



**New Mexico Tech Board of Regents Special Meeting
Friday, December 15, 2023
11:00 am
Fidel Center ~ Ballroom C**

MINUTES

The New Mexico Tech Board of Regents Special Meeting convened at 11:00 am on Friday, December 15, 2023, with Regent Chair Jerry Armijo presiding. Board members present were Dr. Dave Lepre Sr., Adrian Salustri and Dr. Yolanda King (online). Other university administrators, staff and guests included: Dr. Daniel López, Dr. Van Romero, Richard Cervantes, Dr. Michael Doyle, Dr. David Greene, Dr. Michael Jackson, Alex Garcia, Vanessa Grain, Lala Garcia, German Bustillos, Jennifer Raney, Dr. Nelia Dunbar, Dr. Michael Timmons, Dr. Brian Borchers, JoAnn Salome, Jenny Cyphers, David Phillips, Jenny Ma, Emma Aafloy, Dylan Schroeder, Jay Ann Cox, Jessica Carranza, Bruce Kite, Mark Adams (online) and Valerie Kimble.

1. Call to Order. Chair Armijo called the meeting to order at 11:06 am.

a) Proof of Meeting Notice. Ms. Grain confirmed that legal notices were placed in the *Albuquerque Journal* and *El Defensor Chieftain*.

2. Approval of Agenda. Regent Salustri moved to approve the agenda. Regent Lepre seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment. None.

4. Info Items.

a) Restricted Fund Award Notifications >\$100k. VP Cervantes reported seven purchases, five for Homeland Security programs, and two for the Air Force Research Laboratory.

5. Action Items.

a) Approval of November 17, 2023 Mtg. Minutes. Regent Salustri moved to approve the minutes. Regent King seconded the motion. During the discussion that followed, Regent King noted an amendment to item 5.c) NMT Univ. Research Park Corp. Updates, to read, "The Strategic Planning process was coming together." Regent Salustri then amended his motion to accept the Nov. 17, 2023 Minutes with the correction. The amended motion passed unanimously, and Ms. Grain confirmed that she would make the change to the official record.

b) Approval of Unrestricted Fund Purchase >\$250k. Franken Construction for PRRC Phase I. VP Cervantes requested that Regents award a contract to Franken Construction and other vendors, as vetted through the procurement process, for \$15,033,129 for PRRC Phase I. Regent Armijo, noting that the project has been in the works for a number of years, said he was pleased it was



moving forward. Regent King moved to award the contract. Regent Salustri seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

c) Approval of Property Resolutions. VP Cervantes requested approval of an enclosed list of property resolutions. Regent King moved for approval, followed by a second from Regent Salustri. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Individual Board Member Comments. None.

7. New Business. Interim President López in reporting on the LFC meeting he attended in Santa Fe said the state is expecting a significant cash balance of non-recurring funds, and the need for NMT to be aggressive in getting its share. Among pressing needs are funds for research lab equipment, building maintenance and renewal, and an expected shortfall for PRRC Phase I. From the CUP presentation, I&G will be the primary focus, he said, and the need for flexibility in awarding employee compensation. In other business, VP Greene reported that NMT has received 464 completed applications, 120 more than this time last year; and had a significant drop in incompleting applications. The University is currently accepting application for the Director of Admissions. The opening provides an opportunity to tailor requirements to reflect current needs.

8. Executive Session. NMSA 1978, Sec 10-15-1(H)(2), (If required to Consider Legal and/or Personnel Matters). Regent King moved to adjourn the special meeting and meet in Executive Session. Regent Salustri seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Ms. Grain conducted a roll-call vote, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am.

9. Reconvene in open session and take final action, if any, on such limited legal and/or personnel matters which shall be acted upon in open session following conclusion of the closed session. Chair Armijo at 1:05 pm entertained a motion to reconvene the meeting. Regent King so moved and Regent Salustri seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The Chair announced that only matters relating to legal and/or personnel were discussed, and that no action was taken. He announced that the Board had authorized him to pursue negotiations with the final candidate for President. A special Regents meeting will be held in the near future. Regent Armijo also acknowledged the work of the Presidential Search Committee.

10. Adjournment. Regent Lepre moved to adjourn the meeting, followed by a second from Regent Salustri. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:07 pm.



President

Attest:



Secretary- Treasurer