



**NORTHERN NEW MEXICO COLLEGE  
BOARD OF REGENTS  
REGULAR MEETING  
DECEMBER 10, 2021**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Regents of Northern New Mexico College was held on December 10, 2021, Via Zoom and in person. Regents Present Michael A. Martin, Ruben Archuleta, Porter Swentzell, Erica Velarde, and Evelyn Juarez.

Northern New Mexico College Staff Present: President Richard J. Bailey, Jr., Ph.D. Ricky Bejarano, Vice President for Finance & Administration; Ivan Lopez Hurtado, Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs; Juan Gallegos, IT; Sally Martinez, Executive Assistant to the Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs; Jimi Montoya, IT Director; Sandy Krolick, Creative Director, Communications and Marketing; Cheryl James, Chief Procurement Officer; Judith Pepper, Major Gifts Officer; Rachel Begay, Administrative Assistant; Robert Palko, Registrar; Arin McKenna, Staff Writer/Reporter, Communications & Marketing; John Ussery, El Rito Program Director; Don Apparius, Assistant Provost of Student Affairs; Vince Lithgow, Comptroller; Kathy Levine, Director, Financial Aid; Courtney Bruch, Library Director; Evette Abeyta, Budget Director; Lynn Chamberlain, Title III Director; Julianna Barbee, SBDC Director; Kristy Alton, Title V CASSA Project Director; Gwen Orona, Academic Advisor; Jessica Holguin, Student Accounts Receivable Coordinator; Chris Trujillo, IT; Janice Baca, Associate Registrar; Anjel Romero, Library Access Services and Operation Manager; and Amy Pena, Executive Office Director.

Faculty Present: Steve Cox; David Lindblom; Dr. Robert Beshara; Mateo Frazier; Ellen Trabka, Anna X. Gutierrez Sisneros; Lori Baca; Lori Franklin

Others Present: Eileen Trujillo, Eddie Gutierrez, Robert Trapp, Rio Grande Sun, Nelson Gonzales, Rebecca Estrada, LANL; Bruno Guedes, Student Senate President; Geno Zamora, Ortiz & Zamora; Jake Arnold; Alexandra Jaramillo; Veronica Garcia; Loe Marcoline; Tim Crone

## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Board President called the meeting to order at 9:03AM.

## **II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Board President Martin stated there is one correction, Item V under Comments from the Board, we will be handling this at the December 15, 2021 Special Meeting at 3:00PM Via Zoom. It will not be handled today but encourage people to give their input. Board President Martin entertained a motion to approve the agenda with that one correction.

**Regent Swentzell moved to approve the agenda as amended. Second - Regent Archuleta. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin -yes, Regent Velarde – yes, Regent Swentzell – yes, Regent Archuleta – yes, Regent Juarez – yes. Motion passed unanimously.**

### III. PUBLIC INPUT

Board President introduced Mr. Nelson Gonzales from El Rito. Mr. Gonzales stated it was a pleasure to be here and thanked former student Board President Martin who was his student at Mesa Vista. Thank you to everyone involved with the college to point it in the right direction (inaudible). Mr. Gonzales also thanked Dr. Bailey on behalf of the people for all he did. Last summer they had (inaudible) he spearheaded on the hillside in El Rito and they had 75 people in El Rito and low and behold coming down the mountain here comes this fellow coming down and he never met him and he said I'm Rick Bailey. Mr. Gonzales, he said Rick Bailey, the College President, it must be Rick Bailey, Jr., because the College Presidents don't go out there and paint the letter E or anywhere else. Later on, he told one of their participants and she said no that is Dr. Bailey and that is what he does. Thank you, Dr. Bailey, for participating. Mr. Gonzales stated he is at the Board Meeting to see if the Board will give their blessing, they are trying to improve the campus by replacing the equipment that had been there. He has been living in El Rito over 60 years and that equipment is somewhat dilapidated and, in some ways, it is not safe and we have a beautiful campus that we would like to preserve. If the Board helps them, they would like to carry on with this (inaudible). He is not at the meeting asking for money, yet, later on he will. Right now, they want to see if the Board can appoint somebody that will work with them to formulate a plan. What exactly are we talking about? Who will be in charge and what will be the charge and what it would cost and so on? They plan to have fundraisers so it would not all fall on the College. (inaudible). Mr. Gonzales asked if there were any questions.

