

# NORTHERN New Mexico College



## NORTHERN NEW MEXICO COLLEGE BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING MARCH 30, 2023

### I. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Regents of northern New Mexico College was held on Thursday, March 30, 2023 Via Zoom and in person in the Board Room of Northern New Mexico College, Espanola Campus. Regents Present: Michael A. Martin (In Person), Erica Velarde (Via Zoom), Porter Swentzell (In Person), Ruben Archuleta (Not in attendance), Casandra Batista Daus (In Person), Evelyn Juarez (Via Zoom).

Northern New Mexico College Staff Present: Hector Balderas, JD, CFE, President; Ivan Lopez Hurtado, Provost & Vice President for Finance & Administration; Denise Montoya, Chief of Staff/Vice President for Finance; Theresa Storey, Chief Financial Officer/Compliance Officer; Juan Gallegos, IT; Scott Stokes, Chief Information Officer; Ram Khalsa, Veterans Resource Center Coordinator; Cecilia Romero, Continuing Education Coordinator; Sara McCormick, Career Services Specialist; Sandy Krolick, Creative Director, Communications & Marketing; Arin McKenna, Staff Writer/Reporter, Communications & Marketing; Evette Abeyta, Budget Director; Deborah Trujillo, IT; Stephanie Lovato, Accountant III, Grants; Lynn Chamberlain, Title III Director; Cindy Martinez, Human Resources, Kristy Alton, Title V, CASSA Director; Analise Lopez, IT, Vince Lithgow, Accountant IV; Patrice Trujillo, Health & Safety Manager; Sally Martinez, Executive Assistant, Provost & Vice President of Academic Affairs; Jessica Ortiz, Business Office Accountant III; Courtney Bruch, Director of Assessment and Accountability; Jimi Montoya, IT; Higinia Padilla, Admin. Coordinator Title V and Title III; and Amy Peña, Executive Office Director.

Faculty Present: Anna X. Gutierrez Sisneros; Joaquin Gallegos, Robert Bashara, Steve Cox, Rhiannon West, Robert Tierney,

Others Present: The Honorable Alejandra Naranjo, Geno Zamora, Ortiz & Zamora, Dolores Gurule, Student Senate President, Kathy Ulibarri, CHESS, Jake Arnold,

### I. **SWEARING IN CEREMONY BY THE HONORABLE ALEXANDRA NARANJO**

The Honorable Alexandra Naranjo conducted the swearing in of Board Member Batista Daus and Board Member Martin. Board President Martin presented Judge Naranjo with a gift from the Board of Regents and thanked her for conducting the swearing in. Judge Naranjo thanked the Board of Regents and stated she is always available for the college as it is near and dear to her heart.

### II. **CALL TO ORDER**

Board President Martin called the meeting to order at 1:06PM

### III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Board President Martin entertained a motion to approve the agenda.

**Regent Swentzell moved to approve the agenda as presented. Second – Regent Velarde. A roll call vote was taken by Board President Martin. Board President Martin – yes, Regent Swentzell -yes, Regent Velarde – yes, Regent Batista Dauz – yes. Motion passed unanimously.**

### IV. RECOGNITION OF REGENT MARIA EVELYN JUAREZ

Board President Martin stated the Board of Regents would like to take a moment to thank Regent Juarez for her service both as Student Senate President and Regent for the last two years and for all her efforts to secure President Balderas as the new President. President Martin stated he would like to thank Regent Juarez so much and wished her the best in her medical career.

Regent Velarde thanked Regent Juarez and thanked her for all the brightness she brought to the meetings. Regent Velarde stated Regent Juarez is such a bright light for the future. She hopes Regent Juarez prospers and becomes even more of a leader than she already is and hopes if she ever needs anything in the future that she has Regent Velarde's phone number and can call her at any time if she ever needs anything. She really is an amazing young lady and we are so proud to have her on board. Regent Velarde thanked Regent Juarez for everything she did.

Regent Swentzell stated he really appreciates Regent Juarez service to the college and also to recognize her service as a student leader in student government before coming to the Board of Regents because the efforts that her and her team did at that time continue to echo forward and are demonstrated in a strong student government we still have at Northern. The contributions Regent Juarez has made are already making a big difference. Regent Swentzell stated he wishes Regent Juarez the best in her studies and if she ever needs anything we are here. Regent Swentzell is excited to see what Regent Juarez will do going forward.

