

EASTERN NEW MEXICO UNIVERSITY
Board of Regents Special Meeting
Regents Room, ENMU-Portales
February 22, 2016 1:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

This is a telephonic meeting. Regent president Terry Othick called the meeting to order at 1:28 p.m. and conducted a roll call. With four regents in attendance, Regent Othick declared a quorum. Regents Terry Othick, Jane Christensen, Veronica Ayala and Dan Patterson attended the meeting by telephone. Regent Susan Tatum was absent.

APPROVE THE AGENDA

Regent Ayala moved to approve the agenda as presented. Regent Christensen seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0-0. Motion approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regent Patterson moved to approve the minutes of January 20, 2016 as presented. Regent Ayala seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0-0. Motion approved.

REPORT FROM THE REGENT PRESIDENT

Regent President Othick welcomed everyone and explained that this is a telephonic meeting. He asked those attending the meeting to state their names. He said that he was interested in the report Dr. Gamble will give today on the recent legislative session, and there are two important matters for the regents to consider today.

REPORT FROM THE ENMU SYSTEM PRESIDENT

- Dr. Steven Gamble said he will meet with faculty and staff at the Ruidoso and Roswell campuses this week to discuss the legislative session and budget implications.
- Dr. Gamble reviewed an updated budget development document that he prepared for the regents. In light of the state's declining financial situation, Dr. Gamble said the goals of the budget remain the same except that maintaining faculty and staff positions now becomes a priority. He said some state institutions are reducing positions as part of their cost savings measures. ENMU-Portales will incur a \$750,000 reduction in state funding for FY17 and a further reduction of \$385,000 if state revenues continue to decline.
- Dr. Gamble said he will likely request a 6.5% increase in tuition and fees for FY17 simply to balance the budget.
- There were no major policy changes in the legislative session that affected higher education.
- The \$11 million included in the General Obligation Bond for the Golden Student Success Center renovation remains intact. Additionally, the Portales campus will receive \$257,000 for the new stadium, \$135,000 for instructional technology and \$100,000 for campus security.
- ENMU-Portales must return \$190,000 in one-time funds to help cover the state's budget shortfall for FY16. The Ruidoso and Roswell campuses will also have to return funds. There are permanent cuts to Instructional and General funds and to the Research and Public Service Projects for FY17.

REPORT FROM THE RUIDOSO PRESIDENT

- Dr. Clayton Alred said the Ruidoso campus will return \$13,000 to the state for FY16, and funding for FY17 has been reduced by \$57,000. The recent downturn in enrollment also negatively affects the campus. He said the campus will review every open position and examine expenditures to find ways to develop a workable budget for FY17.
- The General Obligation Bond for 2016 includes \$700,000 for the Ruidoso campus to renovate and construct classrooms and student spaces. These funds can be used for the property being considered for purchase today.
- Dr. Alred said that the Ruidoso public school system plans to demolish the White Mountain Annex building next year (the building the Ruidoso campus currently leases). Therefore, it will be possible for the Ruidoso campus to extend its lease through December of this year, which will allow more time for the campus to renovate the proposed property purchase at 721 Mechem Drive.

Regent Othick asked that Business Item 2, Property Acquisition, 721 Mechem Dr., Ruidoso, be considered as the next agenda item.

BUSINESS MATTERS

2. Property Acquisition, 721 Mechem Dr., Ruidoso, NM

Dr. Alred met with the Higher Education Department's Capital Projects Committee in January regarding the purchase of 721 Mechem Drive. At that time, the committee requested that the Board of Regents have the opportunity to review all documents pertinent to the property before a final decision was made.

Dr. Alred provided copies of the appraisal, environmental analysis, asbestos survey, property use statement, funding source, warranty deed and other documents. He discussed the property acquisition and the need for expansion. If approved by the regents, the purchase will be presented to the Capital Projects Committee on March 9, and to the State Board of Finance on March 15. Dr. Alred presented a resolution authorizing the purchase of property for board approval.

Regent Patterson moved to approve the purchase of property at 721 Mechem Dr., Ruidoso, NM and the resolution of authorization as presented. Regent Ayala seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0-0. Motion approved.

1. Investment Grade Audit, Portales

Mr. Scott Smart presented a proposed contract between ENMU and Bernhard Energy to conduct a campus-wide energy audit. The goal of the audit is to develop energy conservation measures that would result in a 20% savings of energy use for the campus. The audit would be paid by utility savings realized through more efficient energy management. If ENMU determined not to adopt the energy management project, the campus would be required to pay \$350,391 for the audit. If the company is not able to meet a 20% energy savings through its program, the campus would owe nothing. The regents posed several questions concerning liability, funds to pay for the

audit and funds to purchase equipment upgrades that would be needed for the project. There was concern about entering into a contract in a year when state appropriations have been reduced. Dr. Gamble said that perhaps this was not the ideal time to undergo such a contract and suggested that the agenda item be withdrawn. There was no further discussion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Regent Patterson moved to enter executive session at 2:40 p.m. to discuss one limited personnel item. Regent Ayala seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0-0. Motion approved.

Roll call: Regent Patterson – yes; Regent Ayala – yes; Regent Christensen – yes; Regent Othick – yes


OPEN SESSION

Regent Ayala moved to return to open session at 2:53 p.m. Regent Patterson seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0-0. Motion approved. (Regent Christensen left the meeting after executive session ended.)


Regent Othick reported that the regents discussed one limited personnel item but no action was taken during executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

Regent Patterson moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:54 p.m. Regent Ayala seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0-0. Motion approved.



President of the Board



Secretary of the Board

*Minutes recorded and transcribed by Deborah Bentley
Executive Secretary to the President and Board of Regents*