Board President Martin asked if he had somebody in mind to work with this group. President Bailey thanked Mr. Gonzales for the comments and for his passion and he is a role model for all of us. During the Deep Dive at the meeting today, we are going to talk about all the open projects that we have to work on and he has just added this. President Bailey asked if Mr. Gonzales was talking about the playground. Mr. Gonzales stated yes and the sign entry. President Bailey stated in addition to the cosmetics of it there is also a safety thing for kids. It is an urgent issue and he is glad it has been brought to the Board. President Bailey stated he would put it on the list and when the Board announces the Interim President, then that person and President Bailey will discuss this issue and that will be one of the key advocates for this.

President Martin asked if there were anyone else for public input.

### IV. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

#### A. Board of Regents Subcommittee Reports

##### 1. Audit/Finance/Facilities Committee

Regent Velarde stated they had a great meeting; they will get into specifics and not to many items on here. We are lucky we have the team we have. Regent Archuleta stated it was a very productive meeting, very quick. We have an awesome team at Northern.

## 2. Academic/Student Affairs Committee

Regent Swentzell stated the committee met earlier in the week. The major items discussed are agenda items later on today including the certificate. We will be discussing this and taking action later on. There is also the tuition and fees discussion. Regent Juarez stated she echoes what Regent Swentzell stated and has no further comment.

## 3. Housing Committee

Regent Archuleta stated it is on hold for a couple of weeks until the Interim comes in. He has spoken with a couple of developers; a few local business owners may be of interest in opening up a laundromat at the new dorms or maybe a coffee shop.

Regent Juarez stated this past week she met with someone in student affairs and he really emphasized when we have meetings, we need to have all the stakeholders involved to have a strategic plan. We know that our students are ready for a residential hall but is the community ready to support student housing. (inaudible).

## 4. HERC

Board President Martin met with them last week. There will be a retreat in the spring and they asked for potential officers and Regent Velarde was nice enough to volunteer too to be the new Vice President in the spring. Thank you for that Regent Velarde.

## 5. Interim President

Tabled.

## 6. Permanent President job description

Board President Martin had a meeting with Dr. Garcia and they would like to take the current job description that the Board came up with and use that as a benchmark with beginning discussions with the search committee. They will still be able to add to that description but they would like to at least have these contained in the job description. Board President Martin would like to entertain a motion to approve that with those contingencies so they can expand upon.

**Regent Swentzell moved to approve the President's job description on the contingency that we will have more input from stakeholders. Second – Juarez – Second. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin - yes, Regent Swentzell - yes, Regent Juarez - yes, Regent Velarde - yes, Regent Archuleta - yes. Motion passed unanimously.**

## 7. Request by faculty for additional representation on search committee

Board President Martin asked if Dr. Gutierrez was present. Dr. Gutierrez stated she was. Board President Martin stated he would like to explain his thoughts on putting together the committee. We have five members from the staff, they also represent the Veteran's Group, Athletics, Native American Committee, Dr. Bailey suggested having Ms. Peña on the committee since she was so involved with the process with Dr. Prather. We did not mean to exclude the faculty and welcome to have more faculty members on the committee. Board President Martin asked Ms.

Gutierrez to choose and give him the number of faculty members on the Committee. Dr. X stated she has a list of three other faculty who want to be on the search committee, total of four, but she would like to add one more if possible and asked when to submit the names, this week. Board President Martin stated that would be fine and Regent Swentzell and Board President Martin will meet with Dr. Garcia next week to formalize the process for the selection and if she has this list by next week it would work. Board President Martin would entertain the motion to add four more members to the Presidential Search Committee.

**Regent Velarde moved to add more faculty members to the Search Committee. search committee. Second – Regent – Juarez. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin - yes, Regent Swentzell - yes, Regent Juarez - yes, Regent Velarde - yes, Regent Archuleta - yes. Motion passed unanimously.**

Board President Martin stated there was also a request from the Council of Chairs and asked if a representative was in attendance at the Board Meeting.

