



NORTHERN NEW MEXICO COLLEGE
BOARD OF REGENTS SPECIAL MEETING
DECEMBER 9, 2020

A Special Meeting of the Board of Regents of northern New Mexico College was held on December 9, 2020 Via Zoom. Regents Present: Michael A. Martin (Via Zoom), Porter Swentzell (Via Zoom), Damian Martinez (Via Zoom), Tomas Rodriguez (Via Zoom). Regent Velarde was not in attendance as she had a meeting with the Lieutenant Governor.

Northern New Mexico College Staff Present: President Richard J. Bailey, Jr., PhD (Via Zoom); Ricky Bejarano, Vice President for Finance & Administration (Via Zoom); Ivan Lopez Hurtado, PhD, Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs (Via Zoom); Vince Lithgow, Comptroller, Sally Martinez, Executive Assistant to the Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Others present: Tim Crone

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Bailey stated Regent Velarde sent her apologies as she had a high level meeting this morning and was unable to attend the Board Meeting. Board President Martin called the meeting to order at 11:00AM.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Board President Martin entertained a motion to approve the Agenda.

Regent Swentzell Moved to approve the Agenda. Second – Regent Martinez. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin – yes, Regent Swentzell – yes, Regent Martinez – yes, Regent Rodriguez – yes. Motion passed unanimously.

III. ACADEMIC CALENDAR TEMPORARY DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

President Bailey stated this came up from Regent Martinez and kind of a reminder of about where, what we did in March, we nicknamed it the War Powers Resolution but it really has to do with how Administration can be delegated certain responsibilities over the Academic calendar because we were having to make decisions in real time. He was gracious enough to ask us to reconsider that, an extension of that. What the Board has in front of them is the culmination of that discussion in the last meeting. It calls for a delegation of authority on the Academic calendar until August 31, 2021. The thing missing in there and will be captured in the minutes of this meeting and he is glad that Regent Martinez brought this up, is the Board should be notified when there are any changes made to that calendar within a reasonable time. We are proposing the Board to grant the delegation of authority with the caveat that if there are any changes made to the Academic calendar the Board is informed as soon as reasonably possible, in our case within 72 hours of when changes are made.

Board President Martin asked if there were any questions. Regent Swentzell stated he does not have any questions but believes Regent Martinez does have questions. Regent Martinez asked if this will allow, it is such a weird world, we are all helpful. With this allow changes to the Academic calendar not only in spring semester but possibly if we would have to tweak stuff for next fall, 2021. President Bailey stated this will allow us some flexibility for the entirety of the spring semester to include the potential eight-week classes. It gives the flexibility if there is a possibility of starting the trades programs in El Rito later in the spring semester. It gives us the flexibility to maneuver a little bit on commencement for 2020 and 2021, depending on the likelihood of vaccines. It also allows flexibility in terms of the start date for the fall term. Anything past that, August 31, 2021, at that point, we should be ready to follow the normal schedule or come to the Board with a re-ask. Board President Martin asked Regent Rodriguez if he had any questions. Regent Rodriguez did not have questions.

Board President Martin entertained a motion to approve the recommendation.

Regent Martinez moved to approve the recommendation of administration to allow extension on the powers to make changes to the Academic Calendar as presented with the caveat. Second – Regent Swentzell. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin - yes, Regent Swentzell - yes, Regent Martinez - yes, Regent Rodriguez - yes. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

V. POSSIBLE ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Martin stated before the Board adjourns, he wanted to take a minute, we have two Regents whose terms expire at the end of the year and he would like to take a minute to thank them for all their service. First of all, he would like to thank Regent Rodriguez for being the student regent for the last two years. We really appreciate your insights into how the students are seeing what is going on in the College and appreciate all his efforts as a student, an employee at Chick-Fil-A, and a basketball player and a Regent and Board President Martin wished Regent Rodriguez the best of luck in the future. Board President Martin asked President Bailey to read a statement from Regent Velarde.

