

EASTERN NEW MEXICO UNIVERSITY
Board of Regents Meeting
ENMU-Portales, Administration Building, Regents Room
November 14, 2017 – 1:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Regent Vice President, Terry Othick called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m. and declared a quorum. Regents Ed Tatum, Terry Othick, and Kekoa VonSchriltz were present with Dan Patterson present by phone. Regent Jane Christensen was out of the country and did not participate.

APPROVE THE AMENDED AGENDA

Regent Othick asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

Regent Patterson moved to approve the agenda. Regent VonSchriltz seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0-0. Motion approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regent Othick asked for a motion to approve the November 3, 2017 minutes. Regent Patterson suggested two amendments: He and Regent Othick attended a New Mexico game rather than a University of Arizona game. Additionally, he asked that his statement on governance structure be changed from “would” to “could” regarding the creation of a super-board.

Regent Othick moved to approve the minutes of November 3, 2017 as amended. Regent Patterson seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0-0. Motion approved.

BUSINESS MATTERS

1. ENMU’s Proposal with regard to recent Legislative Finance Committee recommendations for improved efficiency and cost savings, Portales (Dr. Elwell, Action)

As a preface to his presentation Dr. Jeff Elwell, ENMU President, asked Dr. Patrice Caldwell, Executive Director of Planning and Analysis, to give a report on the ENMU-Ruidoso presidential search. Dr. Caldwell reported that the list of finalist will be released on November 26, 2017.

Dr. Elwell stated that the recent Legislative Finance Committee Report, in which ENMU received more praise than criticism. The report noted opportunities for increased efficiency, especially in terms of branch campus management. In response to these recommendations and after his own review of the System, Dr. Elwell introduced his proposal to add system-wide oversight to three existing Portales campus positions: System Chief Information Officer, System Vice President for Business Affairs and a System Director of Human Resources. He clarified that there is no plan to change current personnel or titles on the branch campuses.

Regent Tatum asked how this proposal would translate in terms of organizational structure. Dr. Elwell explained that the system administrators would coordinate policies and practices across the System. Branch campus managers would continue to report to their Presidents but would also work hand-in-hand with the System oversight administrator.

Dr. John Madden, ENMU-Roswell President, joined via cell phone and voiced concern about diminishing the ability of ENMU-Roswell to make its own decisions about programs and initiatives in a timely manner and in a manner consistent with its own practices and processes.

Regent Othick expressed the necessity for the three campuses to unify their policies. Dr. Patterson affirmed this statement, adding that the Regents have requested current policies be aligned across the System. Understanding that each of the campuses have different missions,

campuses should still comply with a university-wide set of policies and practices. Exceptions to the System-wide policies or policies unique to a particular campus would then be brought before the Board of Regents

Mr. Steve Henderson, past member of the Community College Board, joined the meeting via cell phone. Mr. Henderson stated that ENMU-Roswell is a vocational campus with a vastly different mission than the other campuses. He expressed concern over standardization of policy. Ms. Eloise Blake, ENMU-Roswell Community Campus Board president, voiced concerns, specifically in regard to accreditation for ENMU-Roswell's many health-related programs. Dr. Jamie Laurenz, ENMU-Portales Vice President for Academic Affairs was asked to speak to these concerns. Dr. Laurenz recognized the importance of the distinct mission of ENMU-Roswell and the need to meet accreditation requirements. He cited ENMU-Portales's nursing and ASHA accreditation as examples of rigorous health-related programs and fully understands the importance that Roswell's programs continue to operate as they have. He sees nothing in the proposal that would compromise or interfere with that process.

Regent Patterson stressed that the Regents' intention of unified policy is to strengthen ENMU as one institution and to provide for more cooperation and communication between the branches and main campus.

Dr. Madden voiced concern that this proposal was brought before the Board of Regents as an action item without any consultation with the branch campuses. Dr. Elwell recognized that concern but pointed out that the System president has an obligation to seek to improve the ENMU System governance and present those recommendations to the Regents. The LFC (meeting in early December) will again discuss branch and main campus efficiencies and coordination. Having this discussion after greater efficiency was necessary.

Mr. Ralph Fresquez, Community College Board Member joined the meeting via cell phone and expressed concerns over management of ENMU-Roswell's reserve funds. He asked whether ENMU-Roswell would have the ability to make recommendations about how these funds would be used under the current proposal. In turn, Ms. Blake asked if the current Community College Board would maintain their authority. Dr. Elwell responded that no change in how ENMU-Roswell manages its expenditures has been proposed. The Community College Board's authority would be unchanged. This was confirmed by Regent Patterson.

Regent Tatum suggested that the current proposal be approved in concept and that further consultation about the proposal occur among Drs. Elwell, Madden and Alred for re-presentation at the December Board of Regents meeting. Regent Othick stated that the intent of this proposal was not to diminish either branch campus but to strengthen the System and to respond to clear messages from the legislature about the need for cost savings and efficiencies. He reiterated that both ENMU branch campuses are valued and appreciated.

Regent Patterson moved to accept the proposal in theory, with additional implementation details to come following consultation between branches and main campus. Regent VonSchriltz seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0-0. Motion approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Regent Othick moved to enter executive session at 2:20 p.m. to discuss one personnel matter pursuant to Section 10-15-1(H)(2), NMSA (1978). Regent Patterson seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0-0. Motion approved.

Roll call: Regent Patterson – yes; Regent VonSchriltz – yes; Regent Tatum – yes; Regent Othick – yes

Regent Othick moved to return to open session at 2:56 p.m. Regent Tatum seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0-0. Motion approved.

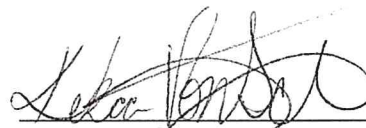
Vice President Othick reported that the regents discussed one item personnel matter pursuant to Section 10-15-1(H)(2), NMSA (1978), but no action was taken during executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

Regent Tatum moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:58 p.m. Regent Patterson seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0-0. Motion approved.



President of the Board



Secretary of the Board

*Minutes recorded and transcribed by Karen Van Ruiten
Executive Secretary to the President and Board of Regents*