Board President Martin stated he would like them to submit someone's name. Dr. Lori Franklin stated she is in attendance and Lori Baca and Ellen Trabka are also present. Board President Martin stated they would welcome someone from the Council of Chairs join the committee and asked for a suggestion. Dr. Franklin asked if any of the chairs would like to speak up. Board President Martin stated Dr. Franklin could give the Board a name. Dr. Franklin stated that sounds nice as she would like to confer with them. Board President Martin stated Dr. Franklin will get a name and give it to the committee. Dr. Franklin thanked Board President Martin.

Board President Martin stated he would entertain a motion to add a representative from the Council of Chairs to the Search Committee.

**Regent Swentzell moved to add the Council of Chairs to the Search Committee. Regent Velarde - Second. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin - yes, Regent Swentzell - yes, Regent Juarez - yes, Regent Velarde - yes, Regent Archuleta - yes. Motion passed unanimously.**

## **V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Board President Martin stated he would entertain a motion to approve the minutes of October 22, 2021 Regular Meeting.

**Regent Juarez moved to approve the minutes of October 22, 2021. Second – Regent Swentzell. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin - yes, Regent Swentzell - yes, Regent Juarez - yes, Regent Velarde - yes, Regent Archuleta - yes. Motion passed unanimously.**

Board President Martin stated he would entertain a motion to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2021 Special Meeting.

**Regent Swentzell moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of November 9, 2021. Second – Regent Archuleta. Board President Martin stated he would entertain a motion to approve the minutes of October 22, 2021 Regular Meeting.**

Board President Martin stated he would entertain a motion to approve the minutes of November 17, 2021 Special Meeting.

**Regent Velarde moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of November 17, 2021. Second – Regent Archuleta. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin - yes, Regent Swentzell - yes, Regent Juarez - yes, Regent Velarde - yes, Regent Archuleta - yes. Motion passed unanimously.**

## **VI. PRESIDENT’S REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **A. Celebrate Northern**

President Bailey stated he only has one thing because he is going seed the rest of the time to the Deep Dive. President Bailey stated a special thank you to NNMC Student Senate for their work in continuing the virtual Giving Tree. This year they are serving 124 children of our students who are deserving of holiday gifts this year and there is an absolute army of wonderful donors from the Board President on. Everyone has really pulled an oar to make this happen. Special thank you to the Senate for their leadership, to Regent Juarez and her predecessors for the vision for this wonderful project and to the donors, thank you for stepping up. the goal is to have them sent out by the end of next week. If you have any questions, please reach out to our Executive Office Director, Amy Pena. A lot of easy step by step instructions have been sent out. Thank you very much.

### **B. CUP/NMICC Report**

To be discussed during Deep Dive.

### **C. NNMC Foundation**

To be discussed during Deep Dive.

### **D. Eagle Corporation Update**

To be discussed during Deep Dive.

## **VII. FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT REPORT**

Dr. X stated she would like to thank the Board for adding a chair and faculty to the Presidential Search Committee. They are busy working on the new structure for the Senate. They had it passed on November 5<sup>th</sup>. There is a Senator from each department and gained a senator in Math and Science. They are missing one person; Senator Adela Martinez did her two-year term so they are looking for a secretary. They are working on Bylaws, who can be on Senate and the other is Governance and Senate. The membership one passed which is the wording that goes into the constitution, matching the senators to a total of 20 votes. It has been interesting for Dr. X. learning the constitution. Negotiations for the CBA continue and they hope it will be signed in December. Additionally, Dr. X. thanked Dr. Bailey for all his service.

## VIII. STUDENT SENATE PRESIDENT REPORT

Bruno Guedes, President, Student Senate stated they will keep doing the speaker series that Regent Juarez came up with last semester. We had Dr. Appiarius joining for Speaker Series III and Coach Cordova for Speaker Series IV. Thank you, Board President Martin and all the donors, for supporting the Student Senate for the Giving Tree. We have reached the goal of 124 students. Thank you to the team who assisted along with everyone else who assistant and all their hard work. Thank you to all the donors and make sure to check your emails when you purchase because Mr. Guedes had an issue with his purchase. Mr. Guedes would like to bring to Board President Martin's attention that Mr. Guedes and Student Senate is aware that we have the Search Committee. They would like to request more students on the committee. As of right now, Mr. Guedes is the only student. He asked that the Board of Regents think about it and give him feedback. Board President Martin thanked Mr. Guedes and stated it will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting as it cannot be discussed at this meeting because it is not on the agenda.

