

NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS REGULAR MEETING May 8, 2025 at 2:00 PM

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

Regents of New Mexico State University

Chair Ammu Devasthali, Vice Chair Deborah Romero, Secretary/Treasurer Christopher T. Saucedo, Marisol Olivas, Ricardo Gonzales

<u>Non-Voting Advisory Members</u> - ASNMSU President Ala Alhalholy, Faculty Senate Chair Vimal Chaitanya, Ph.D., Employee Council Chair Donna Johnson

<u>University Officials</u> - President Valerio Ferme, Ph.D., Interim Provost Lakshmi Reddi, Ph.D., General Counsel Lisa Henderson, J.D.

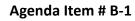
AGENDA

A. Call to Order, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

Pledge of Allegiance

- 1. Introduction of the Media and Elected Officials, Chief of Staff Justin Bannister
- 2. Introductions
 - a) Introduction of ASNMSU President Elect Wyatt Ziehe, ASNMSU President Ala Alhalholy
- 3. Confirmation of Quorum, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali
- 4. Approval of the Agenda, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali
- **B.** Approval of Minutes
 - 1. Special Meeting on April 30, 2025
- C. Awards and Recognitions
 - 1. Proclamation Recognizing the Service of Ala Alhalholy as ASNMSU President, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali
- D. **Public Comment,** Chief of Staff Justin Bannister
- **E. Advisory Member Reports**
 - 1. Associated Students of NMSU Report, President Ala Alhalholy
 - 2. NMSU Faculty Senate Report, Chair Vimal Chaitanya
 - 3. NMSU Employee Council Report, Chair Donna Johnson

- F. Affiliated Entity Reports
 - 1. NMSU Foundation Inc. Report, CEO Sylvia Y. Acosta
 - 2. Arrowhead Center Inc. Report, Interim Director & CEO Dana Catron
 - 3. Aggie Development Inc. Report, CEO Scott Eschenbrenner
- G. Consent Items, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali
 - 1. Mora-San Miguel Electric Cooperative Right-of-Way (ROW) Easement John T. Harrington Forestry Research Center, Mora, NM, Special Assistant to the President Scott Eschenbrenner
- H. Action Items, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali
 - 1. Authorization for Conferral of Degrees and Certificates, Interim Provost Lakshmi Reddi
- I. Informational Items, Chair
 - 1. None.
- J. Report from the New Mexico Department of Agriculture to the Regents of New Mexico State University (Board of Agriculture), Cabinet Secretary & Director Jeff Witte
- K. NMSU Academic Report, Interim Provost Lakshmi Reddi
- L. NMSU System Report, President Valerio Ferme
- M. Announcements and Comments, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali
 - 1. Good News for NMSU!
- N. Adjournment, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali





Board of Regents Meeting Meeting Date: May 8, 2025 Agenda Item Cover Page

✓ Action Item✓ Consent Item✓ Informational Item	Presented By:	Christopher Saucedo Secretary/Treasurer, NMSU Board of Regents
Agenda Item: Special Meeting on April 30, 2	2025	
Agenda item: Special Meeting on April 50, 2	2025	
Requested Action of the Board of Regents: 30, 2025 as presented.	Approval of the	Special Meeting Minutes for April
Executive Summary:		
As required by the New Mexico Open Meeti its meetings. The minutes shall include at a the names of members in attendance and the considered and a record of any decisions an All minutes are open to public inspection. D days after the meeting and shall be approve where a quorum is present. Minutes shall not	minimum the danose absent, the danose absent, the document to the document of	te, time and place of the meeting, substance of the proposals at show how each member voted. Il be prepared within ten working lisapproved at the next meeting
References:		
NM Open Meetings Act §10-15-1 G.		
Prior Approvals: N/A		



NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS SPECIAL MEETING April 30, 2025 at 8:00 AM

Educational Services Building, Regents Room 1780 East University Avenue, Las Cruces, NM Webcast at the following address: https://regents.nmsu.edu/regent-meetings/

Regents of New Mexico State University

Chair Ammu Devasthali, Vice Chair Deborah Romero, Secretary/Treasurer Christopher T. Saucedo, Marisol Olivas, Ricardo Gonzales

<u>Non-Voting Advisory Members</u> - ASNMSU President Ala Alhalholy, Faculty Senate Chair Vimal Chaitanya, Ph.D., Employee Council Chair Donna Johnson

<u>University Officials</u> - President Valerio Ferme, Ph.D., Interim Provost Lakshmi Reddi, Ph.D., General Counsel Lisa Henderson, J.D.

MINUTES

A. Call to Order, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

Chairwoman Devasthali called the special meeting of the NMSU Board of Regents to order at 8:02 AM.

1. Introduction of the Media and Elected Officials, Chief of Staff Justin Bannister

2. Introductions

a) Introduction of Berta Zubiate, University Architect, Chief Facilities Officer Luis Campos

Chief Facilities Officer Luis Campos introduced Ms. Bertha Zubiate as the new University Architect. Mr. Campos highlighted her background in project management, construction coordination, and space planning across public and private sectors. Ms. Zubiate expressed her excitement to join NMSU. Chair Devasthali welcomed Ms. Zubiate to the Aggie family.

3. Confirmation of Quorum, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

Roll call was taken, and the regents present include Ammu Devasthali (Chair), Deborah Romero (Vice Chair), Christopher T. Saucedo (Secretary/Treasurer), Marisol Olivas, and Ricardo Gonzales.

Advisory Members present include Ms. Ala Alhalholy (ASNMSU President), Ms. Sonia White (Employee Council Representative, on behalf of Donna Johnson). Faculty Senate Chair, Dr. Vimal Chaitanya was excused to attend Vice President for Research interviews.

University Officials Present: Dr. Valerio Ferme (President), Ms. Lisa Henderson (General Counsel), and Dr. Lakshmi Reddi (Interim Provost).

4. Approval of the Agenda, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

A motion was made by Regent Gonzales and seconded by Regent Olivas to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Approval of Minutes and Confirmation of Closed Session

1. Special Meeting on April 1, 2025

A motion was made by Regent Gonzales and seconded by Regent Olivas to approve the minutes from the April 1, 2025, special meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Confirmation of Closed Executive Session on April 1, 2025

The Board of Regents held a closed executive session on Tuesday, April 1, 2025, at 2:15 PM. The purpose was to complete an interim performance assessment of the President under his contract, as permitted under the personnel matters exemption of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act (NMSA Section 10-15-1, Subsection H.2). Regents Gonzales, Olivas, Saucedo, Romero, and Devasthali each certified that only matters permitted under this exemption were discussed during the closed session.

C. Regent Committee Reports

1. Financial Strategies, Performance and Budget Committee Report, Regent Deborah Romero

- Regent Romero reported that the committee met on April 22, 2025.
- Several action items were approved and appear on the consent agenda: Disposition/Deletion of Property (D.2) and Capital Improvement Projects (D.3 through D.6).
- The committee reviewed and approved the FY25 Budget Adjustment Request (BAR), which is an action item.
- The committee reviewed the FY26 Operating Budget proposal (due to HED May 1) and approved it contingent upon receiving responses to committee questions.
- The committee reviewed and approved the University's 5-Year Capital Plan, which is also an action item.
- An item regarding a proposed amendment to the Sodexo Master Collaboration Agreement was postponed.
- The Quarterly Financial Report was approved and submitted to HED, under the authority delegated to the Finance Committee Chair by the Board.
- No questions were asked following the report.

