

**NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF REGENTS**

SPECIAL MEETING

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

Yates Auditorium

Domenici Hall

NMSU Main Campus

Las Cruces, New Mexico

2:30 pm

MINUTES

Regents of New Mexico State University

Debra Hicks, Chair

Mike Cheney, Vice Chair

Jerean Hutchinson, Sect./Treas.

Amanda López Askin, Member

Kari Mitchell, Member

Hobbs, New Mexico

Las Cruces, New Mexico

Las Cruces, New Mexico

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Ex officio Members of the Board of Regents:

The Honorable Susana Martinez, Governor

Chris Brown, Ph. D., Faculty Senate

Mathew Bose, President ASNMSU

Monica Dunivan, Chair, NMSU Employee
Council

Officers of the University:

Garrey Carruthers, Ph. D., Chancellor & President, NMSU

Dan Howard, Ph. D, Executive Vice President & Provost, NMSU

AGENDA

2:30 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER- Chair Debra Hicks

Chair Hicks called the meeting to order at 2:31 pm. In addition to Chair Hicks, Regents present were Vice Chair Mike Cheney, Regent Jerean Hutchinson, and Regent Amanda López Askin. Regent Kari Mitchell was out-of-state and unable to attend.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

a. Introduction of Media Representatives- Justin Bannister, University Communications
Justin Bannister introduced the media representatives present. The meeting was webcast from the Yates Theater in Domenici Hall.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA-Chair Debra Hicks

Regent López Askin moved and Regent Hutchinson seconded the approval of the agenda. Motion passed.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT-** Justin Bannister, University Communications

NMSU Alumna and parent Sue Padilla spoke about learning at 12:30 pm on July 13th that the Equestrian Team was being cut immediately. She serves on the national Board and does not need to lose another team nationally. The students just learned one month before school that they have no team. Parents are calling asking what they can do. These students have been planning since they were in high school. This is incomprehensible.

Student Equestrian Team Member Hallie Padilla spoke stating that they are all heartbroken we cannot go to another school. They came to NMSU for this exact reason. Can we keep it at least another year? Two girls from Canada had offers from other schools...they love it here.

Student Equestrian Team member Kaitlin Nelson spoke. She was dropped off at the airport and will be here until Thanksgiving. She has fallen in love with NMSU. We may be small but we are mighty. Please reconsider.

5. **BUDGET PRESENTATION-** Chancellor Garrey Carruthers

At 2:40 pm Chancellor Garrey Carruthers started a presentation on the NMSU Budget for FY 2017. It is a difficult situation for us, athletes and jobs. "We will sail the ship together through the stormy seas" stated Chancellor Carruthers. NMSU is 12.1 million dollars short for FY17. He described the teams working on transforming NMSU for the 21st Century. In the Deloitte Study, they noted that we touch paper too much. The teams are looking for solutions to that issue, e.g. travel.

The Chancellor stated that the Board of Regents asked him to be more entrepreneurial. We solicited ideas. The Chancellor covered the list on page 5 of the PowerPoint slide. He denoted the Instruction and General (I & G) transfers to units including New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA) and the NMSU Cooperative Extension Service (CES). Across campus, units sent in 725 recommendations that were vetted for potential budget reductions. The final cuts were 5.4% or 5.5 million from the Academic side and 3.8 million from the Administrative side.

Chancellor Carruthers gave a summary of the programs affected:

- The Employee Health Center (EHS) will close August 1, 2016.
- All EHS employees will be able to work with a new provider.
- Chancellor Carruthers cited a previous situation when the NMSU Bookstore became a private provider.
- In the Equestrian Program, all scholarships will be honored. Students can transfer to another school.
- The Engineering Surveying Degree has 3 faculty and 17 students. We have to look at small programs.
- The Center for Latin and Border Studies will move from being a separate program.