Board President Martin stated Regent Archuleta is not at the meeting and asked Regent Juarez if she has something to share.

Regent Juarez stated she would like to express her deep gratitude for the opportunity to sit on the Board as Student Regent and for having a voice at the table and for being on a platform that allowed her to advocate for Northern as a prior Student Senate President, Student and now an Alum. To her fellow Regents, Regent Juarez stated she would like to thank them all for all their support as she learned how to be a Regent and for inspiring her and she is in awe of each and every one of the Board of Regents and she knows and feels the love the Regents have for this community and she really looks up to all the Regents. Regent Juarez stated her love for Northern continues to grow each and every day and she owes it so much for all it has done for her and for all the people she has been able to meet through Northern and for where it has gotten her through life now. She will continue to sing its praises and tell everyone about it, whoever is willing to listen. She is grateful for all the lessons she has learned and all the wonderful opportunities she has had through Northern and being able to be part of this community a couple of years after

she graduated is wonderful. Regent Juarez stated she is grateful for staff, faculty and students. It is such a beautiful institution and is very grateful.

President Balderas thanked Regent Juarez for hiring him and not firing him and he stated he wanted to comment on two things, the leadership and grace that Regent Juarez served. One is clearly Regent Juarez represented this region really well with humility and even though she has a lot of talent she was always leading with humility and second, the world will get out of the way of somebody who knows where they are going and clearly Regent Juarez knows where she is going and we all look forward to cheering Regent Juarez on and seeing where she ends up and know that all of us will be proud because Regent Juarez is making our region proud and showing that you can come from humble beginnings and really that there are no (inaudible) and best of luck.

Board President Martin presented a plaque to Regent Juarez for her service as a member of the Board of Regents.

Regent Juarez thanked the Board of Regents.

## **V. PUBLIC INPUT**

None.

## **VI. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD**

### **A. Board of Regents Subcommittee Reports**

1. Determination of Board of Regents Regular Meeting Schedule for calendar year 2023

Mr. Zamora stated in the annual Open Meetings Act resolution it states the board will select the calendar year of meetings and will place it on the website.

Board President Martin asked Mr. Zamora if this needs to be done for the entire calendar year. Mr. Zamora stated that is correct. In the annual Open Meetings Act Resolution it states that the Board of Regents will separately determine the calendar year meetings and post it on the website. Board President Martin asked the Board of Regents if Friday is a good day for meetings. The Board of Regents agreed on Friday mornings at 9:00AM on the fourth Friday of the month.

Board President Martin entertained a motion to having the Board of Regents meetings on the fourth Friday of the month at 9:00AM.

**Regent Velarde moved to have meetings on the fourth Friday of the month starting at 9:00AM. Second – Regent Swentzell. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin - yes, Regent Velarde - yes, Regent Swentzell - yes, Regent Batista Daus - yes. Motion passed unanimously.**

## 2. Selection of Officers of the Board of Regents – Action Required

Board President Martin entertained a motion for nomination of President of the Board of Regents.

**Regent Swentzell Swentzell moved to nominate Regent Martin as President. Second – Regent Velarde. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin - yes, Regent Velarde - yes, Regent Swentzell - yes, Regent Batista Daux - yes. Motion passed unanimously.**

Board President Martin opened up nominations for Vice President.

**Regent Martin nominated Regent Velarde as Vice President. Second – Regent Swentzell. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin - yes, Regent Velarde - yes, Regent Swentzell - yes, Regent Batista Daux - yes. Motion passed unanimously.**

Regent Martin opened up nominations for Secretary/Treasurer.

**Regent Martin nominated Regent Swentzell for Secretary/Treasurer of the Board of Regents. Second - Regent Velarde. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin - yes, Regent Velarde - yes, Regent Swentzell - yes, Regent Batista Daux - yes. Motion passed unanimously.**

## 3. Housing Committee

None.