D. Consent Items, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

A motion was made by Regent Olivas and seconded by Regent Gonzales to approve the consent agenda items as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

- 1. Acceptance of New Mexico Higher Education Department (HED) Endowment Grants, NMSU Foundation CEO Sylvia Y. Acosta
- 2. Disposition/Deletion of Property, Associate Vice President for Administration & Finance D'Anne Stuart
- 3. PSL SCIF -Budget Revision Request, Chief Facilities Officer Luis Campos
- 4. Corbett Center Dishwasher Replacement, Chief Facilities Officer Luis Campos

- 5. Agrovoltaics Research Project Installations, Chief Facilities Officer Luis Campos
- 6. Martinez Hall, Grants Campus, Classroom and Lab Improvements, Chief Facilities Officer Luis Campos
- 7. Third Amendment to Communication Site Lease Agreement New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLS (AT&T) at Aggie Memorial Stadium, Special Assistant to the President Scott Eschenbrenner
- 8. Regents Tunnels, Pan American Center to Milton Hall Qwest Corporation (f.k.a. US West Communications, Inc.) Communications Easement Renewal, Special Assistant to the President Scott Eschenbrenner
- E. Action Items, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali
 - 1. FY 25 Budget Adjustment Request, Chief Budget Officer Kim Rumford

Chief Budget Officer Kim Rumford presented the FY25 Budget Adjustment Request (BAR). She explained its purpose is to provide spending authority for the remainder of FY25, reflecting developments since the original budget. She described the collaborative process used to develop the BARs, including the use of new Anaplan software, and the methodology involving estimated actuals, contingencies, and fund balance requirements. The BARs are submitted to HED and DFA for approval.

Regent Romero noted the Finance Committee's prior detailed discussion and comfort level with approval, acknowledging future clarifications needed for budget-related items. She confirmed with Dr. Rumford that another BAR is expected in December. Chair Devasthali confirmed that committee questions were circulated and answers were provided.

A motion was made by Regent Romero and seconded by Regent Olivas to approve the FY25 Budget Adjustment Request. The motion passed unanimously.

2. 2025-2026 Original Operating Budget, Chief Budget Officer Kim Rumford

Chief Budget Officer Kim Rumford presented the FY26 Operating Budget. She outlined the collaborative preparation process, the use of sources/uses guidelines, state mandates, revenue estimates, and the review process. Highlights included successful legislative outcomes (4% compensation increase), projected revenue growth (especially NMSU Global), and total university expenditures exceeding \$1 billion for the first time. Federal grant funding is being monitored. Sources/uses summaries for branch campuses were briefly mentioned.

Regent Romero inquired about a negative state appropriation figure for the Grants campus; Dr. Rumford clarified it resulted from a non-recurring appropriation ending while recurring funds increased. Regent Gonzales commented on NMSU Global's impressive growth. Mr. Kinsley added that the finance team is increasing engagement with Global leadership as it matures fiscally. Chair Devasthali questioned a historical reference to a \$2.9M state appropriation for Alumni Relations. Staff (Chris Kinsley, Kim Rumford, and D'Anne Stuart) clarified there is no current direct state appropriation; the figure likely relates to historical internal university budget allocation for the former Advancement unit (prior to the Foundation separation), which was repurposed to cover the Foundation fee. Staff agreed to provide historical details. Regent Romero requested more transparency on such items in future budgets. There was consensus on needing a 'middle ground' level of detail in future budget presentations.

A motion was made by Regent Romero and seconded by Regent Saucedo to approve the 2025-2026 Original Operating Budget. The motion passed unanimously.

3. 5-Year Capital Outlay Funding Request, Chief Facilities Officer Luis Campos, Interim Senior Vice President for Administration & Finance Chris Kinsley

Chief Facilities Officer Luis Campos and Interim SVP Chris Kinsley presented the revised 5-Year Capital Outlay Funding Request. They explained the rationale for redirecting the plan, focusing on supporting student success, addressing the inefficiency and high maintenance costs of the current dispersed footprint (many small, old buildings), the significant deferred maintenance backlog (\$541M+ for instructional space), and aligning facilities with modern academic, student, and faculty needs (tech-rich, flexible, collaborative spaces). The current \$5M BR&R allocation is insufficient (\$9.6M needed to maintain, \$21M+ to reduce backlog).

The proposed plan prioritizes: 1) A large, centralized Academic Building ("Hub") potentially near McAfee Circle; 2) Infrastructure upgrades; 3) Consolidated Ag Science Center funding (\$30M); 4) Branch campus projects; 5) Cole Village demolition. The plan emphasizes a data-driven approach, supporting the academic mission, right-sizing the campus, and potentially repurposing buildings via Aggie Development. Visioning sessions are planned.

Extensive discussion followed. Chair Devasthali raised points about integrating academic program audits, the usability of the Center for the Arts, and the potential hub location. Provost Reddi spoke about the need for a paradigm shift away from departmental space ownership. Regent Gonzales questioned the historical link between square footage and state O&M funding (Mr. Kinsley confirmed no current direct link) and the prioritization of infrastructure vs. the hub. Regent Romero noted state-level requirements for campuses not to increase their net square footage. ASNMSU President Alhalholy inquired about phasing (both hub and renovations proceed) and expressed support for the hub's potential to foster inclusivity. Regent Romero expressed excitement but noted the need for education and collaboration with state agencies (Mr. Campos confirmed meetings are scheduled). Regent Saucedo supported the shift, aligning with private sector trends. Regent Olivas supported the shared hub concept. Chair Devasthali stressed incorporating historical preservation. Chair Devasthali and Regent Gonzales reiterated the importance of addressing infrastructure, particularly the tunnels. Mr. Campos explained they work concurrently; right-sizing enables focused infrastructure investment. Collaboration with Aggie Development was confirmed.

A motion was made by Regent Romero and seconded by Regent Saucedo to approve the 5-Year Capital Outlay Funding Request. The motion passed unanimously.

- F. Informational Items, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali
 - 1. None.

G. Announcements and Comments, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

1. Good News for NMSU!

Chair Devasthali congratulated President Ferme on his recent inauguration and thanked the Inauguration Committee for the successful events.

President Ferme shared that summer enrollment numbers are significantly up compared to the past, indicating strong collaboration across campus units.

ASNMSU President Alhalholy gave a shout-out to the NMSU Women's Rugby team for winning two games, including one against the top-ranked team, during their first-ever appearance at Nationals earlier in the week.

H. **Adjournment**, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

A motion was made by Regent Gonzales and seconded by Regent Olivas to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:16 AM.



Agenda Item # E-3

☐ Action Item	Presented By:	Donna Johnson
☐ Consent Item		Chair
☐ Informational Item		NMSU Employee Council
Agenda Item: Report from the New Mexic	co State Universit	y Employee Council
Requested Action of the Board of Regent	s: None. Informat	tion only.
Executive Summary: This is a quarterly re Council	port provided to t	he Board of Regents from Employee
References:		
See attached report.		
Prior Approvals:		
N/A		



Employee Council

MSC 3FAC
New Mexico State University
P.O. Box 30001
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001
Empcouncil@nmsu.edu

EMPLOYEE COUNCIL REPORT TO THE BOARD OF REGENTS May 8th, 2025

ACTIVITIES FOR MONTHS OF March/April:

Founder's Day was, once again, a huge success.

Speaking on behalf of his father, Charley Johnson, Craig Johnson was proud to name the many accolades regarding his father's long and commendable career.

The Spring 2025 "A" Mountain Staff Awardee is Gabrielle Martinez who is the Associate Registrar from University Student Records.

- Employee Council was represented by Council Chair, Donna Johnson, during the Inauguration Dinner and Ceremony. A big thanks to the Inauguration committee for doing a great job.
- 150 new tables and 600 new chairs have arrived!!!! A huge thank you to the Board of Regents and Administration and Finance for approving the purchase of the new tables and chairs. What a difference they make at our functions. The Moving Department no longer has to beg, borrow and steal (not really) tables and chairs for the many functions on campus. There is also a much smaller chance that someone might get hurt (no tetanus shots) with the new furniture.

