

## **Board of Regents Special Meeting**

***Monday, August 6, 2025***

***1:00 pm***

***Public Zoom Webinar***

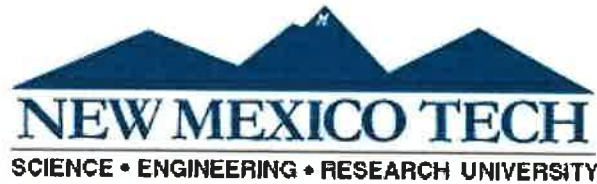
***<https://nmt-edu/j/95450307347>***

### **MINUTES**

- 1. Call to Order.** Regent Chair Dr. David Lepre Sr. called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm and recognized other Regents attending: Dr. Yolanda Jones King, Board Secretary/Treasurer; Regent Jerry Armijo and Regent Cody Johnston. Regent Mukkamala could not attend the meeting. The Chair also recognized President Michael Jackson and other online attendees.

University administration was represented by Acting President, Michael Jackson, Vice Presidents Delilah Walsh, Lique Coolen, and David Greene. Other attendees included JoAnn Salome, Brandon Boulter, Vanessa Grain, Bob Balch, and Attorney Jenica Jacobi along with various guests online as public attendees.

- a) Proof of Meeting Notice.** Ms. Vanessa Grain confirmed that legal notices were placed in the *Albuquerque Journal* and *El Defensor Chieftain*. She confirmed that the notice was distributed in compliance with the New Mexico Open Meetings Act and the Office of the Attorney General's guidance on virtual meetings. Chair Lepre read a formal statement affirming the meeting's compliance with the Open Meetings Act. He noted that roll call votes would be used for all actions and requested that all participants clearly identify themselves when speaking. He also clarified that the Zoom webinar link had been made publicly available.
- 2. Approval of Agenda.** The Agenda was approved on a motion by Regent King and a second by Regent Johnston on a roll call vote conducted by Ms. Grain.
- 3. Public Comment.** None.
- 4. Executive Session.**  
NMSA 1987, Sec 10-15-1 [H] [2], [If required to Consider Legal and/or Personnel Matters] Chair Lepre entertained a motion to meet in Executive Session. Regent King so moved. Regent Armijo seconded. Chair Lepre asked that President Jackson, VPSA Dr. David Greene, AVP Brandon Boulter, HR Director JoAnn Salome, Attorney Jenica Jacobi and Ms. Grain stay for the Executive Session. Regent King moved to adjourn the special meeting and meet in Executive Session. Regent Johnston seconded the motion, which passed on a roll call vote at 1:03 pm.



**5. Reconvene in open session and take final action, if any, on such limited legal and/or personnel matters which shall be acted upon in open session following conclusion of the closed session.**

Regent King moved to return to open session, followed by a second by Regent Armijo. The motion passed on a roll call vote at 1:34 pm.

**6. Action Items.**

- a) Approval of appointment of Director of Admissions.** AVP Boulter proposed the appointment of Patrick Clingman as Director of Admissions. Regent King moved for approval, as advised. During a brief discussion, Ms. Salome explained that all professional staff have an introductory, or probationary period of 12 months from the date of their hire, as included in their letter of offer. There being no further questions, the Chair called for the vote, which passed on a roll call vote by Ms. Grain.
- b) Appointment of NMT Univ. Research Park Corp. Board Member Molly Cernicek and Mia Peterson.** Regent King moved to accept the recommendation of board chair Dale Decker to approve both appointments of Ms. Cernicek and Peterson. Regent King moved to approve, and Regent Armijo seconded the motion, which passed on a roll call vote by Ms. Grain.
- c) Approval of KMP Resolution for NMT.** VP and Provost Dr. Lique Coolen proposed adopting a resolution ratifying the designation of the senior management official for NMT, including facility clearance and responsibility for Key Management Personnel (KMP). Prior to his resignation, former President Mahyar Amouzegar held the position. Dr. Coolen proposed the appointment of AVPR Carlos Romero as the Institute's senior official. Regent King so moved. Regent Jerry Armijo seconded the motion, which passed on a roll call vote.

**7. Individual Board Member Comments.** Regent King expressed confidence in NMT's future, adding that the NMT University Research Park Corp. has a planning session ahead. She also recognized President Jackson, VPR and Provost Dr. Coolen and PRRC Director Robert Balch for their presentation to the Cabinet Secretary of the NM Economic Development Dept., Rob Black.

**8. New Business.**

- a)** Chair Lepre expanded on an invitation he and Regent King proposed to HED Secretary Stephanie Rodriguez to visit the NMT campus. Regent King suggested extending the conversation beyond STEM education to include both the Lottery and Opportunity scholarships established by HED, by having Secretary Rodriguez meet with Tech students benefitting from these programs. Regent King asked members to come up with specific topics to discuss during the upcoming visit. Tech is now a minority-majority institution, noted Chair Lepre, adding that the Secretary's visit presents an



ideal opportunity to acquaint her with Tech's student profile; any Board thoughts should be passed on to Regent King.

- b) Chair Lepre shared with members his thoughts regarding the work and workload of the Board, and special areas of interest. Under Board by-laws authorizing him to create subcommittees and members to serve on them:
- Chair Lepre would continue to chair the Regents Finance Subcommittee with Legislative Updates.
  - As the Board's long-time representative on the NMT Research Park Corp. Board, Regent King will remain in that capacity.
  - Regent Mukkamala will still head the research subcommittee, focusing on campus research programs and projects, due to his connections in Washington and other places; Regent King will also contribute as she maintains key nationwide ties.
  - Regent Armijo was appointed to chair a subcommittee focused on enrollment and student services, areas the Regent is passionate about. As the student representative on the Board, Regent Johnston was appointed to the same committee which focuses on University functions that directly impact students.

9. **Adjournment.** A motion was made by Regent King and seconded by Regent Armijo to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 1:49 pm on a roll call vote by Ms. Grain.



**Chair, David Lepre Sr.**

**Attest:**



**Secretary-Treasurer, Yolanda Jones King**