## IX. STAFF REPORTS

### A. Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

#### 1. Elimination of the Certificate Film Technician

Dr. Lopez stated the first item he is bringing is the recommendation to terminate the certificate in film technician. This certificate at least for the last three years, Mr. Mateo Frazier will give more information, there has been zero enrollment in the program and we started the process, got the approval from the Educational Policy Committee and from the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee of the Faculty Senate to terminate. The termination will not imply any reduction in force. Dr. Lopez stated we are still keeping the associate degree in digital media. That degree is in a larger umbrella, we are still keeping that program. There is still a path at Northern for students in media arts. Dr. Lopez would like to ask Mateo Frazier to present the case for the Board of Regents.

Mr. Frazier stated some quick historical context. The film technician training program was designed for five colleges as a workforce development initiative when they started boosting the film rebates in New Mexico in 2008. It was a really popular program then and was funded by the state with special funds and the popularity led to us designing and building the FDMA program because students wanted to continue on beyond the certificate. Back in 2017 there was some talk they might be refunding and rebuilding the program again and there was conversation for a couple of years but did not materialize. We left it open, we weren't recruiting or actively offering the course. The reason being is the original FTTP was similar maybe to other workforce development courses in that we had a contact with the union and filmmaking. The crew union made it a special program because they let us use the credits in lieu of the hours required by the union to join. That agreement does not exist anymore nor did the special funds. With that being said we have the AA and have also designed a new emphasis in our BA in Integrated Studies for Arts and Media. Not only do we have an option to continue as an AA student but now we have an option to continue as an BA student. We are actually offering more not less. This is a program we do not have a demand for and the State is not supporting in the way it used to. Mr. Frazier stated he is happy to answer questions.

Board President Martin entertained a motion to eliminate the Certificate in Film Technician.

**Regent Swentzell moved to eliminate the Certificate in Film Technician. Second – Regent Velarde. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin - yes, Regent Swentzell - yes, Regent Juarez - yes, Regent Velarde - yes, Regent Archuleta - yes. Motion passed unanimously.**

B. Vice President for Finance & Administration

Mr. Bejarano stated the audit will close out this Tuesday with the exit conference and we are relatively pleased with the results. Mr. Bejarano called Mr. Lithgow to present the Fiscal Watch Reports.

1. Fiscal Watch Reports – Action Required

Mr. Lithgow presented the Fiscal Watch Reports to the Board of Regents (attached).

Board President Martin entertained a motion to approve the Fiscal Watch Reports.

**Regent Velarde moved to approve the Fiscal Watch Reports for October 31, 2021. Second – Regent Archuleta. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin - yes, Regent Swentzell - yes, Regent Juarez - yes, Regent Velarde - yes, Regent Archuleta - yes. Motion passed unanimously.**

2. Budget Adjustment Requests (BARs)

Mr. Bejarano stated he is happy to report there are no BARS for this month.

3. Tuition and Fees Starting Fall 2022

Mr. Bejarano called on Provost Lopez for this item. Dr. Lopez stated this item was discussed at the October meeting and the College was requested to provide more data and we came with a second proposal to discuss. Before discussing the proposals, Dr. Lopez stated there are three different requests. The first is consolidation of tuition and fees. As of today, students pay a mandatory fee of \$150.00 per credit plus \$67.00 in general fees that are mandatory. On top of that they pay a certain amount for a registration fee that is independent on top of the credits they take. With these three items are added, the students are paying \$201.00 per credit for face-to-face credits and \$230.00 for fully online courses. Dr. Lopez would like to propose instead of telling the students you are going to pay three different mandatory fees, we come with a single rate. It will be much more transparent for the student because anyway the three fees are mandatory. It will also simplify the process with the Business Office. It will be a (inaudible) for the students, easily understood how much they have to pay and easier for the Business Office to process. This is the first request, the consolidation of tuition and mandatory fees. Dr. Lopez would like to make it clear that there are course specific fees. The most common example are the nursing fees that are brought to the Board every six months. Those fees stay as they are right now. The fees that will be consolidated are only those that are mandatory for all students regardless of program, regardless of (inaudible). Board President wanted to clarify, Dr. Lopez is asking that we consolidate the tuition and mandatory fees but exclude the course specific fees. Board President Martin would entertain a motion to approve.

