

EASTERN NEW MEXICO UNIVERSITY
Board of Regents Meeting
ENMU-Portales, Regents Room
June 7, 2025 – 1:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Regent President Trish Ruiz called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and declared a quorum. Regents Trish Ruiz, Ray Birmingham, Lance Pyle, and Phillip Bustos were present. Regent Wilbanks was not present.

Roll call: Regent Ruiz– Yes; Regent Birmingham– Yes; Regent Wilbanks – No response; Regent Pyle– Yes; Regent Bustos – Yes.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVE THE AGENDA

Regent Ruiz asked to amend the agenda by removing an item from the executive session discussion. Regent Bustos moved to approve the agenda as amended. Regent Birmingham seconded the motion. Vote: Ruiz – Yes; Birmingham – Yes; Pyle – Yes; Bustos - Yes. Motion approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regent Pyle moved to approve the minutes from the May 9, 2025, meeting. Regent Bustos seconded the motion. Vote: Ruiz – Yes; Birmingham – Yes; Pyle – Yes; Bustos - Yes. Motion approved.

BUSINESS MATTERS

1. Faculty Handbook Updates

Dr. James Johnston outlined the process by which revisions are made to the faculty handbook, including the review and discussion of the faculty, Faculty Senate, Provost, and review by legal counsel. These revisions were voted on by the faculty and then presented to the University President. Once approved by the President, revisions are presented to the Board of Regents.

Revisions include:

- Classification of full-time instructors on recurring contracts as “regular” faculty, not “resource” faculty
- Substantive changes to the clarification of the FEC process
- Changes made in response to review by legal counsel
- Minor editorial corrections

Regent Pyle moved to approve the Faculty Handbook updates as presented. Regent Bustos seconded the motion. Vote: Ruiz – Yes; Birmingham – Yes; Pyle – Yes; Bustos - Yes. Motion approved.

2. Amendments to Board Policies

Mr. Benito Gonzales presented language revisions and clarifications to the following policies:

- 10-0 Clarified what is contained in the manual.
- 10-1 Updated language to reflect current procedures, generalized pronouns, and revised the title of President to Chancellor
- 10-2 Changed language to reflect current procedures, generalized pronouns and added leave approval requirement.
- 10-3 Changed language to reflect current procedures.
- 10-4 Changed the title of “chair” to “president” of the Board and removed the certificate execution section. Corrected the time limit for meeting notices and removed the certificate execution section.

- 10-9 Added family members to coincide with the Government Conduct Act and generalized pronouns.
- 34-5 Removed waiver of Defensive Driving Certificate section as this is against State regulations.

Regent Pyle recommended that language be added under policy 10-4 to cover the requirement of notifying the Attorney General's office if an emergency Board meeting is scheduled.

Regent Pyle moved to approve the amendments to Board Policies as presented. Regent Bustos seconded the motion. Vote: Ruiz – Yes; Birmingham – Yes; Pyle – Yes; Bustos – Yes. Motion approved.

Regent Ruiz excused herself from the meeting.

3. Approval of Research and Public Service Projects

Mr. Tony Major explained that Research and Public Service project proposals must be approved by the Board of Regents before they can be presented to the New Mexico Higher Ed Department on September 15. The guidelines and criteria for these projects have not yet been released, but the following proposals are based on last year's standards:

- Nursing Program Expansion – Scholarships for nurses in the pipeline from BSN to MSN. FY27 request - \$356K
- Blackwater Draw – Preserves, protects, and interprets the national landmark. FY27 request - \$102.6K
- KENW – Increased by an additional \$500K to offset potential reductions in Federal funding. FY27 request - \$1,915,000
- Athletics – Increased by an additional \$750K to address rising travel and operational costs. FY27 request - \$4,502,900
- Greyhound Promise – Provides scholarship support for students who enter the Teacher Education program and pledge to teach in New Mexico, FY27 request - \$100K
- Teacher Education – Funds tuition/fees for fifty Teacher Education students. FY27 request - \$200.6K
- Teacher Pipeline – Implements innovative research-based success strategies for recruiting, retaining, and enhancing the performance of teacher candidates. FY27 request - \$275K
- Greyhound Thrive Internship Program – Assists and prepares students in securing hands-on work experience related to their major and career goals. FY27 request - \$225K

Regent Pyle moved to approve the proposed Research and Public Service Projects as presented. Regent Bustos seconded the motion. Vote: Birmingham – Yes; Pyle – Yes; Bustos – Yes. Motion approved.