## 4. Audit, Finance, Facilities Committee

Regent Velarde stated they had a good quick meeting yesterday. Nothing big to report. Will be spending money soon to given HED approval but it will be reviewed later in the meeting

## 5. Academic and Student Affairs Committee – Informational

Regent Swentzell stated the committee met earlier in the week and there are number of items on the agenda that will be discussed for action later. It was a good meeting

## 6. President's Evaluation Committee

Regent Swentzell stated they do have a meeting practically, they had some scheduling challenges, it is 90% there and will be scheduled for Monday morning. Mr. Zamora stated since the last Board Meeting there has been a meeting of the members of the Evaluation Committee as well as President Balderas and Mr. Zamora and they have done a second redraft of the evaluation tool and they will be reviewing that and working towards finalizing that before the next Board Meeting. Regent Martin asked if this will be an action item since it needs to be done by the end of April. Mr. Zamora stated he has been counseling that it needs to be done by the end of April. He did go back and re-read the President's contract and did not find that deadline. He does think it would be best for the tool to be done by the end of April because there is customization that will be needing to be done with the Board and the President through the Retreat (inaudible). The form should be done, Mr. Zamora recommends it be done in April and that way

the Board can meet and populate the discretionary items but absolutely the tool needs to be completed and fully populated by June 30.

Board President Martin stated he, Regent Velarde and Regent Batista Daus will be attending a HERC meeting at the end of April which conflicts with the normal meeting date that we just said we were going to meet at so we need to come up with a different date in April. The President suggested April 20th from 10:00AM-12:00PM. Regent Velarde asked if this works for the Board of Regents. Regent Swentzell is not available. Board President Martin asked about the first week of May. President Balderas stated the budget needs to be approved. Regent Velarde asked if the 25th would work or the afternoon of the 26th. President Balderas stated we should just do it. He will participate. Board President Martin asked if 1:00PM-3:00PM on the 25th would work for the Board of Regents. The Board of Regents agreed on the 25th from 1:00PM-3:00PM.

Board President Martin stated the committee assignments are usually made at this meeting also. All the committees will remain the same and Regent Batista Daus will serve on the Academic/Student Affairs Committee and the Housing Committee.

## VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board President Martin entertained motion to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2023 meeting

**Regent Velarde moved to approve minutes of the February 23, 2023 meeting. Second – Regent Swentzell. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin - yes, Regent Velarde - yes, Regent Swentzell - yes, Regent Batista Daus - yes. Motion passed unanimously.**

## VIII. PRESIDENT'S REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### A. Celebrate Northern

President Balderas stated regarding celebration of Northern. There has been a lot of activity. He will isolate the discussion in three categories, first is celebration of students. We have been very active, Board President Martin and Regent Archuleta and President Balderas accompanied some great students to the Roundhouse and as our effort is not to only expose young students and feature them, he has a personal philosophy that they are already emerging leaders. They are not students in the community, they are already representative leaders. When they got there, they obviously overate at a nice restaurant with them and then let them tour with them and surprised them and brought them in the cabinet room and they were unaware and like typical Rio Arriba fashion, we surprised them after the Governor played a prank on President Balderas by putting some vasoline on the Governor's handle, she had him escort her out and to the HEP students surprise they got some photos and it was a really cool moment because they represented our college phenomenally well. President Balderas was glad they got to really engage the legislative process.

President Balderas stated Student Senate hosted an event to celebrate Women's History Month on Monday. Our cosmology students demonstrated their skills by doing people's nails and there was a Women's History trivia contest and lunch catered by La Cocina.

President Balderas stated we had a successful signing ceremony for new Eagles recruits on March 4. It was great to meet these young athletes and to assure them we will do everything we can to make them welcome. President Balderas appreciates the way Coach Aragon is recruiting top notch athletes from around the world.

President Balderas stated in addition, moving on to some of the celebration of Faculty, President Balderas attended a national accreditation meeting in Chicago and it is important to put into context that Northern does have some challenges and so does this region. One thing that is not heralded enough is that from an accreditation standpoint and a faculty standpoint and a regulatory standpoint, Northern is a phenomenal national leader in accreditation. For some of you who do not necessarily know what that means, that means we need a driver's license, a doctor's license, a hunter's license but not only does our faculty pursue the passion to teach and choose to teach our students here but they do it at the very highest level among the most challenging accreditation standards. President Balderas stated he was the new kid on the block in Chicago learning all about how Northern continues to set a national standard. President Balderas is going to be doing a lot of work in our region educating the rest of the State about how compliant Northern is in our accreditation standards.