President Bailey stated, Regent Velarde stated Tomas is an outstandingly amazing young man. You have a great future ahead of you. Knowing you through Ari and the Board has shown me what a great an insightful leader you are at work and with friends. It has been a real pleasure serving with you on the Board. I hope our paths continue to cross and you can serve on this Board again. Good luck and take care in all you do. Thank you.

Regent Swentzell stated he would like to echo what the other Regents have already said and it has been an honor to serve on the board with Tomas. He knows they have more service together because they are in the grueling regent interviews right now so he will see him just about every day for the next couple of weeks. As Regent Velarde said, he looks forward to following Regent Rodriguez journey as the years go on because he has a bright future ahead of him and he looks forward to working with him again someday.

Regent Martinez stated it was great working with Regent Rodriguez and he knows he is going to be successful as he moves through life. He knows it took a lot of time but it is these insights that he has gotten in the past couple of years that will make him a better leader and he hopes he continues his service to the community however that is in the future and if he needs anything, he knows how to get ahold of the Board.

President Bailey stated just to echo the Regents and obviously Regent Rodriguez is still in this until the Senate confirms someone else and we are going to hold on to him. President Bailey really appreciates Board President Martin's taking some time to recognize Regent Rodriguez service. Regent Rodriguez is a student, roll model, person of character, we have appreciated his leadership and we know he has to make sacrifices more than most because he has to take classes and everything else. Thank you for your service to your classmates. On behalf of students, faculty and staff, we appreciate everything you have done to serve the College and your fellow students. Thank you very much.

Board President Martin asked Regent Rodriguez if he would like to say something. Regent Rodriguez thanked everyone, everyone has been such a role model for him and made him see the perspective of how hard the school works to do the things that you guys do and the things that the Board has done. It has changed his perspective leadership, on how to just work and how to lead and he would like to thank everybody individually for all the sacrifices you have made, especially this year, 2020 has been crazy. Everybody is going personally through a lot of things. You guys keep your composure and still lead the school through a wonderful direction and you guys are doing wonderful things. You guys are as definitely an example for him going forward to do the things you want him to and he hopes to fulfill visions for him and he wanted to thank everybody from the bottom of his heart. Everyone keeps working hard and he will keep working hard for everyone. the work everyone does.

Board President Martin stated he would like to thank Regent Martinez and he knows he was shocked the day the four of them walked into the first meeting and he appreciates all his efforts and keeping us straightened out and keeping us doing things in the right method. Thank you for all your efforts and your great advice and we are really going to miss you. Hopefully we will see you next year and we will see what happens. Board President Martin asked President Bailey if he had something from Regent Martinez.

President Bailey read the following from Regent Velarde. Damian I really hope this is not goodbye, I am keeping my fingers crossed you will be re-nominated for our Board of Regents. You did a great job guiding the school before us and we were lucky to have you to guide us as newbies. I think our Board has a great balance of people who truly care and I hope we can all continue together.

Regent Swentzell would like to join President Martin and Regent Velarde in recognizing the important perspective that you bring to the Board with your knowledge of the law. A lot of times we are ok, let's go do this and you remind us and ask the important questions and really appreciate the insight he brings. Also, because Regent Martinez came on the Board at a tough time for Northern, so Regent Martinez has reminded us as we have gone along how important it is to remember the journey over the last almost six years that he has been on the Board. You have been there in some really tough times and appreciate the service and the things that were thrown at you along the way. We got to come on when things are much better. He is hearing he is putting his name forward again so there is a chance that we might be able to be with you for some more years. In either case, we appreciate your service. If you aren't, he is going to miss him keeping St. Mike's graduates honest and humble. Maybe we will have some more years of that. Thank you, Regent Martinez, for your service.

Regent Rodriguez stated he would like to echo what everybody else said and also say experience and knowledge show what he has been through on the Board and his experience is related to decisions that you lead us other Regents to make as well with your perspective on law and everything. Thank you.