For more information, including committee meeting schedules and supporting documentation, please visit https://inside.nmsu.edu/empcouncil/

UPDATE SHARED BY:

Donna Johnson, Employee Council Chair, donjohns@nmsu.edu



Agenda Item # F-1

☐ Action Item	Presented By:	Sylvia Y. Acosta, Ph.D.
☐ Consent Item		CEO
		NMSU Foundation Inc.
Agenda Item: Report from NMSU Foundat	ion Inc.	
Requested Action of the Board of Regents	: None. Informat	tion only.
Executive Summary: This is a quarterly rep Foundation Inc.	ort provided to t	he Board of Regents from NMSU
References:		
See attached report.		
Prior Approvals:		
N/A		



New Mexico State University Foundation Update

Dr. Sylvia Y. Acosta '10 05/08/25The

Founders Day: 1888 Minutes of Giving:

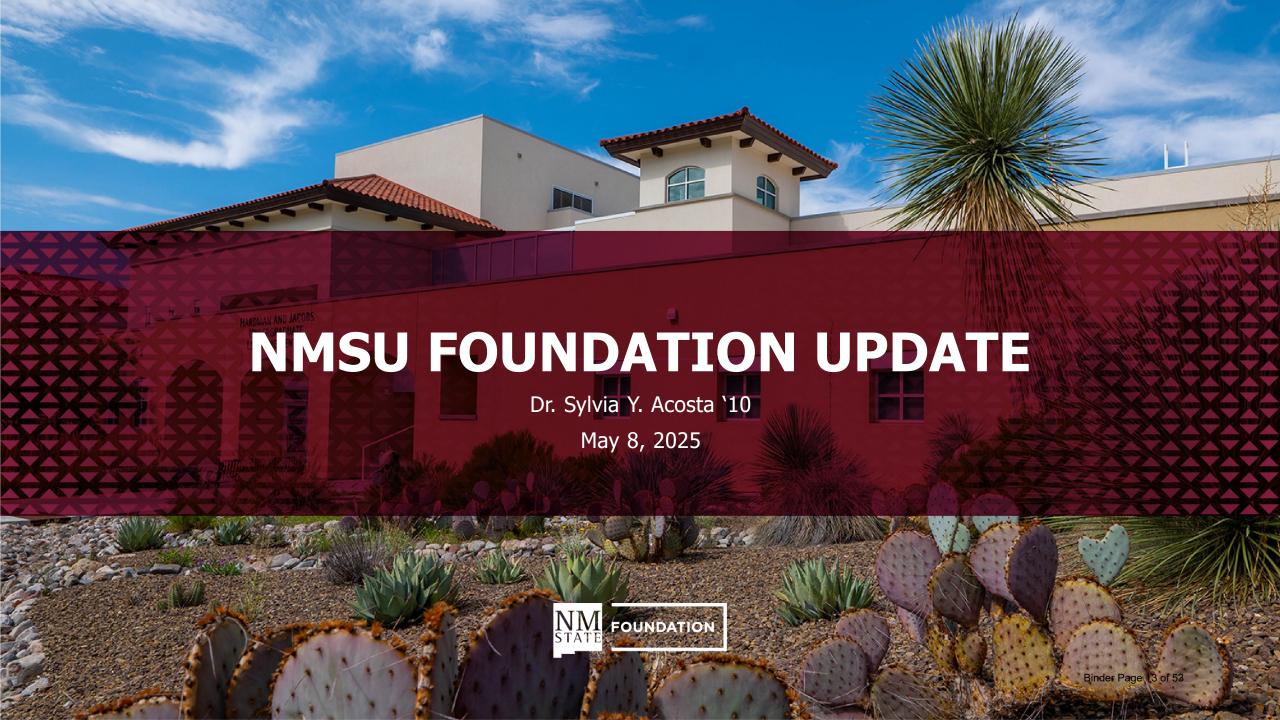
The FY25 Founders Day: 1888 Minutes of Giving campaign was a resounding success, raising an impressive \$385,744 compared to last year's \$219,156! This total doesn't reflect the President's matches for Athletics, Al and Machine Learning, or the '88 Pathway Match totaling over an astounding \$1.2 million! The Foundation is actively working with and meeting donors to maximize those matches. In addition, this year's campaign featured historic opportunities for matching gifts, fundraising challenges, and the celebration of "Aggie Champions." Notably, alumni contributed 67% of all donations, with faculty and staff adding another 27%. This remarkable growth highlights the increasing commitment of alumni, donors, students, faculty, staff, and the community to support the University and make a lasting impact through philanthropy.

Foundation Fundraising Report

The NMSU Foundation has already raised over \$18 million this year, achieving 91% of it's MOU goal. The Endowment Reports sent out in March garnered outstanding commendations and generated an additional gift of \$100,000. As of April 24th, the Foundation has identified 880 new donors through various fundraising campaigns, alumni events, and philanthropy correspondence.

Foundation in Action

The annual Foundation Board of Directors meeting was held in Albuquerque from April 9th to 11th. During the Presidential Inauguration week, the Foundation partnered with the University to host the 1888 Minutes of Giving, bringing Aggies together in celebration and giving. In collaboration with ASNMSU and the Student Initiative Leadership Program, we hosted one of the highest-attended and best-received Senior Walks yet, with graduating seniors, faculty, staff, and community members joining. The Albuquerque Alumni Mixer on April 10th saw over 228 RSVPs and 117 attendees in "Aggiequerque." Looking ahead, the Foundation has several exciting events planned, including the Outstanding Graduate Luncheon/Celebration on May 9th and the Chihuahua Alumni Mixer on May 29th.



Founders Day: 1888 Minutes of Giving

Founders Day: 1888 Minutes of Giving Campaign has raised \$385,744 to date!

As of 5/1/2025

The Foundation Fundraising Report

Fundraising to Date: 91% to MOU Goal at \$18 million!

 Endowment Reports have received amazing commendations, generating an additional gift of \$100,000!

 The Foundation has identified 880 new donors as of April 24, 2025!

The Foundation in Action

- The Foundation held its annual board meeting in Albuquerque April 9 - 11
- The Foundation partnered with the University to host the 1888 Minutes of Giving during the Presidential Inauguration-bringing Aggies together through celebration and giving!
- In Collaboration with ASNMSU and the Student Initiative Leadership program, the University hosted one of the most spirited and well-attended Senior Walks yet!

The Foundation in Action Cont.

 The Foundation held its Albuquerque Alumni Mixer on April 10, 2025 with 228 RSVP's and over 117 attendees in "Aggiequerque"!

- Foundation Calendar of Events:
 - May 9 Outstanding Graduate Celebration
 - May 29 Chihuahua Alumni Mixer



Founders Day: 1888 Minutes of Giving

Bringing the Community Together One Aggie at a Time

















Board of Regents Meeting Meeting Date: May 8, 2025 Agenda Item Cover Page

☐ Action Item ☐ Consent Item	Presented By:	Dana Catron Interim Director and CEO
☐ Informational Item		Arrowhead Center Inc.
Agenda Item: Report from Arrowhead Cent	ter Inc.	
Requested Action of the Board of Regents:	None. Informat	ion only.
Executive Summary: This is a quarterly report Arrowhead Center Inc.	ort provided to th	ne Board of Regents from the
References: See attached report.		
Prior Approvals: N/A		

Arrowhead Center, Inc. Report to the NMSU Board of Regents May 8, 2025

1.0 Introduction

This report, presented to the NMSU Board of Regents, contains information on the state of corporation (finances and performance); Arrowhead Park; and intellectual property (IP) protection and commercialization.

2.0 State of the Corporation

Arrowhead Center, Inc. (ACI) held its first board meeting of 2025 on March 20, focusing on organizational priorities, fiscal outlook and structural governance improvements.

Leadership & Strategic Alignment:

The board was briefed on upcoming searches for the Vice President for Research (VPR) and the Arrowhead Director positions. A coordinated timeline is being developed to ensure the new VPR participates in the Arrowhead Director hiring process. Interim Director Dana Catron continues to lead Arrowhead during this transition period.

ACI Board Restructure Proposal:

A proposal was introduced to restructure the ACI Board to enhance effectiveness and strategic input. The recommended changes include reducing internal NMSU representation – particularly among college deans – by appointing a single Deans' Representative and expanding board membership to include external stakeholders with relevant industry, investment or policy experience. This shift is designed to increase the board's engagement, bring in new networks and expertise, and better position ACI for private investment, research park growth and state/national competitiveness.