President Balderas stated regarding in operational excellence, he was not critical but he has set the tone and shared with this Board and this Board has supported President Balderas in trying to find opportunities where we can improve the campus and the classrooms and the leaky roofs and so our capital projects of finding millions of dollars still continues. President Balderas does not want to promise the exact numbers and projects but he will say we are getting closer that you will actually see hammers and ladders and buildings and roofs being fixed this year and we are going to be super excited and it is important for students to see progress. President Balderas knows through COVID and through some harsh years we deserve a rehabilitated campus and so that is a lot to celebrate as well.

#### B. CUP/NMICC Report

President Balderas stated these are the two entities that guide University Presidents and College Presidents. President Balderas stated he mentioned earlier that the students accompanied him to lobby the legislature as well and they were part of our strategy. President Balderas stated he would say that Northern has not been treated fairly in the past by the legislature and by State leaders but considering they used stale arguments in the past, he would say that Northern is in fairly decent shape with capital investment and also what they call junior funding. President Balderas does not have specific details because the Governor has until April 7th of this year to either veto legislation, cancel those funding activities, President Balderas does not think she will cut Northern's funding but he doesn't want to promise until we hit that but he thinks it is worth celebrating that we are decent position that we think some of those resources will go to ideas and concepts like the one stop shop for students to actually receive immediate services in how they do business here. These are the things President Balderas is well positioned for so he thinks it is

worth celebrating that we are well positioned for. It is worth celebrating at least that we are well positioned but everyone should be fingers crossed until April 7.

C. NNMC Foundation

**None.**

D. Introduction of Staff and Faculty

President Balderas stated he would like to recognize; we could do not do it without phenomenal assets which are our talented staff and instructors and President Balderas stated he would like to recognize some new hires.

**Ann-Marie Draeger**  
**Grant Writer**

Ann-Marie Draeger has worked in development and grant writing for nearly 25 years, including experience in securing funds for higher education. She developed and launched Normandale Community College Foundation's Corporate and Foundation Relations program, which included donor advised funds and collaborating with the college for DHS and NSF grants for the college's STEM program. Her grant writing background also includes successful work for nonprofits in social services, performing arts, behavioral health, childhood literacy and ESL.

**Ramkrishan Khalsa**  
**Veteran's Resource Center Coordinator**

Ramkrishan Khalsa is a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps. He previously served as a peer mentor, Eagle Tech, and student ambassador for the college. His career in the holistic health field with certifications in yoga instruction and neuromuscular therapy will be a great asset as he serves veterans on campus and throughout northern New Mexico. Ramkrishan recently completed the requirements for his associate's degree in Business Administration. He currently serves as Student Senate Treasurer while continuing his goal of completing dual bachelor's degrees in Business Management and Project Management.

**Veronica O'Halloran**  
**Assistant Professor of Nursing**

Veronica O'Halloran, who likes to be called RonnieO, has happily rejoined the NNMC community as the Success Coach with the ADN Nursing program. Ms. O'Halloran previously taught in our ADN program for almost 12 years as both full time Faculty and Clinical Instructor before semi-retiring in the Summer of 2022. With 42 years as a nurse and over 15 years as a nursing instructor, she comes with great insight into her role as Success Coach, where she offers guidance to nursing students in developing, creating, and implementing an academic success plan and goal setting to enhance nursing students' success in the ADN program.

President Balderas also welcomed Tina Maes, a new Safety & Security Officer, and two new custodians, Ramon Padilla and Myra Tafoya.