The Chancellor mentioned the land development being led by Aggie Development, Inc. (ADI). The suggested name is "Aggie Uptown". There will be a meeting for the public to review the plan on July 29th.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT/QUESTIONS- NMSU Community and Others-Justin Bannister, University Communications

A faculty member from the College of Business said that in base salary, in the last seven years the staff has received less than 1% in raises. The benefit reductions will impact attracting faculty and that affects students. (6 staff positions gone, staff have to do the work. Tuition increases may impact not having an additional pay cut.

Mr. Bob Cameron spoke. He told his son to take a class in Ag. He spoke about his granddaughter who is the NM Rodeo Queen. He sent a student here. She signed a loan agreement. He paid the amount she owed in order to look at her mid-term grades. He paid, but wants his money back for the government class where she had no grade posted. He wants tuition for one course where the professor did not do his job.

Kaitlin Nelson spoke regarding the Equestrian Program notice. Thirty days is not enough time to find another school. Recruiting is over. This is more than a scholarship, it is a dream.

7. Comments from the ASNMSU President, Mathew Bose

No person spoke representing ASNMSU.

8. Comments from the Faculty Senate Chair, Chris Brown, Ph.D.

Regarding faculty salaries, they appreciate the “Mercer” raises but enrollment is down in other universities. Advancing success means securing research dollars. The true key is the high quality faculty and staff bring research funds to NMSU. Dr. Brown distributed a chart depicting faculty and staff growth over time. He stated, “We don’t have too many faculty. We don’t have too many staff.” Selling cars is easy. Getting rid of tenure track lines is our seed corn. These affect people’s lives. Dr. Brown asked the Board of Regents to consider the modest tuition increase.

9. Comments from the Employee Council Chair, Monica Dunivan

Ms. Dunivan thanked NMSU Leadership and said NMSU has been transparent. These are challenging times and we are looking for the best for our employees. We are a caring community of proud Aggies.

10. Comments from the Regents

Regent Mike Cheney stated, “Let’s not turn on each other. I voted no two years in a row. I thought we weren’t in the game. I have seen a lot of data in the last week. We need to look at programs even if they are small. We are not clear on enrollment numbers. We need to look at what we can afford to do. A one percent increase in tuition is worth one million.

Regent Hutchinson stated that it is hard for “us” too. I think we look at revenue vs. expenses. I want to bring up that this did not happen overnight. Enrollment, retention. Placement, alumni giving, is down for 5 to 7 years. We are in a tough situation. We need to look at marketing, enrollment, retention. Let’s market this great university. We started a Student Success Committee. We have great opportunities in marketing. We are a great value university. I have a concern about the Equestrian Team not being given enough notice.

Regent Askin stated, “My comments won’t be data riven”. When I look at faculty and staff, my Mom lost her job. She lost it one year before she was eligible for retirement. She is a big Aggie, she wears her crimson. I cannot look at the student or I may cry. I have a concern about the closing of the Employee Health Center.

Chair Debra Hicks stated, “I am hit too with the cuts, the Engineering Surveying program. We need to look at programs that need to be reviewed. We need to look at Equestrian. As far as a 5% to 7% (salary) increase in the private sector, we did not give my own staff a raise like that. They got 2 percent.”

Regent Cheney spoke to Faculty Senate Chair Brown asking that the Faculty Senate come up with some solutions. Faculty senate Chair Brown said he will be meeting with Regent Mitchell. Regent Cheney thanked the Chancellor and the Provost.

ADJOURNMENT-Chair Debra Hicks

Chair Hicks said thank you and entertained a motion for adjournment. The motion was made by Regent Cheney and seconded by Regent Hutchinson.
Meeting adjourned.

Call to Order the Aggie Development, Inc. (ADI) Annual Meeting Regent Debra Hicks,
Presiding Officer

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Election of Board Members

The Board of Regents convened a “Board of the Members” meeting of the Aggie Development, Inc. for the purpose of electing a slate of board members whose terms had expired. Chancellor Garrey Carruthers, Regent Mike Cheney, and Chris Dulany were re-elected to seats on the Aggie Development Board of Directors.

4. Adjournment
Meeting adjourned.