Arrowhead Innovation Fund (AIF) Sustainability:

The board discussed the future of the Arrowhead Innovation Fund, a \$2 million micro-capital fund launched in 2017. With 97% of capital deployed and management fees no longer being collected, Arrowhead Center Inc. (as General Partner) has assumed responsibility for the fund's annual operational costs (approx. \$80,000). The board explored sustainability strategies, including identifying external entities that could absorb AIF's portfolio management and costs. While the fund has not yet produced major exits, portfolio companies such as Parting Stone show promise.

FY 2024 Arrowhead Center, Inc. (ACI) Corporate Financial Report

FY2024 total revenue was \$1,106,040 (114% of the \$966,733 budget). Sources of revenue

included land and office rent, contracts and license fees and royalties. Total expenses for FY 2024 were \$1,234,198 (87% of the \$1,424,604 budget) due to lower than anticipated expenses for Arrowhead Park. Expense categories included contracts, personnel, professional services and maintenance. For FY2024, the change in net position resulted in a loss of \$128,158 (28% of the \$457,871 projected loss) with a fund balance of \$1,781,690. The organization's financial management has successfully limited expenses and outperformed revenue expectations, leading to a smaller net loss than anticipated.

A detailed FY 2024 financial report was presented to both the Audit Committee and the full Board of Directors on 9/26/2024.

ACI's FY 2024 audit is complete, Moss Adams reported an unqualified opinion (no findings).

2.0 Arrowhead Park

Significant progress continues in Arrowhead Park's development.

Soundstage:

The Soundstage Project has selected HB Construction, with offices in Albuquerque and Las Cruces, as the lead firm for the design/build team through the RFP process. HB was chosen based on their familiarity with the project and a competitive cost proposal. Contract negotiations are expected to begin in early May, with completion targeted by mid- to late May. NMSU General Counsel Scott Field has been provided the standard AIA contract for pre-review. The CEO's signature will be required upon contract finalization. The project remains on track for groundbreaking in early Fall 2025 and completion by mid-Summer 2026. The \$15 million in state funding is currently held in an NMSU account and continues to earn interest, which will be added to the project budget.

Office Building:

Medvest, the selected developer, has submitted a proposal to incorporate infrastructure costs – approximately \$1.5 million – into the terms of the building lease rather than requiring a separate build/lease agreement. Under this structure, the lease rate will increase from \$49 to \$52 per square foot, resulting in an additional \$33,000 annually for the 11,000 square feet Arrowhead will occupy. The proposal allows for flexibility, with the option to refinance or pay off the infrastructure portion at any time. This approach is considered both financially viable and strategically advantageous. Final review with Arrowhead's financial advisors is underway, with the goal of approving the lease terms by early June to allow construction to begin.

Landscaping projects are nearing completion, with a total package price of \$282,856 – significantly reduced from the original estimate of \$530,000. These projects span Tortugas Park, Arrowhead Drive medians and key intersections near Film Street and Triviz Drive.

Arrowhead Park's FY25 budget reflects new revenue sources, including \$84,000 in project administration fees and \$235,892 in projected rent revenue from the Soundstage between FY27–FY30. Cost savings from landscape negotiations (~\$200,000) and finalized grant transfers

(\$101,000 from EDA and \$44,372 from NMDOT) have further stabilized the financial outlook.

However, continued infrastructure development will require approximately \$3.6 million in FY26 and an additional \$3.7 million in FY27. Arrowhead Center is actively pursuing legislative support through NMEDD's Site Readiness initiative and exploring internal financing strategies with NMSU.

2.0 Intellectual Property Protection and Commercialization

Commercialization activity at NMSU continues to grow, driven by a steady increase in disclosures, patent filings and licensing activity. In 2024, 14 inventions were disclosed, accompanied by the filing of seven provisional patent applications, six utility patent applications and two international filings. Seven patents were issued this year, bringing the number of active patents to 48, with 24 more pending.

A notable success this year was the exclusive licensing of three drought-resilient alfalfa cultivars – NuMex 501, 801, and 802 – to Mountain View Seeds Ltd., a cooperative serving 500+ agricultural producers worldwide. This agreement marks the culmination of over two decades of collaborative research at NMSU involving molecular breeding, trait phenotyping and marker-assisted selection. The varieties, branded under "Climate Ready Alfalfa," have been approved by the NM Agricultural Experiment Station and are certification documents have been filed with the Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies (AOSCA). This partnership demonstrates the potential for long-term research investments to yield high-impact, marketable innovations that benefit both the university and agricultural producers.

Other active commercialization efforts include:

- Dr. Gloria Zhang's EcoCFTrack, a diagnostic platform for cystic fibrosis is under contract.
- Path to Plate, an online B2B marketplace for connecting agricultural producers with institutional buyers, which holds a pending patent and is pursuing a development license.
- Continued licensing negotiations for Agricultural Contaminant, an emerging technology with environmental applications.
- Ongoing progress from startups such as Filtravate, Inc., Medlock Agriculture Inc., and Haptech Zown Communication, LLC, which are advancing patented technologies across sectors.

Despite strong momentum, Arrowhead's IP Office continues to operate under significant resource constraints. The FY25 projected budget is \$447,642 – an 87% increase over the current allocation – to adequately cover legal expenses and critical staffing needs. Current funding only supports 72% of the IP Director's salary, while the IP Project Manager remains entirely unfunded and is currently covered through Arrowhead's operating budget. Additionally, growing activity levels evidenced by increased filings and licensing negotiations – have pushed legal costs beyond sustainable limits.

Arrowhead Center will move forward with a formal request to NMSU leadership for expanded

economy.		





Board of Regents Meeting Meeting Date: May 8, 2025 Agenda Item Cover Page

☐ Action Item	Presented By:	Scott Eschenbrenner
☐ Consent Item		President
		Aggie Development Inc.
Agenda Item: Report from Aggie Develop	ment Inc.	
Requested Action of the Board of Regent	s: None. Informat	ion only.
Executive Summary: This is a quarterly repevelopment Inc.	port provided to t	he Board of Regents from Aggie
References:		
See attached report.		
Prior Approvals:		
N/A		

AGGIE DEVELOPMENT RECURRING REPORT BOARD OF REGENTS May 8, 2025

Aggie Uptown – Development Progress

- ADI Board has not met since February 26 where they finalized a new ground lease next to the Maverik Convenience store for a proposed Blake's Lotaburger restaurant. Blake's is reviewing ground lease documents and we expect to bring this agreement to the Regents for their consideration at their next meeting.
- Aggie Development has also received a letter of intent for the southeast corner of Telshor and University Avenue. The party is interested in building a branch bank facility at this location. We expect to take this LOI to the next ADI Board meeting for their consideration later in May.
- Studio D Architecture has prepared a first draft of a conceptual site plan for this area in order to maximize the use of this land in a way that will provide a functional layout for the larger land parcel. We are waiting for a survey that will help us to better understand the underground utilities' locations so we can design around those. We will engage our community partners and ADI Board members for input on the design layout.

Aggie Development – Board of Directors Updates

 At our next ADI Board meeting in May we will discuss changes to our officer positions with the transition of Interim President Monica Torres and Regent Member Chacon-Reitzel. President Ferme will replace Monica Torres as the Chair of the ADI Board. Based on the outcomes from the Board of Regents'

March 10th meeting, Regent Romero will join the ADI Board and the

Regents Real Estate Committee.

We are also excited to announce that Jake Redfern of NAI First Valley Realty
will be filling our last vacant community board member position. Jake is an
NMSU alumnus, after graduating with a BA in Government. Jake is a
Principal and Broker in NAI First Valley Realty with specialties in retail
leasing and brokerage, investment sales, property evaluation, and site
selection.

Thank you and I will stand for any questions.