President Balderas stated it is fitting that he closes this portion of his report. We recently had an incident 31 days ago when some of our own staff had to deal with a fairly tense incident and these individuals were traumatized, some of our employees. President Balderas stated he would like to commend the campus and many employees for coming together to try to find long term proactive solutions for campus safety, campus security, trauma. We have a long way to go to improve training, services, communication response and President Balderas would like to commend our Board President who was just at our first training on situational awareness. We really are going to value every student, every employee, it does not matter what title, we are going to require on our operational excellence on our academic initiatives but more importantly, none of these matters if people don't feel safe and secure and feel prideful. President Balderas stated he would really like to highlight our custodial staff; we have two new custodians and a safety and security officer. There is going to be a lot of emphasis in professional development. We all should treat them with the same integrity and value because we are going to expect a lot but we are all going to have a shared governance role.

President Balderas stated he would like to thank the Board of Regents, when they invested in him and brought him on, they also gave him the flexibility to govern and lead with his own approach and one thing he has learned in his 18 years of service is he always tries to hire smarter people than him and he wanted to hire a new addition, Scott Stokes is an IT forensic effort. What he likes about Scott is he is not just a computer smart guy but he likes to tease him that he thinks he can play basketball. He thinks he has a year of eligibility but he's an old guy. His vision and President Balderas stated he thinks this is the vision of the entire executive leadership, he really wants to integrate technology into all our other services. Technology has to work for LED lighting, for locks, classroom settings, students being able to download grades, so there will be no kind of technology limitations. He has a very customer service centric vision but also, he wants technology to work for every potential service and so we want to welcome Scott Stokes as well.

President Balderas stated nobody likes to get audited, the college just completed its audit, we got it in. We have some improvement but we officially are legal, we got our audit submitted to the State Auditor's Office. On March 28, 2023 we submitted that audit and on March 29, 2023, we began our course to improve financial accountability. We waited one day to implement a plan and to hire a new audit firm. We are starting the audit process literally March 29th. President Balderas is hoping to catch our college up in the next year but we are already at work and hoping for an improved audit.

Board President Martin asked if the audit will be released when the State Auditor is done with their investigation and we will have our results. President Balderas stated yes, the report is public, we were late so we were on an at-risk list, they did name Northern. President Martin asked if we would go over the audit at the April meeting, the results of the aud. President Balderas stated absolutely and we will have a full assessment for the Board. The audit report includes the College, Foundation and Corporation.



Board President Martin asked if there were questions for the President. There were no questions from the Board of Regents.

#### **IX. FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT REPORT**

Mr. Gallegos stated they had a very dynamic Faculty Senate meeting on March 3, 2023. They would like to thank President Balderas for attending and renewing his commitment to shared governance and keeping a very close line of communication with faculty (inaudible). Mr. Gallegos stated they would also like to thank Dr. Lopez for attending and providing some important updates (inaudible).

Mr. Gallegos stated Faculty Senate was able to formalize and approve the (inaudible) Charter. This is going to be a committee that is dedicated for cultural sustainability. This is a very important addition to Faculty Senate and it also states a little bit about the commitment of our college to cultural sustainability.

Faculty Senate also had a conversation from the Academics Standards Committee which discussed the grade appeal process. They wanted to make sure to revise that process and made it as student friendly as they possibly could at the same time recognizing our faculty and the importunate of reviewing that type (inaudible) questions that they had in terms of grade. There were questions around that and hopefully at the next meeting there will be a policy to be presented.

Mr. Gallegos stated there was a GoFundMe for Dr. Ajit Ira and they are proud to announce under the leadership of Dr. David Torres they have raised over \$3,000.

Board President Martin asked if there were any questions.

Regent Swentzell asked regarding the Cultural Sustainability Committee, he knows it just started and asked if it is focusing on looking at curriculum and how it supports cultural sustainability or new programs. He asked what the focus on it is or if it is too young to know yet. Mr. Gallegos stated he thinks the committee is going to continue to develop that themselves. There are, it is all encompassing right now. That focus may be further refined or they will keep it broad to incorporate everything from student life to academic (inaudible). We will see how it goes.

#### **X. STUDENT SENATE PRESIDENT REPORT**

President Gurule stated she would like to begin by congratulating our new Regent on her selection for being the new Student Regent and congratulating Board President Martin on the renewing of his term. She would also like to extend appreciation to Regent Juarez as she has been a role model to Student Senate and thank you for all you did for Student Senate.