**Regent Swentzell moved to approve the consolidation of tuition and fees into one number, excluding course specific fees. Second – Regent Velarde. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin - yes, Regent Swentzell - yes, Regent Juarez - yes, Regent Velarde - yes, Regent Archuleta - yes. Motion passed unanimously.**

Dr. Lopez stated the second request is an increase on the new consolidated number. Right now, there is \$201.00 per credit for face-to-face courses. The College is requesting a 5% increase. That is \$10.00 so now the new tuition being proposed is \$211. From \$201 to \$211. We want this to be with the Board's approval effective fall 2022. The reason for this request is for the College to address the current inflation the economy is experiencing. As of today, the number for inflation for the country are 6.8% and this may only grow. We feel, discussing with President Bailey and Vice President Bejarano that we can still weather the storm with the 5%. He would like to remind the Regents the last time an increase happened in tuition and fees was 2017. By the time this new increase, if approved, takes place, it will be five years without an increase. It is not only we are trying to address the 6.8% inflation of 2021 but the reality is there has been inflation throughout these years and the bills we have to pay are increasing, also services and products and not to mention salaries. This would be 5% for non-online courses. He is talking about more or less we have 610 courses a year, from these 610 courses, 82% historically speaking have been face to face. Basically, what he is asking for is a 5% increase for 82% of the courses.

The third part of the request and is that why they go together, is that for those courses that are fully online, asynchronous online, that these courses, which reflect today 18% of the courses, we are requesting an increase of a 28%. From \$230, this becomes \$295. This is \$65.00 per credit. It is only 18% of these 610 courses we offer.

There is another alternative not presented at the October meeting. That is, instead of increasing by 28%, the online courses, that we only increase it by 18%. This means that the tuition will grow from \$230.00 to \$275.00. This is \$45.00 instead of the \$65.00. The tradeoff is if we go with the 18% increase, it is actually 19.4%, then if you only approve the 19.4%, then what Dr. Lopez would have to do with the academic chairs is increase the number of online courses. We will increase the online courses and less face-to-face courses assuming the enrollment remains flat. Dr. Lopez stated those are the two alternatives the College is presenting to the Board of Regents and the reason we are requesting a large increase for online course is because there are specific expenses for online that have been paid over the last years using federal grants. These grants are coming to an end within the next two years and there is (inaudible) that we have to institutionalize these expenses with our internal funding. As a grant, we need to pick up those expenses and that is why we need, a lot of those expenses are related to online courses. That is why we are asking for a larger increase.

Dr. Lopez stated having said that, the proposal also includes an addition that has to do with out of state students. Right now, we have 25 students that are out of state students. From these 25 students, most are athletes who get an in-state tuition already. Right now, as we speak, only seven students are paying out of state tuition. The proposal we have is for online courses, because these students will never probably never come to Northern physically, they would not use the typical services (gym, etc.) they do not incur the typical services we offer. Dr. Lopez stated what we want to propose to the Board is the out of state tuition is significantly increased from what we are charging today for online courses. What we are proposing that we charge out of state students \$320.00. If we do not do this, nothing will happen right now, because we do not have out of state students. If approved, it will only affect in state students in the short term. We hope by reducing



the out of state tuition, it will start bringing more out of state students to take our online courses. If we keep a competitive price and growing enrollment for out of state students, in the future, (in audible), by growing this enrollment, we do not need to come to the Board of Regents for an increase in tuition. We can support the infrastructure with out of state students if we make the price attractive.

Board President Martin stated he would like to open it up to the chairs of the committees. He stated he believes the Audit Committee already discussed this.

