NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS SPECIAL MEETING
September 8, 2026, at 3:00 PM

Educational Services Building, Regents Room
1780 E. University Avenue, Las Cruces, NM

Regents Present:	Chair Ammu Devasthali, Vice Chair Deborah Romero, Secretary/Treasurer Christopher T. Saucedo, Marisol Olivas, Ricardo Gonzales
Advisory Members:	ASNMSU President Carina Frisch, Employee Council Chair Sonia A. White Faculty Senate Chair Kristian Finlator was not present
Officials Present:	Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs Joseph Bull, Vice President for Administration and Finance, Allen Bottorff, General Counsel, Lisa Henderson.

MINUTES

I. **Call to Order**, *Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali*

Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali called the special meeting of the New Mexico State University Board of Regents to order at 3:00 PM.

A. **Confirmation of Quorum**, *Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali*

The roll was called to verify attendance. All five voting members of the Board of Regents were verified as present online. Advisory members President Frisch and Chair White were also confirmed present, alongside administrators Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Bull, General Counsel Henderson, Vice President Bottorff, and President Ferme. Faculty Senate Chair Finlator was not present.

B. **Approval of the Agenda**, *Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali*

Regent Gonzales moved the approval of the agenda as presented and Regent Olivas seconded. The agenda was approved as presented.

II. **Confirmation of Prior Closed Executive Session on September 3, 2026**

The Board of Regents of New Mexico State University held a closed meeting at 9:00 am on Thursday, September 3, 2026. The closed meeting was called to complete the annual performance evaluation of the President under his contract and as permitted under the personnel matters exemption of the New Mexico Open Meeetings Act, NMSA Section 10-15-1, subsection (H)(2).

Those board members present certified that only matters of that nature were discussed.

Regent Gonzales: Yes

Regent Olivas: Yes

Regent Saucedo: Yes

Regent Romero: Yes

Regent Devasthali: Yes

III. **Approval of Minutes for the Regular Meeting on August 18, 2026**

The minutes of the regular Board of Regents meeting held on August 18, 2026, were presented for consideration. Regent Romero moved approval of the minutes, Regent Olivas seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

IV. **Consent Items**

A. None.

V. **Action Items**

A. **Review and Approval of a Sponsorship Naming Opportunity,** *General Counsel Lisa Henderson and Athletic Director Joe Fields*

General Counsel Lisa Henderson and Athletic Director Joe Fields presented a corporate sponsorship naming proposal for the Pan American Center in partnership with local partner, White Sands Federal Credit Union. The sponsorship is $13 million total over 10 years with equal installments paid annually in quarterly payments to NMSU. Market analysis places this deal in the top 15 nationally for basketball arenas while preserving the historic "Pan American Center" name. The revenue will directly fund 17 Division 1 programs and over 400 student-athletes, lessening dependence on general university funds. Signage locations and updates to the Pan American Center is still being determined, but the cost will be covered by NMSU Athletics' multimedia partner, Van Wagner. It was also confirmed that this contract with White Sands Federal Credit Union is separate from the leasing agreement with Aggie Uptown. Regent Devasthali and Regent Romero highlighted the necessity of a transparent internal plan under presidential oversight to ensure incoming revenues are spent responsibly.

Chairwoman Devasthali moved to approve the proposed sponsorship naming opportunity, including re-naming the NMSU Pan American Center as the White Sands Federal Credit Union Arena at the Pan American Center in exchange for $13 million, payable in equal annual installments over ten years. Regent Olivas seconded and the motion passed unanimously via a roll-call vote.

VI. **Adjournment**

With no further business before the board, Regent Devasthali moved to adjourn the meeting. Regent Olivas seconded the motion, and the regular meeting of the NMSU Board of Regents was officially adjourned at 3:17 PM.

Meeting Minutes Approved on October1, 2026, by the New Mexico State University Board of Regents.

AR Devasthali

Ammu Devasthali
Board of Regents Chair

Christopher Saucedo
Board of Regents Secretary/Treasurer