Board of Regents Meeting Meeting Date: May 8, 2025 Agenda Item Cover Page

☐ Action Item	Presented By:
⊠ Consent Item	Scott Eschenbrenner
☐ Informational Item	Special Assistant to the President
Agenda Item:	
Mora-San Miguel Electric Cooperative Right-of- Forestry Research Center, Mora, NM	-Way (ROW) Easement – John T. Harrington
Requested Action of the Board of Regents:	
Approval of this new Electric Right of Way (ROV	W) Easement
Executive Summary:	
There is a request from Mora-San Miguel Electron easement at the John T. Harrington Forestry Represent is for a service line extension to a new experiment station. This will be a perpetual easement has not been used. NMSU Real Eleasement by the Board of Regents.	esearch Center, Mora, NM. This easement manufactured housing unit at the agricultural sement that can be terminated at any time, if
References:	
MORA Right of Way Easement + Ma	
Prior Approvals:	
None	
Agenda Item Approved By:	
Calent ferme	05/02/2025
Valerio Ferme	Date

Mora-San Miguel Electric Cooperative, Inc.

RIGHT-OF-WAY EASEMENT

MSMEC WORK ORDER NUMBER	

KNOWN ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that we, the undersigned (whether one or more)

Through the branch of the bran
(unmarried) (husband and wife) ("Grantor") for a good valuable consideration, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do herby grant unto MORA-SAN MIGUEL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., a cooperative corporation, P.O. Box 240 in Mora, New Mexico, and to its successors or assigns, the right to enter upon the lands of the undersigned, situated in the County of
A tract of land located approximately miles in the Town of (town name), New Mexico. Land is located along 3021 High way 518 (road creek, valley). Tract is bounded on the north by lands of, on the east by lands of, on the south by lands of, and to the west by lands of Tract consists of acres, more or less.
The width for the electric distribution line easement to be twenty (20) feet.
Property described in Deed Book 202300048, at page 1/2 filed 1.20.2023 (date).

The Grantor Covenants and Agrees for himself/herself, his/her heirs and assigns not to erect any buildings or structure under Electric Lines and license, permit or otherwise agree to joint use of occupancy of the Electric Lines or system by any other person, association or corporation, and the Grantee its successors and assigns, shall have the right to remove at Grantor's expense, objects interfering with the construction, maintenance, operation, control and use of said Lines.

Grantee shall have the right to construct, operate and maintain on the above-described lands and or in upon all streets, roads, or highways abutting said lands, a distribution line or system, and to cut and trim all trees and shrubbery, and from time to time all dead, weak, leaning or dangerous frees or limbs that are tall enough to strike the wires in falling, within the easement right-of-way, in accordance with all applicable provisions of the most current and accepted criteria of the National Electric Safety Code (NESC) and all applicable and current electrical and safety requirements of the State of New Mexico or the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission. Trees and shrubbery fronting each side of the easement right-of-way shall be trimmed in accordance with the aforementioned standards. Low growing shrubs and trees which do not interfere with the operation and maintenance of the line will be left undisturbed unless written direction to remove is received by the Grantee from the Grantor. The Grantor's written permission shall be received by the Grantee prior to cutting, trimming, topping, and/or removing trees outside of the easement right-of-way unless Grantee, through the use of ordinary care, determines that the trees beyond the easement right-of-way are Dead, or Leaning towards the distribution line or system, and would strike the line in falling; except that shade, fruit, or ornamental trees shall be trimmed and not removed, unless written direction to remove is received by the Grantee from the Grantor. Ordinary care is determined on what the Grantee's experience has shown to be necessary.

Mora-San Miguel Electric Cooperative, Inc.

RIGHT-OF-WAY EASEMENT

Grantor shall not be liable to Grantee's employees, agents, or invitees for an injury to person or damage to property on or about the easement premises caused by any act or omission of Grantee, its agents, or employees. Grantee agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Grantor of and from any loss, attorney's fees, expenses or claims arising out of any such damage or injury.

The undersigned covenant that they are the owners of the above-described lands and that the said lands are free and clear of encumbrances and liens of whatever character except those held by the following persons:

	For County Clerk Use Only
IN WITNESS HEREOF, the undersigned have set their hand and seal this day of 2025. Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of:	
	F WARRANTY DEED REQUIRED
COFT O	T WARRANT I DEED REQUIRED
Print Name	Signature
Print Name	Signature
State of New Mexico	
County of	
On thisday of	, 2021, before me personally appeared
	in and who executed the foregoing instrument and deed.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereu certificate first written above.	anto set my hand and affixed my official seal, the day and year in this
My commission expires:	
	Notary Public

NMLTCO File: 65200

RECORDED ELECTRONICALLY
10202300048
County Nota
Date 1-20-2023 Time 8:4 AN

WARRANTY DEED

Mora Tree Farm, LLC a New Mexico limited liability company, for consideration paid grant to The Regents of New Mexico State University whose address is MSC- 30RE PO Box 30001, Las Cruces, NM 87109 the following described real estate in Mora County, New Mexico:

A tract of land containing 122.50 acres, more or less, located within Section 9, Township 20 North, Range 15 East, N.M.P.M., Mora County, New Mexico, as shown on Boundary Survey prepared by Meadowlands Surveying, LLC, dated June 2, 2022, and filed for record on September 29, 2022, as Instrument No. 202200816, together with any appurtenant water rights with special warranty covenants.

SUBJECT TO: Restrictions, Reservations and Easements of record.

with warranty covenants.

Witness this 19 day of much 1, 2023.