4. ENMU-Roswell Faculty Handbook

Dr. Shawn Powell said that substantial revisions have been made to the Faculty Handbook as the result of collaboration between the faculty, Faculty Senate, and the vice president of Academic and Student Affairs. The Faculty Senate approved the new handbook on April 30, 2025, and the ENMU-Roswell Community College Board approved this on May 14, 2025.

Proposed revisions include:

- Language to accommodate the diverse faculty roles according to rank, the types of rank, and years of service necessary to achieve rank.
- Faculty serve a probationary period of four years prior to submitting credentials to earn tenure, which is the result of teaching an average of thirty credit hours per year. Tenure is separate from rank and title.
- Language distinctions to clarify between “campus presence” and “campus office hours.”
- Slight variations of the review process from the Portales campus versus the Roswell campus called the Performance Appraisal and Development Plan (PADP). The evaluation system differences are primarily related to two- and four-year institution requirements.

Regent Pyle moved to approve the proposed ENMU-Roswell Faculty Handbook as presented. Regent Bustos seconded the motion. Vote: Birmingham – Yes; Pyle – Yes; Bustos – Yes. Motion approved.

5. ENMU-Roswell Research and Public Service Projects, FY27

Dr. Powell presented Research and Public Service project proposals that will go before NMHED in September if approved by the Regents:

- Nursing Expansion program \$600,000
This funding would allow ENMU-Roswell to hire and retain nursing faculty as the program expands. The Health/Science Building remodel is scheduled for completion in January 2026, and this expansion will allow more students to be enrolled in the program.
- Child Development Center \$500,000
This funding is for programming and staff costs to operate a child development center on campus that would serve the campus community and workforce needs at the Roswell Air Center
- Physical Therapy Assistant program \$500,000
This funding would allow for hiring new faculty and staff for this program, which would assist the campus in meeting critical workforce needs in the community.
- Career and Technical Education programs \$400,000
This funding would provide programming, materials, and equipment for career and technical programs and allow the campus to better prepare students to enter the workforce upon graduation.

Regent Pyle moved to approve the proposed ENMU-Roswell Research and Public Service Projects for FY27 as presented. Regent Birmingham seconded the motion. Vote: Birmingham – Yes; Regent Pyle – Yes, Regent Bustos – Yes. Motion approved.

6. ENMU-Roswell Greenhouse Construction Phase

Dr. Powell requested approval to move into the construction phase of the greenhouse project on campus. A capital outlay request in the amount of \$200K was allocated to ENMU-Roswell at the 2024 Legislative Session. Architectural contracts have been established with Dekker Architects of Albuquerque. It is requested that the Board of Regents approve an expenditure for this project in an amount of up to \$300K to account for the New Mexico Gross Receipts Tax (NMGRT), construction, and architectural costs.

Regent Birmingham moved to approve the proposed ENMU-Roswell greenhouse construction phase as presented. Regent Pyle seconded the motion. Vote: Birmingham – Yes; Regent Pyle – Yes; Regent Bustos – Yes. Motion approved.

7. ENMU-Ruidoso Research and Public Service Projects, FY27

In Mr. Trosper's absence, Mr. Tony Major presented the Research and Public Service project proposals for FY27:

- Nursing partnership \$300,000
In response to the statewide nursing shortage, ENMU-Ruidoso is continuing its partnership with ENMU-Roswell to allow students to complete the RN program while living in the Ruidoso area. The proposal requests funds for equipment to support the program and the need for increased personnel.
- Tribal education initiatives \$100,000
Funds would be used to continue the ongoing partnership with the Mescalero Apache Tribe to increase opportunities for Mescalero students on campus and at locations on tribal lands.
- Athletics \$217,500
Further development of the men's and women's cross-country, golf, and rodeo teams

Regent Bustos moved to approve the proposed ENMU-Ruidoso Research and Public Service Projects for FY27 as presented. Regent Pyle seconded the motion. Vote: Birmingham – Yes; Pyle – Yes; Bustos – Yes. Motion Approved.