Student Senate President Gurule stated the Women's History month event was a successful event chaired by Reporter Deandra Romero and Senator Kimberly Nartea. Also assisting on the committee was Ram Khalsa, Treasurer, Bruno Guedes, Advisor and Christian Olivas, Ambassador. Deandra stated that it was to celebrate women. We had cosmetology students doing manicures for students, staff and faculty. During COVID many of our cosmetology students

missed out on the experience they need once they are on the job. This event gave them the experience they need with clients. Lunch was purchased from La Cocina. During lunch all enjoyed some trivia for Women's History Month. It was great to see the cafe full and almost every seat and table was filled.

Ms. Gurule stated regarding the Compassion through Action Collection. Bruno Guedes noticed they were requesting donations so they decided to set up donation boxes throughout the campus and those will be handed over to Compassion through Action this Saturday in the CVS parking lot.

Student Senate also completed their review of the Student Senate Constitution and are hoping to present the document with suggested changes to the Board of Regent before the April meeting so there is time to review for potential approval. The last time the constitution was reviewed was in 2012.

Ms. Gurule stated Student Senate is accepting application through March 31st. Once reviewed and approved by Mr. Guedes, those candidates will begin campaigning and elections will take place on April 6th and 7th.

Board President Martin stated he would like to thank Student Senate for all it does and his hat is off to them because they haven't updated the Bylaws since 2012. We should take a page from their book and look at our Bylaws.

## **XI. STAFF REPORTS**

### **A. Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs**

#### **1. Tenure Recommendations**

Dr. Lopez stated it is a happy day for him to present two recommendations for tenure. Tenure is job security that academic institutions provide to faculty members so they can exercise their academic freedom so in the pursuit of truth can do research and advance research even in controversial issues. At this institution there are four areas where faculty members are evaluated, teaching, student advisement, scholarly activities and college service. In order for Dr. Lopez to present a recommendation two things need to happen; we need to have a positive recommendation from the Tenure and Promotion Council from the Faculty Senate and a positive recommendation from the department the faculty member works in. The Office of the Provost makes the final recommendation and the President accepts the recommendation and then it goes to the Board of Regents.

Dr. Lopez stated in the case of Dr. Steve Cox, Dr. Steve Cox, Assistant Professor with the Department of Engineering and Technology, was a tenured Full Professor at Rice University before joining NNMC in the Spring of 2016. He has requested that his tenure be transferred to NNMC under the conditions discussed in the Full-Time Faculty Collective Bargaining Agreement. Dr. Cox will receive the title of Associate Professor. (inaudible)

Board President Martin stated Dr. Cox served on the search committee and Board President Martin would like to thank him for his service.

Regent Swentzell stated in terms of moving forward in the future, he appreciates the opportunity to celebrate Dr. Cox and his accomplishments and contributions to Northern. Moving in the future being able to recognize faculty rank of those coming in that they are brought in at that rank. He realizes we could have had that conversation. This would have been wonderful to bring him at the highest rank that we could to match up.

Dr. Lopez stated the institution has advanced dramatically in terms of rank and promotion. Prior to 2018 tenure was not even in the CBA and faculty have been developing language for the rank of full professor that we couldn't agree at the last union negotiation about two years ago but he is sure this is something that will be accomplished next year when the CBA is reopened.

Board President Martin entertained a motion to approve the tenure of Dr. Steve Cox.

**Regent Swentzell moved to approve the tenure of Dr. Steve Cox. Second – Regent Batista Daux. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin - yes, Regent Velarde - yes, Regent Swentzell - yes, Regent Batista Daux - yes. Motion passed unanimously.**

Dr. Lopez stated the second recommendation. This is a regular recommendation that in the sense it went through the regular process. Dr. Robert Beshara, a faculty member of the Department of Arts and Human Sciences, has completed the tenure application process and has been positively recommended by the Tenure and Promotion Council of the Faculty Senate for tenure.

Dr. Bashara stated he appreciates the recognition. (inaudible).

Board President Martin entertained a motion to approve the tenure of Dr. Bashara.