Regent Velarde thanked the provost for his work and sharing the documents and his tenacity. She would like to request; we know it is a good oil and gas year coming in legislatively. We know that there are funds that are going to be coming available and she knows CUP has put in their request. However, there could be a little more money if we could work it the right way. This would not go into effect until the fall of 2022. She would request after the legislative session has completed and the Governor has signed the Bill, to have a working meeting with Provost and Vice President Bejarano and the team to work through what the numbers actually look like at the moment, what actuals are and to come up with a plan to move forward. She understands they will be working on budgets and she is sorry and she knows we will have to put in a budget to DFA by May or end of April. This is cutting it close; this is important, this is something that weighs on her as far as the students. She doesn't want to make this hard on any student. They are also experiencing this inflation. She gets it, she works in industry, she sees it every day. Her question is, this is the other thing, she would like to see if it is something we could do as well, is, could we pass the decrease for out of state students and have that go into effect for this coming semester as a trial to see, if there are only 5 students currently paying out of state tuition and we can lower that starting spring semester and start marketing that to out of state students, because we haven't even started, we haven't marketed to out of state students at all so that is another reason we don't have any out of State students is due to that. If we could do that, we would have a better idea of what we are dealing with and how it would work out. Right now, we are sort of like if we build it, they will come and she is not sure of that. She would like to sort of do a trial run and just see real numbers after the session and even if it comes down to and she is sorry for the torture for having to hang out with her for 4 hours or something to go over where we are at, and not just her, she would welcome her fellow Regent in the Finance Committee. That is Regent Velarde's request and her thoughts at least.

Regent Swentzell stated one of the things discussed in the meeting is the difference between student's choosing online education versus in person education. The online students are choosing that type of approach because the flexibility it offers, they are seeking the options to do it on their own pace. An increase in that may not impact, they might much be more (inaudible) to changes. They are interested in paying for flexibility, that is what they are seeking, flexibility. From the faculty side of things creating content, loading on there is a lot of effort. Not everybody likes that. Trying to convince people to put more classes online especially if they don't enjoy that is a tough push. In addition, there is significant support cost, not only for online students, training faculty, students. Provost Lopez shared this. His thought, and in addition, there is significant support costs. Another thing he would like to bring up the services in the front office, if a lot of these costs are headed towards support services and this is not any way to malign anyone working in the office. If you are short staffed or someone gets sick and the student has to wait longer to get a transcript or pay a bill or whatever the case may be, and the work cannot be done, those have ripple effects throughout the collect and student perceptions. He thinks that those combining most that we can for those services is part of the experience and alleviating the \$10 increase in tuition. These are really important parts of the support that comes out of this and he really appreciates Dr. Lopez delineating these costs that need to be made and are important to having the support system that

supports students. He gets that we have the inflation problem, do we want to throw gasoline on the inflation. As pointed out by Dr. Lopez, these are not even covering inflation before the inflation prices. This helps to cut into the red a little bit. Regent Swentzell is not opposed to having a working meeting to discuss it more deeply and he thinks it is important to be very thoughtful and cautious and incremental. There is a reason why tuition has not been raised over the years because it is not something to be taken lightly and we should invest the time and thought in it. He appreciates all the work done on this.

Regent Archuleta had no questions.

Regent Juarez would like to echo Regent Swentzell's thoughts and thanked Dr. Lopez. (inaudible) She would also like to have a working meeting and would look into the trial process Regent Velarde talked about. (inaudible)

Board President Martin stated we have been very fortunate we have not had to discuss a tuition increase. Now it is time to discuss it and it is time to make a decision. The result of this is we need to make this decision today. President Bailey is leaving, we are going to have an interim President in and we are going to focusing on a permanent President, we trust our team to make a very reasonable request. We cannot continue to operate business without ever increasing the cost. Board President Martin does not think we are not going to get anywhere by waiting.