Mora Tree Farm , LLC a New Mexico limited liability company

By Michael J. Meadows its Manager

By Josephine Meadows its Manager

ACKNOWLEDGMENT FOR NATURAL PERSONS

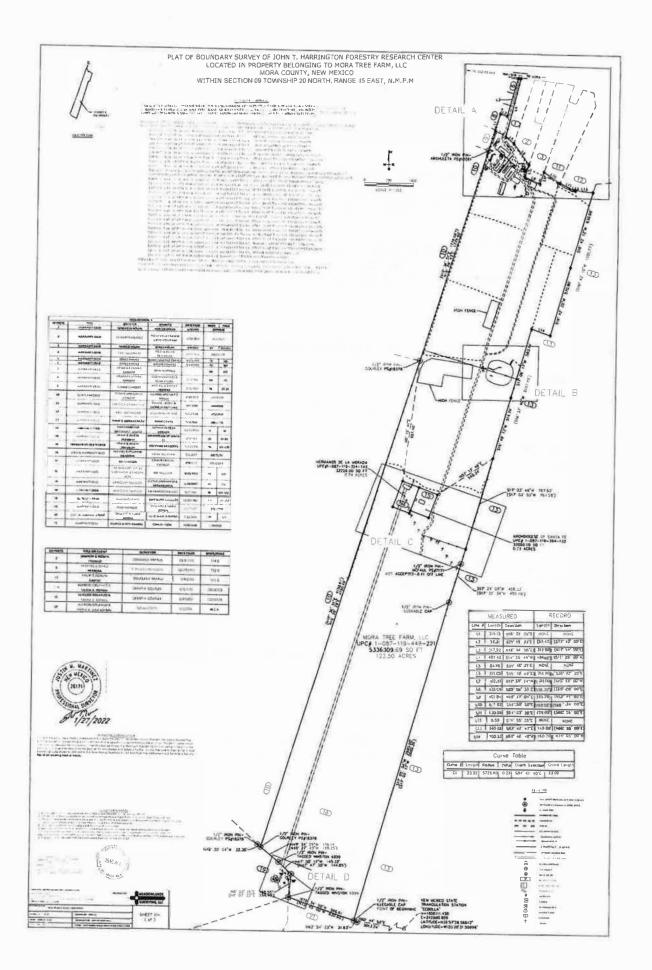
COUNTY OF Bernalillo

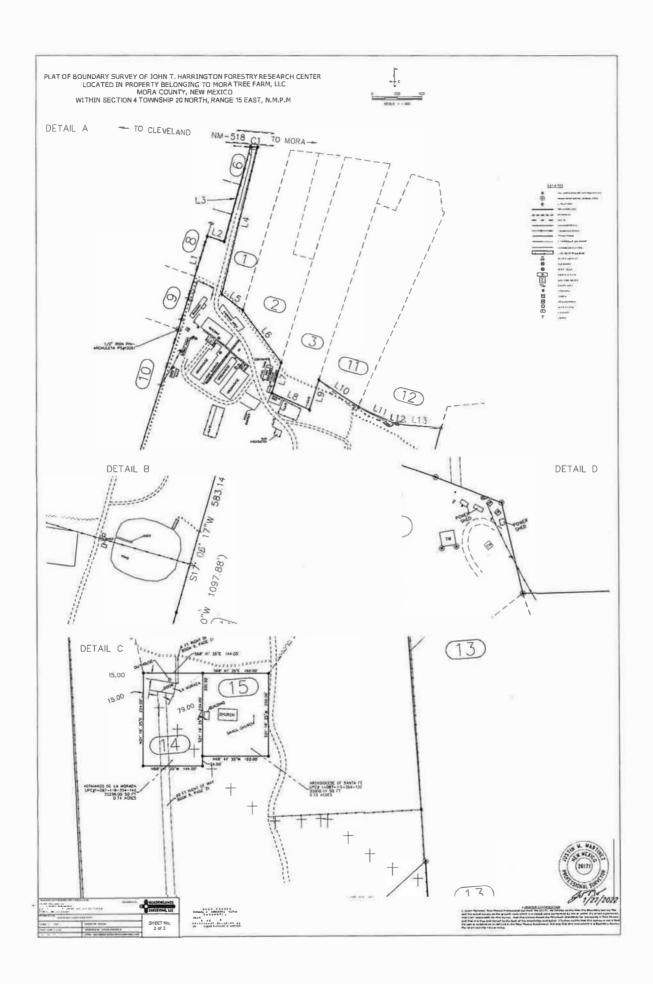
This instrument was acknowledged before me on <u>Mulary 19, 2023</u>, by Michael J. Meadows and Josephine Meadows, Managers of Mora Tree Falm, LLC a New Mexico limited liability company.

Commission Expires:

Notary Public

STATE OF NEW MEXICO NOTARY PUBLIC Andréa Blann Commission No. 1132979 March 26, 2025





MORA-SAN MIGUEL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC

P.O. BOX 240 MORA, NEW MEXICO 87732-0240



By signing below I have read and understand the requirements set forth are my responsibility to follow as the consumer requesting electric services.

Jose Loera	5-1-25	
Consumer Signature	Date	

The first four items are required prior to scheduling any construction.

- 1. Cost estimate must be paid. All payments or fees on cost estimates charged are consistent with Line Extension Policy or the rule on Special Fees and Charges. (Cost estimates are based on one (1) trip to job site, if additional trips are made costs will be included on final bill after completion of work order.)
- 2. Signed and notarized easement(s) by the legal owner(s) of any property from which the line to be constructed takes off, crosses, or where it terminates. All right of way easements are to be acquired by consumer requesting extension. The Cooperative will not accept any incomplete right of way easements. All right of way easements must be filled out completely by the property owner, including legal description & deed book information. (This can be acquired from the property owner's deed, tax assessment, or from the County Clerk's office.) No copies will be accepted only originals can be submitted.
- 3. Letter of Compliance required from Mora County for proposed work within Mora County. Letter of Compliance required from San Miguel County for proposed work within San Miguel County. Letter of Authorization from Santa Fe County for proposed work within Santa Fe County. (Obtain from County's Planning & Zoning Department)
- 4. Permit from a licensed electrician, all permits will require approval from the State Electrical Inspector. It is the responsibility of the Electrician to call the State Electrical Inspector for an inspection. Upon an approved inspection, the State Electrical Inspector will then release the permit for a hook-up by MSMEC.
- 5. Arrangements and co-ordination of trenching and delivery of wire must be made with Operations Manager or District Manager *Prior* to scheduling of work. No trenching should take place until all four above requirements have been met. Contractor and/or consumer assume liability on any trenching done and left open prior to above requirements being met.
- 6. Consumer is responsible for digging trench and back fill if underground construction. Line will not be energized until trench is back-filled.

- 7. Cooperative line department personnel will perform all construction of work up to metering point. All material, including conductor, up to metering point shall be furnished by MSMEC. Exception to rule, are commercial applications where MCM wire is required. Electrician shall consult with Cooperative on such applications. Electrician shall supply MCM secondary wires from transformer to main disconnect. Co-op personnel shall make terminations at transformer and electrician shall make terminations at main disconnect. *** No wire will be released by MSMEC to any individual or contractor. *** MSMEC does not engage in any sale of materials. Electrician shall not do any work on Cooperative owned poles.
 - 8. If a New Mexico Highway Crossing and Archeological Permit are needed, the application for the permits will not be submitted until fees are paid on the cost estimate. State permits take 8 to 10 weeks for approval (by state).

Requirements for Overhead Facilities

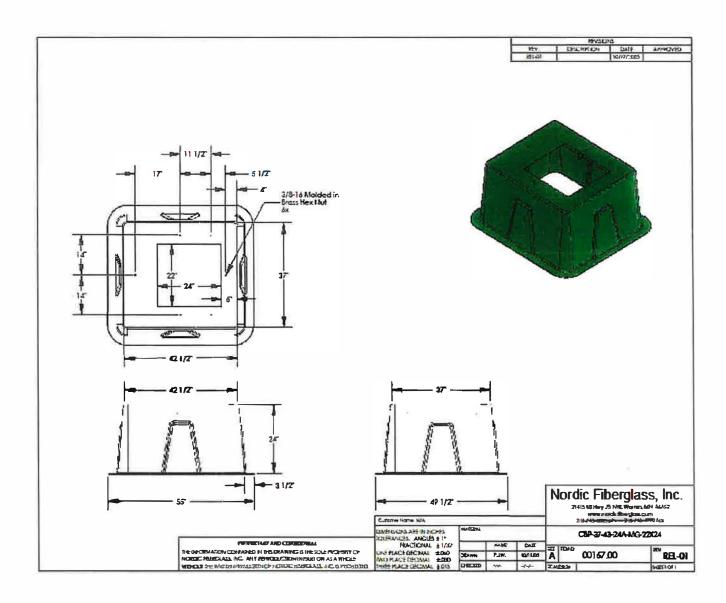
- 1. Meter loop should be placed no less than 10' from the transformer pole or from the service pole.
- 2. Meter loop poles shall be treated poles installed a minimum of 18' above ground and embedded a minimum of 5'.
- 3. Service entrance risers on buildings shall be a minimum of 12'.
- 4. Construction of buildings, placement of modular homes or mobile homes directly under overhead power lines is prohibited.

Requirements for Underground Facilities

- 1. Trenches for primary cable should be no less than 48" in depth and there is no required width. *If consumer wishes to install conduit*, 36" of cover (39" deep from bottom of PVC) in depth and there is no required width. Warning tape shall be placed 12" above utility and can be picked up at the Cooperative office.
- 2. Trenches for secondary cable from transformer to pedestal should be no less than 36" in depth and there is no required width. *If consumer wishes to install conduit,* 24" of cover (27" deep from bottom of PVC) in depth and there is no required width.

- Warning tape shall be placed 12" above utility and can be picked up at the Cooperative office.
- 3. Where depth of less than 24" from finish grade is not obtained due to solid rock, the primary or secondary cable maybe encased in schedule 40 PVC and in addition embedded in 3" of concrete all around.
- 4. Trench bottom shall be smooth, flat, without rock, or irregularities.
- 5. If trench bottom irregularities cannot be corrected, then a 4" bedding of sand or rock-free dirt may be used below cable and 6" layer of same material above cable.
- 6. For all URD primary & secondary line extensions **where consumer wishes to use conduit,** 2.5" schedule 40 PVC with 3' radius 90 degree sweeps and schedule 80 elbows are required.
- 7. Consumer shall insure that all conduit installed is glued properly.
- 8. Consumer shall insure all runs of PVC have a pull line installed and tied off at both ends of the runs of conduit.
- 9. Consumer shall insure that all conduit is bedded and backfilled correctly. No rock back fills.
- 10. Consumer shall insure that transformer pads are installed correctly according to specification drawings.
- 11. Water lines will maintain a horizontal or vertical 12" separation from primary or secondary cable.
- 12. Communication lines will maintain a horizontal or vertical 12" separation from primary or secondary cable.
- 13. Pedestal should be placed no less than 10' from the transformer pole or from the service pole.
- 14. Construction of buildings, placement of modular homes, or mobile homes directly over buried underground power lines is prohibited.
- 15. MSMEC will maintain, or replace any buried cable which fails, and that was provided and installed by the Cooperative.

