

EASTERN NEW MEXICO UNIVERSITY
Board of Regents Meeting
ENMU-Ruidoso Campus
March 22, 2013 – 1:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Regent President Randy Harris called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and declared a quorum. Regents Brett Leach, Chad Lydick, Jane Christensen, Chase Sturdevant and Randy Harris were present.

APPROVE THE AMENDED AGENDA

An amended agenda was distributed to the regents prior to the meeting. The amended agenda replaced Regents Matters item 2, Committee Appointments, with Regents Matters item 2, Resolution of Signature Authority.

Regent Leach moved to approve the amended agenda as presented. Regent Christensen seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0-0. Motion approved.

REPORT FROM THE REGENT PRESIDENT

Regent Harris introduced the two new Board of Regents members, Jane Christensen and Chase Sturdevant. Mr. Harris welcomed everyone to the meeting.

REPORT FROM THE ENMU SYSTEM PRESIDENT

- Dr. Gamble asked Dr. Alred to introduce members of the Ruidoso Community College Board (CCB) who are present at the meeting today. Those members are Dr. Lynn Willard, Michelle Perry, Dr. Karen Becklin and Brad Treptow. Dr. Gamble thanked the CCB members for their leadership and dedication to the Ruidoso campus.
- Dr. Gamble said he believes the University is near an agreement with Sovereign Bank to assume the management of San Juan Village on the Portales campus and Sierra Blanca apartments on the Roswell campus.
- The deadline to complete work on NCAA athletic eligibility is May 1. Dr. Gamble said the campus will meet the deadline then begin a discussion of what penalties will be imposed.
- The Portales campus received \$1.1 million of new Instruction and General funding in this legislative session. This increase is due to enrollment growth. Additional funds of \$4 million for renovation of the Jack Williamson Liberal Arts building were approved. KENW was funded \$337,000 one-time money for equipment purchases, and \$100,000 in recurring funds for operations. The campus also received \$368,000 in recurring funds for retention and graduation programs, and \$20,000 recurring money for Blackwater Draw. A 1% employee pay increase was approved by the legislature, but funding for the increase will only partially cover the cost to the University. Administration is hopeful that an increase greater than 1% can be given for the new fiscal year. Dr. Gamble reminded the Board that vetoes are still possible.

- In discussing salaries, Dr. Gamble mentioned that all employees saw a 2% increase in social security deductions in January. The legislature approved a 1.5% increase in contributions to the Educational Retirement Board (ERB) for all employees effective July 1, and health insurance costs are expected to increase 8% to 10% in July. When adding this together, most employees will realize a 4% reduction in take-home pay. Dr. Gamble said he hoped that a pay increase to help offset this amount will be possible this year.
- Institutions also will contribute an additional 1.5% to the ERB. Eastern was given \$400,000 of the \$600,000 needed annually to meet this obligation. The \$200,000 difference must be budgeted each year. Dr. Gamble said this “fix” of the ERB fund was long overdue, and although it does not provide 100% solvency, it is a good start.
- An endowment-matching opportunity was approved by the legislature. If Eastern is able to raise \$450,000, the state will match that amount 2 to 1, and give the University \$900,000. Dr. Gamble said the ENMU Foundation raises more than \$450,000 each year, so this should not be difficult. This money will be placed into an endowment where the interest from this fund can be used.
- The Lottery Scholarship received money from the tobacco settlement fund to shore up the scholarship fund for one more year. A new revenue source must be found next year to keep the scholarship funded at the current amount. If a source is not found, it will be funded at 50% to 65% starting in July 2014. Eastern has more than 1,000 students on the Lottery Scholarship, and 42% of its students are Pell eligible. Many of these students rely heavily on the Lottery Scholarship to help fund their educations.
- At the April board meeting, Dr. Gamble said he will request a 4.8% increase in student fees for the coming academic year and no increase in tuition. Governor Martinez asked institutions not to increase their tuitions for the coming year because of the status of the Lottery Scholarship.
- Dr. Gamble said the Ruidoso campus will submit a significant increase in tuition and fees at the April meeting. The Ruidoso campus’ tuition and fees are very low compared to the rest of the state.
- Dr. Gamble said that a proposal for a new football stadium located on campus will be an agenda item for the April meeting. Blackwater Draw football stadium is outdated and ill-placed. A new stadium is estimated to cost \$8 million. The plan is to raise half of this amount in outside revenue and raise the remaining half through student fees. Dr. Gamble spoke with Student Government this week and they requested a meeting with two of the regents and the president of the ENMU Foundation, Steve Doerr. This group will meet again next week to further discuss the stadium proposal. Dr. Gamble said that the regents have agreed that no student fee will be imposed without the positive vote of the student body.

REPORT FROM THE ROSWELL PRESIDENT

- Dr. John Madden congratulated Roswell students Deanna Jerge and Michael Lawing for qualifying for the Phi Theta Kappa's New Mexico All-State Academic Team. A recognition ceremony was held February 20 at the State Capitol Building. Ms. Jerge received a national bronze scholar award which includes a \$1,000 scholarship. She will travel to San Francisco to receive her award.
- A dedication for the new Student Services Building was held Tuesday. Dr. Madden said it was a good event with more than 100 people attending.
- Dr. Madden reported on an early college program where high school juniors and seniors are paired with a local college and complete their last two years of high school while taking college coursework. When the students have completed their high school diploma, they have also earned an associate's degree from the respective college. The Roswell campus has applied for this program with the support of Representative Bob Wooley. If the campus is approved, Dr. Madden believes Chaves County will see an increase in high school graduates, and the students in this program will benefit from two years of free college courses.

REPORT FROM THE RUIDOSO PRESIDENT

- Dr. Alred reported that the campus has received funds from the November G.O. Bond to complete the roof top solar array. Electricity generated from this project will help offset the electricity usage of the campus. The campus has contracted with PNM to purchase excess electricity generated at a rate of five cents per kilowatt hour.
- Renovation of the front part of the campus building will begin soon. The campus has contracted with ASA Architects in Roswell.
- The security system project is an in-house project and is progressing nicely.
- Last month's winter meeting of the ENMU Alumni Association was held in Ruidoso, and the Ruidoso campus held an auction that raised \$13,000 for scholarships.
- Reporting on the legislative session, Dr. Alred said when all the changes in funding were totaled, the campus actually lost \$14,000 in funding. The campus received \$2,720,000 in Instruction and General funding, but the cost of the ERB contribution resulted in expenditures for the campus that are not covered. The campus also received no capital projects funding. Dr. Alred said the reduction in funds will make balancing the budget more challenging. Additionally, there will be no increase in the mill levy revenue.
- He mentioned that the Ruidoso campus must look at significant increases in tuition and fees for 2013-14. The increase that will be proposed at the April meeting will bring the school's tuition and fees charges closer to its peers.
- The Ruidoso campus will host the Lincoln County Renewal Energy Conference on April 26. The conference will focus on water issues which are critical for our state.

