



**Board of Regents Special Meeting
Tuesday, July 20, 2021
Via teleconference on Zoom**

MINUTES

The New Mexico Tech Board of Regents convened at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 20, 2021, with Regent Chair Deborah Peacock presiding. Board members present were: Yolanda King, Veronica Espinoza, Jerry Armijo, and Dave Lepre Sr. Other university administrators, staff, and guests included:

Stephen Wells

Mike Smith

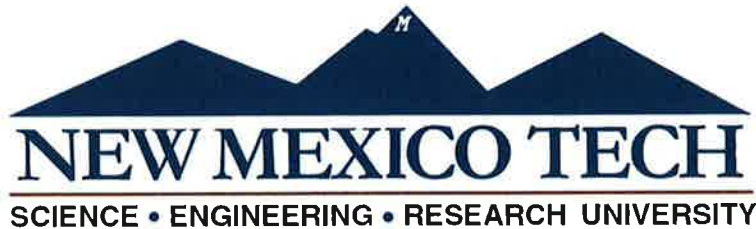
Mark Adams

Vanessa Grain
Carlos Romero

Thom Guengerich
Alex Garcia

Cleve McDaniel

1. **Call to Order.** Regent Peacock called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.
 - 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 King moved approval. Regent Armijo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
3. **Public Comment.**
 - a) President Wells thanked Regent Lepre for attending the LFC meeting in Ruidoso. President Wells also thanked Regent Espinoza and Regent King for helping him welcome the ambassador from Uzbekistan to campus and for joining them for dinner.
4. **Action Items.**
 - a) Approval of NMHED Capital Project Transmittal Sheet, VP McDaniel.
 - Playas Secure Warehouse Shell Project.VP McDaniel presented a summary of the project. The warehouse will be 28,640 square feet, and it will be paid for with federal money. He requested approval for the site work and construction of the shell at a cost of \$17,524,233. The project will then require approval from the Higher Education Department (in September) and the



State Board of Finance (in October). AVP Carlos Romero said NMT aims to issue an RFP prior to receiving state approval. He also said the majority of the funding needs to be spent by September 2022. He then presented diagrams of the land and the building. Regent Armijo moved approval and Regent King seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- Playas Roadway Reconstruction & Drainage Project.

VP McDaniel presented the plan to replace 1.1 miles of roadway. He requested contingent approval. He said the roadways are deteriorating. The project is 95% funded by the NM Department of Transportation. NMT's Playas funds will cover \$118,087 of a project with a total cost of more than \$2 million. Regent Lepre moved approval, and Regent Espinoza seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

b) Approval of Resolution of NMT Regents in Support of Regional Broadband Access.

Regent King presented a resolution to support regional broadband access. She said other higher education institutions have signed on to this resolution. Regent Armijo moved approval and Regent King seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Vanessa Grain said she would collect signatures via DocuSign. Regent Armijo then summarized Mayor Bhasker's and the City of Socorro's recent actions to bring broadband to the city.

c) Approval of Regents Fall Meeting Dates, Chair Peacock.

Regent Peacock said the annual retreat will begin with check-in on Wednesday, August 25. Thursday and Friday have been set aside for the meetings. Board members suggested dates for the next two meetings: Thursday, Sept. 30, and Friday, Nov. 19.

5. Individual Board Member Comments.

- Regent Lepre offered congratulations on improvement efforts at Playas and work on connectivity.
- President Wells recapped the visit of the Uzbekistan Ambassador and his entourage.

6. New Business.

- None.

7. Executive Session. NMSA 1978, Sec.10-15-1 (H)(2), (If required to Consider Legal or Personnel Matters). On a motion by Regent King and a second from Regent Espinoza, the Board unanimously adjourned its regular session at 4:08 p.m. to meet in executive session under a roll-call vote of the Regents.



8. **Reconvene in open session and take final action, if any, on such limited personnel matters which shall be acted upon in open session following conclusion of the closed session.** The meeting reconvened at 4:46 p.m. with the Chair announcing that no action had been taken and only real estate items were discussed.

a) Regent King moved to authorize Regent Armijo and Regent Peacock – the two Regents who are serving as members of the Bursum House Committee – to make decisions on behalf of the board of Regents. Regent Espinoza seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

9. **Adjournment.** Regent Armijo moved to adjourn at 4:48 p.m. Regent King seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion.

President

Attest:

Secretary- Treasurer