**Regent Velarde moved to improve the tenure of Dr. Robert Bashara. Second - Regent Batista-Daux. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin - yes, Regent Velarde - yes, Regent Swentzell - yes, Regent Batista Daux - yes. Motion passed unanimously.**

## 2. Transfer of Credit Policy

Dr. Lopez stated the next item is the approval of a new policy for transfer of credit. When students take courses at a different institution, they want to transfer their credits to Northern and it is not that we were not transferring credits, we have always done it and the practices and processes were spelled out in our academic catalog. Recently, the HLC came with a new regulation where they are requesting institutions to have a stand alone policy. What we did is took all the processes and practices that we had been developing and implementing for the last 20 years and placed them in a stand-alone policy. At the same time that we were working on this policy, HED came with a new regulation where the students will have from now on the right to appeal a transfer process, a negative decision when they are trying to transfer credit from a state institution. Since we were already working on the stand-alone policy, we decided to incorporate the appeal process within the policy. This is basically what is on page 41 and the policy. This has been vetted through

the institution and the legal firm. The policy is ready to be approved and it will allow us to be in compliance with the new requirements from HED and HLC.

Regent Swentzell stated Regent Juarez was in the meeting and spoke positively about its value to students and this important to have.

**Regent Swentzell moved to approve the transfer of credit policy. Second – Regent Batista Daus. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin - yes, Regent Velarde - yes, Regent Swentzell - yes, Regent Batista Daus - yes. Motion passed unanimously.**

B. Vice President for Finance & Administration

1. Fiscal Watch Reports

Vice President Montoya introduced Theresa Storey to present the Fiscal Watch Report. Dr. Montoya stated she will review the Capital Outlay for the Board of Regents.

Theresa Storey, Vice President for Finance & Administration reviewed the Fiscal Watch Reports (attached).

Regent Swentzell asked under the Internal Services for the actuals from December 31, 2022 to 2021, the internal services are up double. He asked if this was a timing issue or in a change in services provided compared to the last year. Ms. Storey stated she does not have the answer but will follow up.

Regent Swentzell asked in terms of cash in the bank, are you seeing any increases in earnings from cash in the bank due to rate increases. He knows some of the banks have been sitting on their hands a little bit but should be improving interest earnings. Ms. Story stated this is an increase and she will get back to him on this as well.

Board President Martin moved to approve the Fiscal Watch Reports as presented.

**Regent Swentzell moved to approve the Fiscal Watch Report for December 31, 2022. Regent Velarde – Second. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin – yes, Regent Velarde – yes, Regent Swentzell – yes, Regent Batista Daus – yes. Motion passed unanimously.**

3. Project proposals for HED submission

Denise Montoya, Chief of Staff reviewed the project proposals for HED submission (attached).

Board President Martin entertained a motion to approve the Espanola Roofing & Infrastructure.

**Regent Swentzell moved to approve the Espanola Roofing & Infrastructure. Second – Regent Velarde. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin – yes, Regent Velarde – yes, Regent Swentzell – yes, Regent Batista Daus – yes. Motion passed unanimously.**

Board President Martin entertained a motion to approve the Capital Project titled Eagle Memorial Gym.

**Regent Swentzell moved to approve Capital project titlee Eagle Memorial Gym. Second – Regent Batista Dauz. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin – yes, Regent Velarde – yes, Regent Swentzell – yes, Regent Batista Dauz – yes. Motion passed unanimously.**

President Balderas stated there will be some renovation to Chacon Park with amended details. They will be presenting this at the next Board meeting.

#### **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

**Board President Martin entertained a motion to adjourn.**

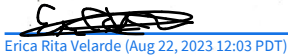
**Regent Velarde moved to adjourn. Second – Batista Dauz. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin – yes, Regent Velarde – yes, Regent Swentzell – yes, Regent Batista Dauz – yes. Motion passed unanimously.**

**The Board of Regents adjourned 2:22PM.**

APPROVED:



Michael A. Martin, Board President

  
Erica Rita Velarde (Aug 22, 2023 12:03 PDT)

Erica Velarde, Vice President








# 1756\_001

Final Audit Report

2023-08-22

Created:	2023-08-18
By:	Amy Pena (amy.pena@nnmc.edu)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAA2kMkFRTPSi_qufjsLJGGsduYw_UQEZel

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-  Document created by Amy Pena (amy.pena@nnmc.edu)  
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