to serve local communities and public-school districts by advancing educators into higher levels of professional practice and leadership. The program emphasizes improving instructional quality and student outcomes through four curricular focus areas:

1. Science of Reading and Literacy
2. Early Childhood Multicultural Education
3. TESOL and Bilingual Education
4. Learning Design and Technology

Dr. Brown noted that the program is designed to develop educational leaders at the classroom, district, and systems levels while directly strengthening the educational experiences and outcomes of the students served by program graduates.

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve the item.

Motion: Regent Tripp
Second: Regent Lucero
Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Graduate policy updates were then discussed, including alignment of expectations for full-time graduate course loads and student success. Also discussed was revision to provisional status requirements from 12 to 9 credits to better align with practical full-time graduate loads and program sequencing. Updates to the definition of graduate faculty were discussed for handbook and catalog alignment.

Emeritus Nominations – Action Item
Dr. Brown presented emeritus nominations for two faculty members in recognition of their many years of valued service to the University for the Board's consideration. Regents offered remarks recognizing their service, impact on students, and contributions to the University and community.

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to confer emeritus status on Dr. Andre Garcia-Nuthman (Music) as nominated.

Motion: Regent Luna
Second: Regent Tripp
Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to confer emeritus status on Dr. Geri Glover (Counseling) as nominated.

Motion: Regent Lucero
Second: Regent Luna
Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Vice President for Finance & Administration – Stephanie Gonzales, CPA

EFOP (CAP Matrix, Unaudited Financial Statements) – Action Item
Vice President Stephanie Gonzales presented the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) Matrix and unaudited financial statements for submission to the New Mexico Higher Education Department (HED). She explained that the CAP Matrix reflects Fiscal Year 2024 audit findings and has been

updated to include ongoing corrective actions. The University's audited financial statements were submitted to the State Auditor on December 1, with a more detailed update to follow upon final approval.

VP Gonzales reviewed key highlights from the unaudited financial statements, noting that a negative balance in other receivables reflects timing related to the posting of state appropriations for Fiscal Year 2026. She also addressed two negative fund balances within net position, explaining that the scholarships and grants balance has since been resolved through a late audit adjustment, and that the historical negative balance in expendable capital projects is expected to be reduced through the recent endowment liquidation and transfer.

VP Gonzales reported that the University successfully transferred more than $25 million to the Foundation, retaining approximately $3.2 million pending receipt of final investment statements expected in January. She further noted that auxiliary enterprise revenues were performing as expected and that apparent overspending in student financial aid reflects unadjusted budgeting rather than an actual deficit, with a financial aid optimization process underway.

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve the item.

Motion: Regent Lucero
Second: Regent Tripp
Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

CNM Lease Agreement – Action Item
Ms. Gonzales presented a lease agreement with CNM to relocate NMHU Albuquerque Center operations. Highlights included a projected annual cost reduction compared to the current lease (with figures in the transcript indicating a reduction from approximately $218,000 annually to approximately $111,000 annually), and additional included services under the CNM lease (including utilities, custodial, and security) that were not included in the existing arrangement. Board discussion included questions regarding the origin of the opportunity and negotiating terms, particularly around termination provisions.

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve the item. Regent Lucero moved to approve the CNM lease agreement as presented, with the directive that the administration move forward with negotiating a longer termination-without-fault period.

Motion: Regent Lucero
Second: Regent Luna
Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Consent Agenda – Action Items
VP Gonzales presented two consent agenda items for Finance & Administration for Board consideration.

Quarterly Report and Certification (FY26/Q2)
The Board was advised that the second-quarter certification report was included in the consent agenda. It was reported that all responses within the certification were negative, and no issues or exceptions were identified.

Disposal of University Property
The Board was informed that the consent agenda also included the disposal of a single item of surplus University property. The item was described as obsolete and no longer in use. No questions were raised by the Board.

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve the items on the consent agenda.

Motion: Regent Lucero
Second: Regent Tripp
Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Regent Reports
Regents provided committee updates in line with the agenda:

Finance & Administration Committee Update
Regent Lucero reported that the Finance and Administration Committee met prior to the Board meeting and had no additional items to report beyond matters already addressed during Vice President Gonzales's financial presentation.

Academic Affairs Committee Update
Chairman Sanchez reported that the Academic Affairs Committee met approximately one week prior. Discussion included academic initiatives and potential next steps related to student programming, including preliminary conversation regarding a future summer immersion program.

Athletics Committee Update
Regent Tripp reported that the Athletics Committee did not formally meet since the prior Board meeting. He provided an update highlighting improvement in athletics culture, alumni engagement, and leadership. He noted strong performance by Athletic Director Scott Noble in alumni outreach and collaboration with university leadership and legislators to advance athletics funding. Regent Tripp also reported that exploratory discussions are underway regarding potential future sports offerings, including women's wrestling and additional track and golf programs, noting that no proposals have been approved at this time.

Highlands Land Development Committee Update
Chairman Sanchez and Regent Tripp reported that the Highlands Land Development Committee met within the past week. Regent Tripp noted his recent appointment as Committee Chair and reported progress on land development initiatives, including approval of the Titan Development resolution. The Committee continues to meet regularly and is advancing planning and financing discussions, with a goal of breaking ground during the summer.

Gene Torres Golf Course Ad Hoc Committee Update
Chairman Sanchez reported that the golf course experienced a strong operational year, with increased rounds played, expanded youth participation, increased membership, and improved financial performance. It was reported that play increased significantly compared to the prior year and that the course remains under budget. The Board also noted growing use of the course for instructional purposes and continued positive community engagement.

Athletics Hall of Fame Ad Hoc Committee
Regent Luna reported that the Hall of Fame Ad Hoc Committee continues work on revising induction criteria and application review procedures. Athletic accomplishments and Hall of Fame

inductees continue to be displayed in Wilson Gym. Regent Luna expressed confidence in the committee's progress.

Higher Education Regents Coalition (HERC)
Regent Luna reported that she will attend her second HERC meeting on December 15. She noted that current discussions include enhanced collaboration among the Higher Education Department, the Council of University Presidents, and higher education institutions statewide.

2026 Board of Regents Meeting Dates
The Board reviewed proposed meeting dates for 2026 (February 20, April 24, August 28, and November 20), with discussion of scheduling considerations and the operational benefits of establishing dates in advance.

Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to approve the item.

Motion: Regent Lucero
Second: Regent Luna
Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

Adjournment
There being no further business, Chairman Sanchez called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Regent Lucero
Second: Regent Luna
Vote: Unanimous approval (4-0) – Motion carried

The meeting was adjour ned at approximately 4:00 PM.

Chairman
NMHU Board of Regents

Secretary/Treasurer
NMHU Board of Regents