- 16. MSMEC requires a notice of 48 hours for cable locates.
- 17. MSMEC does not engage in locating private buried cable, or in the locating of faults beyond the metering point.
- 18. CALL BEFORE DIGGING.



MORA-SAN MIGUEL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Phone: 1-800-421-6773 / 575-383-4285 Fax: 575-387-5975

COST ESTIMATE FOR ELECTRIC SERVICE

							OPTION #2		
Date:	04/03/25				Wor	k Order No.:	25-03-046		
	(PRINT)	_							
Custom	ner Name:	NEW	V MEXICO STATE U	NIVERSITY					
Address	s:	PO E	BOX 359			Cell:	505-429-017	2	
		MOR	RA, NM 87732			Telephone:			
Service	Location:	LAC	CORDELLIA			Fax:			
					Nei	ghbor:			
Type of	Service Require	ed:							
	Residential			Residential	Well				
	Seasonal Resid	dential	l Home	Stock Well					
	Business		_	Other (Desc	ribe)	EXIST	NG MOBILE H	OME	3
	Mobile Home								
Perman	ent:		_	abelgarcia@h	omes	ootonline.com			
	easured By:		L.B						
•	Footage: Over	head					d 200' 4/0 TP 8	L UM	5
Terrain	Description:			ONSUMER IS RES					
			(Trench r	nust be covered be	efore	electrical line i	s energized.)		
							_		
	Extension:) Overhead		X	J	l		
Phase:		X	Single Phase		•) Three-Phase			
Easeme	ents:	2	Number Required		•) Number On H			
		() NM Highway X-ing		() Letter Of Cor	•		
		()) State Land Permit		2		rmit(s) Require		
	ed Construction				2		d Home Permi	t(s)	
	bution in Aid of	Const		\$ 1,564.56	-2	Contribution		124	
Membe	•		200.1	\$ -		` '	nsformer	\$	
Deposi			235	\$ -		` '	nsformer	\$	•
	ction Fee:		451	\$ 60.00	_	2 Meter		\$	781.14
****Tota	I Amount in Adv	ances	****	\$ 1,624.56	=		DO NOT PAY	\$	781.14
			ne extension, the Uti						
			s of the estimate pai	•	-				
arrange	ments to pay the	e balaı	nce due within thirty	/ (30) days of recei	pt of	the final billing	3.		
		0	,			_	5 4 0 5		
	er Signature:	10	rse Loera		_	Date:	5-1-25		
Approve	ed By:				_	Date:			
			(Cooperative Rep	resentative)					
		iges w	vill not be made unti	il the customer sigi	ns for	them and it is	approved.		
Changes	s: (Describe)								
					_			ė.	
	er Approval:					Date:			
Approve	ed By:				_	Date:			
			(Cooperative Rep	resentative)					

Any necessary easements are to be provided by the customer before any work is done. (This estimate is valid only for a six (6) month's period).



Board of Regents Meeting Meeting Date: May 8, 2025 Agenda Item Cover Page

Agenda Item #: H-1

🛮 Action Item	Presented By:	Lakshmi Reddi
Consent Item		Interim Provost and Chief Academic Officer
☐ Informational Item		

Agenda Item: Spring 2025 Degree and Certificate Conferral

Requested Action of the Board of Regents: Approval of motion to confer Spring 2025 degrees and certificates.

Executive Summary: Requesting approval of the Regents of New Mexico State University to confer degrees and certificates to named candidates listed in the Spring 2025 Commencement Programs of the institution's four campuses. Conferral is contingent upon the students' satisfactory completion of the courses in which they are enrolled and meeting the requirements of the appropriate catalog. It is further contingent upon the assumption that the content of the thesis submitted by each student required to do so is original unless otherwise represented in the document.

The journey of a student through New Mexico State University is filled with caring faculty and staff working at the front of classrooms or behind the scenes.

College/Campus	Degree Applicants
Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences	147
Arts and Sciences	568
Business	180
Engineering	247
Health, Education and Social Transformation	312
Masters	486
Specialist in Education	5
Doctoral	57
Total Degree Applicants	2,002

Campus	Degree Applicants
Alamogordo	56
Dona Ana	613
Grants	35
Total Degree Applicants	704



Board of Regents Meeting Meeting Date: May 8, 2025 Agenda Item Cover Page

Agenda Item # J

☐ Action Item	Presented By:	Jeff Witte		
☐ Consent Item		Cabinet Secretary & Director New Mexico Department of		
☐ Informational Item		Agriculture		
Agenda Item: Report from the New Mexico Mexico State University (Board of Agricultur	•	Agriculture to the Regents of New		
Requested Action of the Board of Regents:	None. Informat	ion only.		
Executive Summary: This is a quarterly repo Mexico Department of Agriculture	ort provided to th	ne Board of Regents from the New		
References: See attached report.				
Prior Approvals: N/A				

Board of Regents Report

Included in this report is a summary of the impacts from the 2025 NM legislative session. NMDA received a number of one time appropriations to manage on behalf of our stakeholders as well as an additional reoccurring appropriation to support staff compensation equity and increased benefits.

This past week, I took the state 4H and FFA leadership teams to Washington, DC. This annual trip provides them with an opportunity to meet with our delegation, industry and government leaders and much more. Highlights included a visit to the NASA Agriculture team, the house and senate agriculture committee staff, house space, science and technology staff, US Dairy Export Council, National Cattlemen's Beef Association, Crop Life America, National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, National Farm Credit Council, National Association of Farmers Cooperatives, NM Governor's Office DC team, JBS Inc and other NM staff members who work throughout the DC area.



2025 Legislative Session Summary

Salary increase of 4%.

NMDA's operating budget for FY26 is roughly **\$38.5 million** (**\$38,498,400**), with \$18 million from the General Fund (\$18,423,165), \$7.2 million (\$7,255,000) in other state funds, and \$13.2 million (\$13,200,000) in federal funds.

For general funds, the percentage increase is approximately 5.68% (\$989,965) and is made up of the following –

\$1	7,433,200.00	FY25 GF
\$	610,200.00	FY26 GF Increase
\$	349,771.00	COMP plus 30% benefits
\$	29,994.00	Insurance allocation
\$18,423,165.00		

The other state funds appropriation to NMDA includes nearly \$3.4 million (\$3,390,900) from the Land of Enchantment legacy fund. NMDA will administer this funding to support its conservation programs under the Soil and Water Conservation District Act, the Noxious Weed Management Act, and the Healthy Soil Act.

\$300,000 to replace a large-capacity scale truck that was damaged by a drunk driver while awaiting repair.

\$9 million to NMDA for soil and water conservation districts in FY26 through FY28. This appropriation will increase the base operational funding distributed to the soil and water conservation districts by NMDA for three years, per the direction of the New Mexico Soil and Water Conservation Commission.

\$3 million to assist meat processors in adapting to new meat processing technologies for the proper disposal of meat processing by-products. Any unexpended balances remaining at the end of the fiscal year 2026 from this appropriation shall not revert and may be expended through the fiscal year 2029.

The Acequia and Community Ditch Fund (ACDF) received \$1.2 million for FY26. NMDA distributes the funding to applicants per the determinations of the ACDF committee.