8. ENMU-Ruidoso Summer Capital Outlay Updated Cost

Mr. Major stated that after working in detail with the architectural firm to develop the Summer Capital Outlay list, an updated cost for the childcare lab has been provided.

As early childcare education continues to expand in the state and on campus, a location for a practicum is needed. This funding would enable the renovation of an existing space to meet these needs. The estimated cost of the project is \$1.3M, which allows for potential inflationary costs.

Regent Birmingham moved to approve the proposed ENMU-Ruidoso summer capital outlay updated costs as presented. Regent Pyle seconded the motion. Vote: Birmingham – Yes; Pyle – Yes; Bustos – No. Motion Approved.

REPORT FROM THE ENMU-ROSWELL PRESIDENT

Dr. Shawn Powell reported that fall enrollment is up 7% as of June 4.

The campus pool opened in late May, and community members can make reservations. The National Championship Air Races pilot qualification course was completed last week.

Summer programming opportunities include:

- Scrubs Camp
- Roblox Masters
- Kids Kollege
- Automotive programs (small gas engines, women in automotive, and torque applications)

Dr. Powell said the fire suppression project is waiting on the final contract, the central walkway project is in the construction phase, and the nursing expansion project is still in process.

The ENMU-Roswell campus will work remotely from September 10-14 during the NCAR. Dining services, the gymnasium, and PAC will be open during this time.

REPORT FROM THE CHANCELLOR OF THE ENMU SYSTEM and Dashboard Presentation

Dr. James Johnston reported that summer headcount is up 9.8% as of June 2, and student credit hour production is up 12.5%. Fall 2025 headcount is up 15.5%, and student credit hour production is up 15.2%. As we approach the end of our agreement with our current recruiting consultant, we will engage in the search for another external consultant.

The July 11, 2025, Regent work session will cover the topics of higher education in New Mexico, our opportunities and challenges, masterplan, and new dormitory planning. The vice presidents and branch campus presidents have been asked to attend.

Dr. Johnston provided an update on the inaugural meeting of the President's Executive Committee, which took place in late May. The team discussed community development possibilities and will explore opportunities that could benefit the region and the University.

Upcoming events include the June 27-29 New Mexico Sports Hall of Fame, which will include the induction of Steve Loy and Michael Sinclair.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Regent Pyle moved to enter executive session at 2:23 p.m. to discuss one limited personnel matter pursuant to section 10-15-1(H)(2), NMSA (1978); also, the discussion of one threatened or pending litigation matter involving the University pursuant to Section 10-15-1(H)(7), NMSA (1978). Regent Bustos seconded the motion. Vote: Birmingham – Yes; Pyle – Yes; Bustos – Yes. Motion approved.

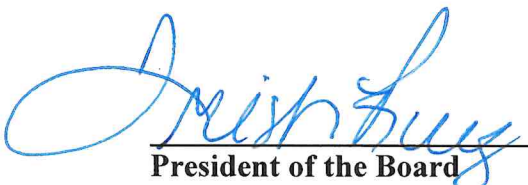
OPEN SESSION

Regent Pyle moved to return to open session at 3:42 p.m. Regent Bustos seconded the motion. Vote: Birmingham – Yes; Pyle – Yes; Bustos – Yes. Motion approved.

Regent Pyle stated that one personnel matter and one pending litigation matter were discussed, but no action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

*Regent Pyle moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:44 p.m.
Regent Bustos seconded the motion. Vote: Birmingham – Yes; Pyle – Yes; Bustos - Yes.
Motion approved.*



President of the Board

NOT PRESENT

Secretary of the Board

*Minutes recorded and prepared by Karen Van Ruiten
Senior Executive Assistant to the Chancellor and Board of Regents*