

**NORTHERN NEW MEXICO COLLEGE
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS
OCTOBER 21, 2013**

I. CALL TO ORDER

A special meeting of the Board of Regents of Northern New Mexico College was held on Monday, October 21, 2013 at 12:00PM in the Boardroom of the Montoya Administration Building on the Espanola Campus. Regents present: Michael P. Branch, Alfred Herrera, Cecille Martinez, and Feliberto Martinez. Also present was Lisa Salazar Co-Student Representative to the Board of Regents. Regent Rosario (Chayo) Garcia could not attend the meeting. Board President Michael Branch called the meeting to order at 12:04p.m.

Northern New Mexico College staff present: Dr. Nancy "Rusty" Barceló, President; Domingo Sanchez, VP of Finance and Administration; Dr. Anthony Sena, Provost and VP of Academic Affairs; Ricky Serna, VP of Institutional Advancement; Bernie Padilla, Director of Human Resources; Ryan Cordova, Athletic Director; Mario Montes Helu Faculty; James Biggs, Faculty; Melissa Velasquez, Director, El Rito Campus and Amy Pena, Assistant to the President and Recording Secretary. Others present: Lindsey Bright, Reporter with the Rio Grande Sun.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The final agenda was approved.

Regent Branch stated the meeting of October 21, 2013 is a public meeting but it is not an open meeting. It is only for the Approval of the RPSP for Athletics.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval of RPSP for Athletics

Ricky Serna, Vice President for Institutional Advancement provided the Board an explanation why the RPSP for Athletics was not brought to be Board earlier with the first two RPSPs sent to the Higher Education Department (HED). The two approved RPSPs were submitted to the HED on time (October 15, 2013). Receipt was acknowledged of the RPSP for the Nuevomexicano Studies Program; however, there was a discrepancy with regards to the Native American Pathways RPSP. HED stated they had not received it but after verification they did acknowledge receipt and a hearing was held for this RPSP. Regent Branch reiterated his request of verification and signature of delivery of documents submitted to HED. Mr. Serna stated the submission process is an electronic process and read receipts are requested, however, they are not returned. In a separate email, the second RPSP was sent.

Mr. Serna stated HED notified the College it had failed to submit the RPSP for Athletics. The College informed HED an RPSP for Athletics was not customary and the institutions did not need to submit an RPSP for Athletics. In addition, the instructions for RPSP did not indicate the College needed to do so. The College prepared the RPSP to present to HED last week and were told it did not need to present it because it was a continued request. Mr. Serna discussed with Secretary Garcia and Deputy Secretary Glenn Walters the lack of communication and confusion regarding the submittal of the RPSP. HED indicated they are doing a comprehensive review of all RPSP funding across the State. HED is trying to align the programs with some measures of fair and equitable practices and distribution of RPSP funding. HED did indicate they would give the College's proposal consideration without consequence because of the communication issue.

Mr. Serna and Mr. Ryan Cordova, Athletic Director provided the Board with the RPSP for Northern New Mexico College Athletics. This is an opportunity that presented itself to the College to increase its revenue for the Athletics Program within reason and a good explanation (new athletic teams as required by the NAIA). Mr. Serna stated in 2012 there was a slight increase of approximately \$1,800.00 to the Athletics Program. Discussions have been held about institutions joining efforts at the Legislature to increase athletic funding.

Regent Branch requested an explanation for change in procedure. Mr. Serna spoke with HED regarding RPSP's and John Rush, HED, who stated he was not at HED before and this is the way they are doing it now. The process is not the issue for the College, the issue is communication and how the institutions were notified of the change in process that HED had initiated with regards to athletics. HED is considering every single budget item below the College's state appropriation as an RPSP. Mr. Serna stated the RPSP process is in Statute and does provide HED with the oversight for managing the RPSP process; it is considered an executive recommendation. HED hears each institutions case on why funding is essential and HED makes recommendations to the Legislature. The Legislature may choose to increase, decrease or eliminate altogether funding for anything HED recommends or doesn't recommend.

Throughout the Legislative process, the College will need to be sure Legislators understand how essential the funding is for the College and reiterate the importance of the programs. The LFC and DFA are part of the recommendation and hearing processes. During the process (time between when HED requests projects and hears them), the institutions have discretion to identify as many as possible but they must insure they ranked in terms of importance. Had the College known they needed to submit an Athletics RPSP, the College might have ranked it as a priority because it is an existing program and continued funding is more important than new funding. The College will need to resubmit the institutional ranking sheet reflecting where Athletics fits in terms of priority with regards to the three RPSP proposals.

Regent Branch stated the Northern Pueblos Institute, the teacher's salaries and Athletics were not submitted through HED in the past, instead they were done by direct submission of Legislators themselves through House Bill 2. Mr. Serna stated this happened with the STEM initiative, Representative Garcia worked with the College to draft the legislation for the one time appropriation because that appropriation shows up in the College's budget below the line or outside of the College's student appropriation but yet HED is considering it an RPSP. This is their interpretation from Statute. This was also the case with the Teacher Education Center developing curriculum, faculty salaries and the Northern Pueblos Institute except it continued as an RPSP.

When the RPSP was initially presented, the College was not part of the NAIA yet and not part of the NCAA. Being that the College is affiliated with the NAIA, one of the biggest expenditures the College is seeing is in travel. There are no NAIA schools within the surrounding areas and the travel for to NAIA area takes an extra amount. Playing within the Conference, the winning percentage went up and the College made the Conference Tournament. By travelling the College is playing schools within the Division and is able to compete at the highest level. The major increase in the RPSP is for travel.

Regent Branch requested clarification of what the College is asking for in the RPSP. Mr. Serna stated the RPSP requires budget history be explained to show HED historical budgeting. In 2007, the College received \$207,000, in 2011, the College received \$207,000 to run the Athletic Program (Mens/Women's Basketball Team only), in 2012 the budget dropped to \$196,000 and in 2013 the budget went back up to \$197,000. The College has requested an increase of \$64,000 taking the total request up to \$263,600 which is approximately a \$55,000 increase from 2011, when the budget was at its peak. The increase is justified in the increase cost of personnel and the increased cost of travel. The College has the additional teams to accommodate which includes uniforms, travel and coaching staff. This request equals the

Colleges expenditures from last year. The overall goal of the College is to reduce the I&G appropriation that the College sends to Athletics every year. Mr. Cordova has worked diligently and will continue to increase the gate sales for Athletics. The new programs will not generate as much revenue as basketball, but the goal is to reduce the I&G expenditures for the Athletics program. Mr. Cordova is being more strategic with travel and reducing expenditures on that end but the additional teams will need to be accommodated.

Regent Herrera moved to approve the RPSP for Athletics as presented by staff. Motion passed.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

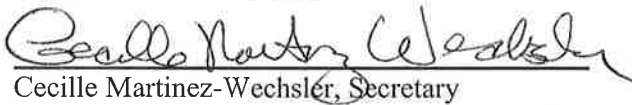
Regent Martinez-Wechsler moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 12:30p.m.

Amy Pena, Recording Secretary

APPROVED:



Michael P. Branch, Board President



Cecille Martinez-Wechsler, Secretary