

EASTERN NEW MEXICO UNIVERSITY
Virtual Board of Regents Meeting
Eastern New Mexico University - Portales
Regents Room
April 10, 2020 – 1:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Regent President Terry Othick called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m. and declared a quorum. Regent Joseph Gergel was present. Regents Terry Othick, Dan Patterson, Edwin Tatum, and Lance Pyle were present virtually.

*Roll call: Regent Othick - Yes; Regent Patterson – Yes; Regent Gergel – Yes;
Regent Pyle – Yes; Regent Tatum – Yes*

APPROVE THE AGENDA

*Regent Tatum moved to approve the agenda as presented. Regent Pyle seconded the motion.
Vote: 5-0-0. Motion approved.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regent Patterson moved to approve the minutes of March 13, 2020, as presented. Regent Pyle seconded. Vote: 5-0-0. Motion approved.

Regent Pyle moved to approve the minutes of March 20, 2020, as presented. Regent Patterson seconded. Vote: 5-0-0. Motion approved.

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

Regent President Terry Othick asked to interject a change, with board consent, that the May 8, 2020, Board of Regents meeting scheduled for the ENMU-Roswell campus to changed to the Portales campus at 1:00 p.m. There were no objections from the Regents for this change of time and venue.

Regent Othick said that it seems that we are continuing to find ways to make our lives as normal as possible in hopes that the pandemic will run its course, and life will return to normal. He said that this virus could change the way many of us conduct our personal lives, and the way businesses operate may change well into the future.

Regent Othick said that now is the time for us to begin planning for how ENMU will deal with funding reductions that are likely to be imposed for the upcoming fiscal year and beyond. Leadership will play a huge role in the survival of universities. The board will need each of the administrators to prepare to meet the challenges that will unfold in the months ahead. The board looks forward to working with the administration to ensure that ENMU is an institution that survives and continues to provide outstanding educational opportunities in the coming years.

REPORT FROM THE ENMU-ROSWELL PRESIDENT

Dr. Shawn Powell reported on their virtual visit with HLC on March 23-24. Afterward he learned that the U.S. Department of Education has imposed another requirement on such visits, necessitating a verification visit in the fall.

Dr. Powell reported that only a limited number of people are on campus, and security has been tightened to comply with the Governor's stay-at-home instruction. Prior approval is required before employees come to campus, and visits must be brief.

Dr. Powell said they are reviewing open positions and making decisions based on the anticipation of budget reductions. Information will be forthcoming as we get closer to the special legislative session.

Dr. Powell said there will be a telephonic Community College Board meeting on April 15, and they will be appointing a committee to select a replacement for Eloise Blake, who has retired from the board. They will also ask for an extension for withdrawal dates and to switch to an online instructional format for the remainder of the spring semester. Plans are underway to change spring commencement to a virtual format and they will give spring graduates the option of participating in the December ceremony.

Dr. Powell reported that all classes are now online, and they have stopped offering courses that require hands-on skills. Those areas are primarily in technical education and some of the health education fields. They intend to issue incompletes to those students and work with them to make up the missing assignments as quickly as possible when people are allowed back on campus.

Dr. Powell said that online enrollment for summer and fall is open and that they are hosting Facebook live sessions to provide information to students.

REPORT FROM THE ENMU-RUIDOSO PRESIDENT

Dr. Ryan Carstens reported that the Ruidoso situation is very similar to Roswell. They continue to offer their courses, and the Student Support group is ramping up to provide student engagement opportunities and activities online. Some students have indicated that they are experiencing stress due to the nature of the stay-at-home mandates statewide.

Dr. Carstens said he and Dr. Powell are continuing to attend the NMACC meetings to determine what the group of colleges are looking at on the state and federal level. They are also working with Brent Small of Financial Aid to discover how to deploy the funds that will be forthcoming.

Dr. Carstens said that prior to the Coronavirus, projects were underway in the village of Ruidoso including summer training tied to the tourism industry. They are now waiting to see how quickly the village ramps back up after businesses reopen. ENMU-Ruidoso continues to work on getting announcements out, letting the community know that they are still in operation and courses are in progress. They are seeing a delay in summer enrollment and have received feedback from students that they are hesitant to move forward at this time. The Work Force office has been inundated with unemployment calls and has had a difficult two weeks due to state shutdowns.

Dr. Carstens said that the MOU's with the Mescalero Apache schools are complete, but they are having difficulty accessing buildings now, which is impacting dual credit courses. Adult evening courses are also taking a hit.

Dr. Carstens commended his staff in the ability to adapt to the changes, and he recently sent out an email thanking them and letting them know that their efforts are greatly appreciated.

REPORT FROM THE CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Dr. Jeff Elwell reported that spring break was extended for one week, and all courses have been converted to an online format in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. He commended Clark Elswick and the ITS staff for their efforts to boost Wi-Fi connectivity around campus buildings. In addition, Yucca Telecom and Comcast have offered students 60 days of free service. Both Drs. Powell and Carstens have participated in the Emergency Planning Committee that was convened in mid-March and chaired by Chief Brad Mauldin. There has been a tremendous amount of work done to make sure students, faculty, and staff are made aware of changes and practices on campus. Faculty are diligently carrying out their online courses and assisting students, and Communication Services has kept the

website up-to-date with the latest information. He continues to stay in contact with the community and Cannon Air Force Base officials to see how we can help each other and has also participates in weekly CUP and HED meetings.

Dr. Elwell reported that 578 semester-long, face-to-face courses were converted to online, and the second 8-week courses that began March 23, 2020, were converted to an online format. There are a total of 15 students in the residence hall and approximately 30 students, staff and first responders are in the West Campus Housing units. All student services were converted to online, and dining services have gone to a take-out only. Only two students have withdrawn after going to online courses, and students are voicing their appreciation for the positive efforts of the university to get them through this semester.

