

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS
NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY
June 6, 2008
Special Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Regents of New Mexico State University met in the Regents Room of the Educational Services Building, on the New Mexico State University main campus, Las Cruces, New Mexico. Chair Gallagher called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

Regents Present	Mr. Bob Gallagher, Chair Mr. Blake Curtis, Vice Chair (by phone) Mr. M. Steven Anaya, Secretary/Treasurer Ms. Laura Conniff, Member Mr. Ed Kellum, Member
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Ex-officio Regents Present	Dr. Joe Pfeiffer Mr. Justin O'Connell (by phone)
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President	Dr. Michael Martin
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Executive Vice President/Provost	Dr. Waded Cruzado
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Regents Chief of Staff	Dr. Pat Williams
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Other Presenters	Associate Vice President Maureen Howard
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2. INTRODUCTIONS

(a) Introduction of Press, Elected Officials, and Others by Maureen Howard, Associate Vice President for University Communications and Marketing Services

Associate Vice President for University Communications and Marketing Services introduced: Todd Dickson and John Keith from the *Las Cruces Bulletin*, Tom Scott from KVIA, Evan Woodward from KRWG-FM, and Norm Dettlaff and Ashley Meeks from the *Las Cruces Sun-News*.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Regent Anaya moved, seconded by Regent Kellum, to approved the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

4. RATIFICATION OF STATEMENT REGARDING PRIOR EXECUTIVE SESSIONS(s) (roll call vote)

The Board of Regents of New Mexico State University met in Executive Session at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 5, 2008, in the Hiram Hadley Conference Room in Hadley Hall on the New Mexico State University main campus, Las Cruces, New Mexico, to discuss limited personnel matters including the consideration of an interim president as allowed under Section 10-15-1 (H)(2) of the state Open Meetings Act. Those Board members who were present hereby certify by roll call vote that only matters of that nature were discussed in the closed meeting.

The motion to adopt this statement, upon being put to a vote, was passed and adopted on the following recorded vote: Chair Gallagher, Vice Chair Curtis, Secretary/Treasurer Anaya, Regent Kellum, and Regent Conniff. Five Regents present having voted in favor of said motion, said motion carried, and said statement was adopted.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

(a) Persons wishing to address the Board on any items, whether on the agenda or not should, at this time, so indicate to the Chair. No personal attacks or negative comments about employees or personnel issues will be permitted. Three minutes will be allotted to address the item. Time may be limited or extended at the discretion of the Chair.

- * Ms. Charlotte Frank, expressed concern regarding administration's failure to adhere to NMSU's policy standards.
- * Dr. John Moraros and Dr. Yelena Bird voiced disapproval of recent quotes in a local newspaper which had been attributed to a member of the Board.
- * Former Representative Ed Boykin said he totally supported the university, its president, and its Board of Regents.

Regent Gallagher assured the members of the audience that the public would always have the opportunity to comment at public meetings, but that there are rules and regulations that must be enforced. He indicated good communication is achieved with good constructive comments and criticism.

6. CONSIDERATION OF INTERIM PRESIDENT

The Board of Regents commended President Martin for his outstanding leadership at NMSU for the past four years and wished him much luck as chancellor at Louisiana State University.

Regent Gallagher said that in their closed executive session, the Board discussed potential

candidates and discussed the criteria for the interim president. Regent Gallagher opened the floor for discussion by the Regents.

Some of the criteria discussed was the ability of the interim president to move the institution forward; to have knowledge of the university; to understand the academic priorities and be able to support Provost Cruzado; to be able to work with legislators; to be able to keep the capital projects moving; engage with city, county, and state officials in projects; and to have the ability to engage in intelligent ongoing discussions regarding discrepancies in faculty salaries.

Regent Steven Anaya suggested an alternative approach to choosing an interim president. In the interest of greater continuity, he recommended that one of the sitting deans be appointed. Regent Anaya offered five key points for selecting an internal candidate: 1) good connections with students, faculty, and staff; 2) familiarity with the legislative process and experience with asking for state funds; 3) connections to the whole state of New Mexico; 4) experience in fund raising; and 5) the cost would be less with an internal appointment.

Regent Conniff motioned to nominate Mr. James McDonough for interim president. The motion was seconded by Regent Kellum. The motion carried four to one (Anaya voted in opposition).

Regent Gallagher stated the Regents plan is to have an employment agreement effective July 1, 2008. The term would be for one year with a 30-day notice period by either party. The duties, authorities, expectations, and evaluation will be outlined as in the current president's contract. The contract may be extended beyond one year, if required, by special approval. The salary will be contingent upon the qualifications of the candidate. Benefits will be the standard employee benefits for the president, to include the use of the president's residence on campus and an automobile provided by the Foundation. The interim president will not be able to apply for the permanent president position.

Regent Gallagher said a request for proposals has been processed for a presidential search consultant. The proposals will be due by June 24. A three-member committee made up of two Regents and a senior member of the staff will evaluate the proposals, make a decision, and issue the contract. The search firm will identify and contact potential candidates and do a background check. By July, a search committee will be in place and will cull the applications to ten by September/October. The search committee will then interview the ten candidates and bring three to five finalists to campus during the month of November. The goal is to offer the position and have it accepted by December so that the interim president can take part in the 60-day legislative session. He encouraged anyone who wanted to be on the search committee to contact members of the Board of Regents. The search budget is estimated at \$125,000 to \$150,000 for consultant travel, advertising, and other search expenses.

7. OTHER

8. ADJOURNMENT

Regent Gallagher adjourned the meeting at 9:45 a.m.

Minutes recorded by Socorro Saenz-Lobato.

Robert M. Gallagher, Chair
Board of Regents

M. Steven Anaya, Secretary/Treasurer
Board of Regents