\$430,000 to NMDA for the approved supplier program (ASP to provide a framework that supports institutional buyers (preschools, schools, senior centers, food banks, etc.) and local farmers and ranchers.

HB2 also provides \$300,000 for the Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department to contract with NMDA in coordination with the Department of Cultural Affairs to develop a statewide archaeology field school education and training program for the fiscal year 2026. NMDA will partner with DCA to create the contracts and partnerships necessary to establish the archaeology field school program in FY26.

\$300,000 for agricultural youth leadership programs statewide. NMDA will distribute to FFA programs according to sponsor designation.

\$100,000 to NMDA to assist state animal health officials in eradicating the bovine reproductive disease trichomoniasis (Trich) for expenditure in fiscal years 2026 and 2027. The New Mexico Livestock Board and NMSU are collaborating to eradicate Trich. This money will be transferred to NMSU ACES.

Other legislation of interest:

SB 8, the veterinarian medical loan repayment program, passed and was funded at \$1.55 million. The program will repay up to \$80,000 in vet school loans for a vet who commits to serving 4 years in an underserved part of NM and has a food animal component as part of their veterinarian practice.

HB 431 establishes a staged term system of two and four years for the initial appointment of Watershed directors, after which all appointments would last four years. If a watershed district spans multiple SWCDs, HB 431 provides that each minority jurisdiction SWCD shall be entitled to appoint three additional directors.

HB 450, the Capital Outlay Bill -- \$2.4 million (\$2,388,150) for soil and water conservation districts across the state.

- \$369,000 to plan, design, and construct an agricultural administration center for the Guadalupe soil and water conservation district in Guadalupe County;
- \$250,000 to plan, design, develop, and construct phase 2 of a regional hydrogeological study and operational groundwater model for evaluating groundwater resources of the northern Tularosa basin, including weather stations, monitoring devices, and wells, for the Carrizozo soil and water conservation district in Lincoln County;
- \$40,000 to plan, design, and construct a deck for the Upper Hondo soil and water conservation district office building in Lincoln County;
- \$100,000 to purchase and equip a transportation vehicle for the McKinley soil and water conservation district service area in McKinley County;
- \$50,000 to purchase land for and to plan, design, construct, and equip a facility for the southwestern Quay soil and water conservation district in Quay County;
- \$75,000 to purchase tolls and equipment for the east Rio Arriba soil and water conservation district in Rio Arriba County;
- \$75,000 to purchase tolls and equipment for the east Rio Arriba soil and water conservation district in Rio Arriba County;
- \$550,000 to plan, design, construct, and renovate reservoirs in the Coronado soil and water conservation district in Sandoval County;
- \$100,000 to purchase and equip trucks, including snow blades, for the Claunch-Pinto soil and water conservation district in Torrance County;

- \$50,000 to plan, design, and construct improvements to the access road to the Valencia soil and water conservation district facilities in Valencia County;
- \$729,150 to plan, design, and construct phase 2 improvements to an administrative building for the Valencia soil and water conservation district in Valencia County;
- MEWA Dried Fruit and Nut Convention/Tradeshow- Mumbai, India NMDA organized a NM booth, hosting 3 NM pecan companies to promote NM pecans in partnership with the American Pecan Council (APC). MEWA is the largest gathering of Dried Fruit and Nut importers, distributors, culinary, manufactures, retailers, in India. The pavilion included live creative culinary demonstrations featuring NM pecans. In addition to the tradeshow, NMDA conducted menu and social media promotions with celebrity Gauri Khan. Gauri Khan is a high list Indian actress, interior designer, and restaurant owner. NMDA partnered with Gauri Khan to develop recipes featuring pecans that will be introduced in her own restaurant menus. This event was highlighted by India media through multiple platforms.





• 2025 Gulfood Tradeshow

NMDA participated in the Gulfood Tradeshow in Dubai, UAE as project manager of the WUSATA pavilion and collect trade leads for NM agribusinesses. The WUSATA pavilion is positioned within the USA (USDA Foreign Agricultural Service- FAS) pavilion of the tradeshow, hosting 20 Western US companies. Products ranged from pecans, pistachios, walnuts, and almonds, to dried and prepared fruits and vegetables. Staff also participated in the FAS round table for information and updates regarding trade policy changes, federal funding, and new/future international marketing opportunities. NMDA staff also participated in a USDA food event at the International Centre for Culinary Arts. The event featured chef demonstrations featuring US origin food and agricultural products.





Houston Livestock Show, International Post
 Staff organized a NMDA booth at the International Post, hosted by the Houston Stock Show. The
 International Post attracted hundreds of international cattle buyers from all over the world. Staff
 networked and gathered trade leads to dissemination to NM seed stock producers.

USLGE Spring Inbound Mission

Staff hosted 5 Mexico cattle producers during a trade mission to the Santa Gertrudis Rocky Mountain Association Spring Runoff Bull Sale and the Red Doc Bull Sale. This trade mission was a marked success, reporting a total of 17 bulls, 3 heifers, and 50 units of semen were purchased for export with a value of over \$110,000.00.





Domestic Marketing:

Matriarch of New Mexico Marketing Campaign

Beginning next month, 2025 marks the inaugural year of NMDA's "Matriarch of New Mexico Agriculture" campaign. Nominations for honorees will be sought, and the "matriarchs" selected will be honored at the New Mexico State Fair in September. Honorees will also be featured on TV and on other digital platforms beginning in January in alignment with the United Nation's Year of the Woman Farmer initiative aimed at recognizing the critical role that women play in global food production.

Natural Products Expo West Tradeshow

Five (5) New Mexico food companies exhibited in the NMDA pavilion, as part of the Natural Products Expo West Trade Show in Anaheim, CA. Natural Products Expo West is considered one of the largest organic and natural products showcases worldwide. Staff supported New Mexico exhibitors, and their efforts to market and promote their perspective products national and international buyers. Highlighted products within our pavilion included chile pepper products (salsa, sauces, purees and dry baked goods) and value-added pecans and oils.





• 2025 Cowboy Days

NMDA participated as a vendor at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum's 2025 Cowboy Days event. Several of the new exhibit farm displays were deployed to engage and educate the public about NM agriculture.



• Old West Heritage Days

NMDA participated in the Old West Heritage Days in Deming, NM. Several of the new exhibit farm displays were deployed to engage and educate the public about NM agriculture.



• USDA Grant Programs

As a result of the federal government's ongoing review of grant programs administered by NMDA-MD, updates and status of 3 USDA AMS grant programs are provided below:

- 1. Local Food Purchase Assistance Program (LFPA)- USDA announced the withdrawal of LFPA 25 and \$2.8 million committed to NM in the previous administration. Existing LFPA and LFPA plus grant programs were allowed to continue and will end at the original sunset date (end of this FY). USDA is allowing states to apply for a no-cost one-year extension of the original LFPA and LFPA plus programs. This request has been submitted, and staff is awaiting a response from USDA. This extension would allow program stakeholders to fully utilize remaining grant balances to purchase more food from local producers in the upcoming growing season for distribution to food bank/hubs statewide.
- 2. Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (SCBGP)- USDA has not released the Request for Applications for the current cycle as this grant program remains under federal review. NMDA's 2025 submission is now on hold, pending additional instructions from USDA. All on-going projects funded from 2021, through the 2024 grant cycles are proceeding as originally planned.
- 3. Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Program (RFSI)- This grant remains under federal review. No official announcements from USDA have been released regarding the future of this grant program as of this report. However, state grant proposals for 12 equipment only and 6 full infrastructure projects are still progressing through the review and pending approval process at USDA.
- The Metrology Laboratory has received its Certificate of Metrological Traceability from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). This recognition begins the process of regaining

ISO/IEC 17025:2017 accreditation through the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP).

New Mexico Department of Agriculture has finalized arrangements for two pesticide disposal events on June 3 in Roswell and on June 5 in Deming. The events provide small businesses and the general public the opportunity to dispose of unwanted pesticides at no charge to them. Pesticide waste is collected by a licensed hazardous waste contractor for disposal at an Environmental Protection Agency approved facility.