Dr. Elwell said that the Department of Public Safety has worked tirelessly to patrol the campus. There have been a few incidences, but many others were prevented by the pervasive monitoring by a patrolman. This department has also shared surplus protective equipment with our local hospital.

Dr. Elwell introduced Mr. John Houser, assistant vice president for Marketing and Communications, to discuss the planning that is underway for a virtual spring commencement. Mr. Houser reviewed steps that have been taken with the help of the Registrar's Office to develop a virtual ceremony with things we already have on campus. Mr. Duane Ryan, Director at KENW, has graciously offered to film this event at the studio in the Communications Building. A website link will be made available to stream the ceremony and will be made available on KENW 3-2, which provides statewide coverage. Graduates will be asked to complete an online form and submit a photograph that will be developed into a slide show. Mr. Houser stated that this has been approved by the Registrar's Office and Core Staff and will be presented to Student Government next week. The tentative date for this event is May 30, 2020.

Dr. Elwell reported information about the CARES Act and Higher Education, which listed the funds for each institution. According to their report, ENMU as a whole will receive \$2.92 million, half of which goes directly to the students to assist with the disruption in their life.

BUSINESS MATTERS

Consent Agenda

1. Budget Adjustment Request for 2019-2020, Portales (*Mr. Scott Smart, Action*)
2. Budget Adjustment Request for 2019-2020, Roswell (*Mr. W. Anthony Major, Action*)
3. 2020-2021 University Calendar, Roswell (*Dr. Shawn Powell, Action*)

Regent Pyle moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Regent Patterson seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0-0. Motion approved.

Other Items

1. Proposed Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Operating Budget, Roswell
Mr. Tony Majors said that the proposed operating budget was approved by the Community College Board on March 11, 2020. The proposed budget is much the same as the previous year's budget but will likely change after the special legislative session.

Regent Dan Patterson raised the question as to whether this budget is based on the appropriation from the most recent legislative session and asked if Roswell currently has a working budget with salary increases included. Mr. Major said that they are looking to add salary increases. Regent Lance Pyle commented that until we know what cuts are coming, raises may need to be set aside until after the special legislative session.

Regent Patterson moved to approve the 2020-2021 ENMU-Roswell operating budget as presented with the understanding that they utilize a working budget that is no greater than last year's budget until we hear what happens at the special legislative session this summer. Regent Pyle seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0-0. Motion approved.

2. Proposed Student Fees Recommendation

Dr. Jeff Long reported that Student Government had \$75,000 less to allocate than last year, and there were \$77,000 more in requests. Two factors to consider are that Intramural Sports were over-allocated by \$17,000 last year and have asked for less, and the Spirit Squad has money left in reserves, and have not complied with previous requests from the Fees Board to use reserve funds.

Regent Patterson moved to approve the proposed Student Fees recommendation as presented. Regent Pyle seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0-0. Motion approved.

3. Nexus Phase II Timeline, Ruidoso

Dr. Carstens said that he wanted to make the board aware of what would be happening over the next few months. This information gives context to the following action items. The Jaynes Company continues work toward the completion of Phase I of this project and is finding workers to conclude the project in June.

Dr. Carstens presented future phases and steps that must be taken to comply with HED and Department of Finance requirements for a June discussion about the project. The bonding aspect of the project has been completed based on previous presentations to the Regents and the Community College Board. The resolution aspect of this presentation is to show support by the Board of Regents.

4. Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Limited Tax General Obligations Bonds, Ruidoso

Dr. Carstens said that this resolution is a requirement at the state level and has been approved by the Community College Board. He presented this to the Board of Regents for review and approval since ultimately, the Regents are the property owners.

Regent Tatum moved that the ENMU Board of Regents affirms and supports the Ruidoso Branch Community College Board in approving the Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Limited Tax General Obligation Bonds, Series 2020; establishing procedures for the sale and delivery of the bonds; delegating to a pricing officer the authority to determine the final terms of the bonds; authorizing application to the higher education department; and authorizing other matters related to the issuance of the bonds. Regent Pyle seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0-0. Motion approved.

5. Moving Forward with Phase II of College Nexus Project, Ruidoso

Dr. Carstens said they are in the midst of a multi-phased building project with Phase I underway. Phase II will focus on redesigning portions of the existing building to provide a one-stop-shop for student services, which will be deemed the "Success Emporium."

Dr. Carstens reported that the architects' projected costs for Phase II is \$4,084,400 and will be funded largely by the \$3 million bond issuance.

Regent Patterson moved that the ENMU Board of Regents approve moving forward with Phase II of the College Nexus Project, completing the work with the architect and selecting a builder to execute the renovations, using local and bond funds not to exceed \$4,084,400 as presented. Regent Tatum seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0-0. Motion approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Regent Tatum moved to enter executive session at 2:35 p.m. to discuss two limited personnel matters pursuant to Section 10-15-1(H)(2), NMSA (1978). Regent Patterson seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0-0. Motion approved.


Roll call: Regent Othick – Yes; Regent Patterson – Yes; Regent Gergel – Yes; Regent Pyle – Yes; Regent Tatum – Yes.

Regent Patterson moved to return to open session at 3:44 p.m. Regent Tatum seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0-0. Motion approved.

Regent Othick reported that one personnel matter was discussed (only). No actions were taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Regent Pyle moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:47 p.m. Regent Patterson seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0-0. Motion approved.



President of the Board



Secretary of the Board

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

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Senior Executive Assistant to the Chancellor and Board of Regents*


Secretary of the Board