President Bailey stated he wanted to echo something that Regent Swentzell brought up and that is Regent Martinez joined this Board at a time when it was not a popular thing to do and really when nobody wanted to do it. There is a 1970's song that reminds him of it, You Were Country, When Country Wasn't Cool. You did this out of the goodness of your heart because you believe in the Norte and you believe in the promise of this institution. Over the years and certainly over President Bailey's tenure there have been times when you, and he is going to say this about Regent Powers before, the two of you really protected President Bailey from himself a couple of times and he knows some of the times he is talking about. When he was pushing himself out on the ledge a little too far and he kind of asked the questions that kind of maybe pulled us back a little bit and looking back on it Regent Martinez saved us from some pretty big catastrophes and it wouldn't have happened without him. President Bailey stated he is conscious of the value that he has given the leadership, the fact that Regent Martinez has held us to a higher standard, the fact that the last thing you have been is a rubber stamp and as hard as it has been at times, there is no question you have made the school better; we thank you; we hope it continues and grateful for your service to this institution.

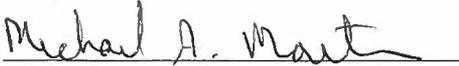
Board President Martin asked Regent Martinez if he would like to say a few words. Regent Martinez stated it is not often that you get to speak at your own funeral as everyone has said nice things because they had to because you are not dead yet. He could say this, he remembers the day he was called by the Governor's Office to be a Regent for Northern, it was December 23rd and he was at the Bull Ring and as President Bailey knows one of his favorite places to be at. The Governor's office asked if he was interested in being a Regent at Northern New Mexico College. He stated he is going to be honest; he didn't know there was a College in Northern New Mexico. He had no clue and he asked if he could have a couple of days to think about it. He talked to his parents, his in-laws and his wife and it was one of those if the Governor asks you to do something, it is because they think you can help so you have to do it. That is how he got on the Board. He would like to say it is because he is the Democrat that then Governor Martinez knew. It's been fun, he hopes to continue, he did put his name in the hat. He will respect the wishes of Governor Lujan Grisham if she doesn't decide to reappoint him. He will only respect that only after he exhausts all his remedies through the Supreme Court of the United States and hiring Giuliani and all the other people are (inaudible), no that is not true. He hopes to get reappointed

but if he doesn't get reappointed, he will continue to serve until the new person comes in. If that happens, he hopes that doesn't happen because he will miss each and everyone but he thinks there will be one more meeting before then, in January. He would like to President Bailey for his leadership for putting together a great team. The most important vote he took as a Regent, that vote was to for Dr. Bailey to come on board, unseen, he talked to him over the phone because he was busy doing other things. He has done a great job. Thank you for your leadership Rick and that of Ricky and Ivan and the team you have put together. Regent Martinez thanked President Martin for his leadership, he thinks it is important to have somebody local, from El Rito to be the head of the Board because he has a much better understanding than many of us who don't live out there and don't have history in the area. Regent Martinez stated Regent Swentzell brings a great insight to the place-settings we have to have at the table, culturally he is from Las Vegas but Las Vegas is culturally different from Espanola, just like Santa Fe is culturally different than Espanola. You bring that perspective that a lot of us don't have, you are from there, you've lived it and you are one of the shining stars from Northern since you graduated and went on to huge things. Regent Martinez stated the same thing for Regent Rodriguez, he has brought so much to the table, his insight on students. Regent Velarde is the same way, she is another shining star of what Northern does for their students. He just hopes he gets another few years and if not, it is one of the greatest achievements he has had. Thank you. Board President Martin thanked everyone for their comments and entertained a motion to adjourn.

Regent Martinez – moved to adjourn. Second – Regent Swentzell. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin – yes, Regent Swentzell – yes, Regent Martinez – yes, Regent Rodriguez – yes. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board of Regents adjourned at 11:20AM.

APPROVED:



Michael A. Martin, Board President

Erica Velarde, Vice President

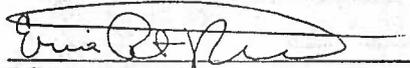
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