



Board of Regents Special Meeting
Monday, July 17, 2023
9:00 a.m.
Via teleconference on Zoom

MINUTES

The New Mexico Tech Board of Regents convened at 9:00 a.m. Monday, July 17, 2023, with Regent Chair Jerry Armijo presiding. Board members present were Dr. Dave Lepre, Sr., Dr. Yolanda Jones King, Dr. Srinivas Mukkamala and Adrian Salustri. Other university administrators, staff, and guests included: Dr. Daniel López, Vanessa Grain, Mark Adams, Richard Cervantes, Dr. Michael Doyle, Dr. Robert Balch, Dr. David Greene, Jenny Ma and Carlos Romero.

- 1. Call to Order.** Regent Armijo called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.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 Lepre moved approval of the agenda. Regent King seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- 3. Public Comment.**
 - a) None.
- 4. Recurring Reports.**
 - a) Presidents Report: President López gave a brief update noting that he had been focusing on enrollment and finance issues, along with meeting with faculty and administrators. President López apprised the Regents that a donor wrote to let him know that he withdrew his pledged donation to NMT due to a disagreement with NMT's DEI program. Dr. López responded in a letter and thanked the donor for his past support, as well as offering regret regarding the donor's decision to withdraw his contribution. President López explained that other donor relations were going very well. He also said he had been regularly attending the LFC committee meetings.
- 5. Information Items.**
 - a) **NMT Foundation Updates:** No report.
 - b) **NMTURPC Updates:** Regent King stated that the Research Park was starting a strategic planning session led by board member John Saiz.



- c) **NM HERC Updates:** Regent King gave an update of the new HERC board members.
- d) **NMT Finance/Legislative Subcommittee Updates:** Regent Lepre gave updates that he and Regent Salustri met with President López and had given a one-page list of financial item requests to the Vice President's to submit to Ms. Grain, which will be due sometime in September for discussion at the October 9, 2023 regent meeting. VP Cervantes mentioned that he saw no problem with Regent Lepre's request as long as the information would stay strategic rather than operational in nature, and he looked forward to working on the request in the spirit of being transparent regarding NMT's finances.
- e) **NMT Research Subcommittee Updates:** No Report.
- f) **NMT Student Updates:** Regent Salustri asked that regents and NMT administration keep in mind when discussing student enrollment that NMT is a small university and simple recruitment strategies were sometimes better than elaborate plans. Regent Salustri is concerned that NMT may be focusing too much on enrollment issues and over-looking NMT's level of quality education, which should be the primary focus. Regent Salustri said that he looked forward to the enrollment discussion at the retreat. Regent Armijo, King and Lepre thanked Regent Salustri for his comments. Regent Armijo stated that much planning and thought went into the regent's retreat and he also looked forward to a robust conversation with regents and NMT administration at the retreat.
- g) **Presidential Search:** Regent Armijo gave an update on the presidential search. He indicated that the Presidential Search Committee had a meeting a couple weeks prior, and that a lot of time, thought and input was devoted to compiling the president's position description. He said that a website would soon be launched to share the search and hire process with the public and Tech community, including the position description. Regent Lepre added that a brief survey would also be shared with the NMT Regents and NMT community at the appropriate time to solicit input on the candidates.

6. Action Items.

- a) **Approval of May 12, 2023 Minutes:** Regent Salustri moved to approve the minutes, Regent Lepre seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- b) **Approval of NMT & PRTC KMP Resolutions:** Regent King moved to approve the resolutions, Regent Salustri seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- c) **Approval of Resolution to Update NMT Checking and Investment Accounts:** Regent King moved to approve the resolution/memo with exception of the removal of AVP Carlos Romero, Regent Salustri seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- d) **Approval of Unrestricted Fund Purchase >\$250k:** Regent King moved to approve, Regent Lepre seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.



- e) **Approval of NMTURPC Board Members:** Regent King moved to approve, Regent Lepre seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- f) **Approval of NMTURPC Amended By-laws:** Regent King moved to approve, Regent Lepre seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Individual Board Member Comments.

- a) None.

8. New Business.

- a) Ms. Grain reported that the next regular regents meeting will be held on Thursday, August 17, at Macey Center Galena Room and the Regents Retreat will be held the next day, Friday August 18 at the Deju House.

9. Executive Session. NMSA 1978, Sec.10-15-1 (H)(2), (If required to Consider Legal or Personnel Matters).

- a) None.

10. Board reconvene in open session to take final action, if any, on such limited personnel matters which shall be acted upon in open session following conclusion of the closed session.

- a) None.

11. Adjournment. Regent King moved to adjourn at 9:57 a.m. Regent Lepre seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion.



President

Attest:



Secretary- Treasurer