President Bailey stated Dr. Lopez said it, five years, five years we have been able to avoid this conversation and we did because we had everyone, faculty, staff, students the Business Office has directed us to do things better. We have been better with every penny at this institution and we have made it painful in order to do it but it has worked and that what has kept and we have trimmed the fat off this institution and done it for five years. President Bailey agrees with Board President Martin, he would love the Board to consider making this vote today and he respects Regent Velarde's position, she is right, there is a glut of money sitting in the Roundhouse this year, there is a glut of it and Eddie has been working there forever and everyone knows it. Knowing the legislative process as we do, that money is not going to be converted into what we call recurring dollars. Very little of this is going to go, we are not going to have \$1M recurring increase to Northern's budget, we are not. We are going to have one time money, which is great. After this working session in March, if you do it, we are going to come to the same question and the challenge President Bailey has is by the time the Board makes the decision in April, Evette and her team are going to have two weeks to put this into place with the budget. We would have already started recruiting for the fall on numbers we don't even know yet. It gets really problematic. President Bailey knows it is unpopular and everyone who does what they do, does it because we love students and we are trying to do better by students. We also need to think about paying staff and faculty and all of the people who work here and could go somewhere, anywhere else and make more but they do it because they love students. We have to support them to. President Bailey has always said and it is unpopular, we cannot run this institution like a business but it doesn't mean that we should not be thinking about sound fiscal procedures. We did a survey of our students and asked them about what they think about this online and when we come out of this pandemic what do you want. Two thirds of those students wanted more online options because they are juggling work, family, classes and life. Even if you go with Dr. Lopez Option B and went back and rant the numbers again and try to think about something else to not increasing the online that much. He was able to do that by expanding the number of online classes to 27%. In a way that is what the students have asked us to do. President Bailey recommends the Board strongly consider at a minimum Dr. Lopez option B and work on bringing in out of state students. At the end of the day,

even though we are talking bringing more out of state students the goal of it is to support in state students. The goal is to support our local students and not to have to come back to the Board with future requests that put even more on the backs of our local students.

Regent Velarde stated she would like to add, waiting three months to figure out one time appropriation as Dr. Bailey said that could bridge us to being able to figure instead of increasing it in double digit percentages for our in-State students, perhaps the increase would be lower. Perhaps the in-person classroom, we could increase it by 2% versus 5%. She understands we do need to get our accounts straight and have a plan going forward, however, she does not want to be short sided about it just because we want to put this in right away. There are three months between now and March. That would enable, that one time money as Dr. Bailey said, to get us through that hump so we can do this, work on it, not just maybe one working meeting, maybe several, where we can really dig in and dive in and see, ok, maybe this is where we are losing money. Maybe we can have a more thoughtful process. She does not want to be reactionary in this, she does not want to hurt not one student. If one student can't attend because we increased it double digits, or even in just 5% in person, then we haven't done our job. We need to do this in a more thoughtful manner. If in March we are in the same spot, then so be it but at least we did our due diligence to try to see if there was any other way to bridge it for our in-State students. Board President Martin stated he understands that but we also cannot say we cannot increase tuition because we are going loose one student and jeopardize. Regent Velarde stated no, she is just saying we are being more thoughtful in the manner and she is saying this isn't going into effect until the fall. She understands we are getting close in March and we are cutting it close but it still allows us that time to see if there is a way, we can bridge that gap and make maybe a smaller increase as opposed to this larger increase. It also gives us a year to see how many out of state students we could possibly get perhaps. We really need to be fair to our community. Board President Martin stated he understands that but Regent Velarde is losing site of that. The team has come up with this plan and they have done an excellent job in advising us for the three years we have been on this Board. Regent Velarde stated she wholeheartedly agrees. Board President Martin stated they did not make the request maliciously or they have a very good plan. He sees the negative part of this, if we don't pass it, the possibility of closing programs. Regent Velarde stated she thinks three months though, isn't. Board President Martin stated he disagrees and that is why we have a Board so they can discuss. Board President Martin moved to approve Option B and if the Board wants to go a different direction that is fine. He believes we should go ahead with option B. Board President Martin asked for a second. There was no second and Board President Martin opened it up to another option.

Regent Swentzell stated we should plan for a meeting down the road. He afraid the difference of \$275-\$295 brings us to short.

**Regent Swentzell moved to approve option A with the hope that we do increase online enrollment, we are talking about the shift of courses from 1/5 of courses to 1/3 of the courses.** Not to say that is a heavy lift and that there is not momentum moving over there. Thinking about a broadband infrastructure and those sorts of things. He would like to 1/3 but 1/5 is what we do and we could get to 1/3. That is why he is resistant of Option B and in favor of Option A. **Second – Board President Martin. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin - yes, Regent Velarde - no, Regent Swentzell - yes, Regent Archuleta - yes, Regent Juarez - yes. The motion passed 4-1.**

Board President Martin stated he would like to now move on to the Deep Dive.

Regent Velarde thanked everyone for the debate and conversation and everybody's input. She respectfully does not agree but still is, no matter whether the Board or agrees or disagrees on different items, she still does love and respect everyone.

## **X. DEEP DIVE**

### **1. Open Project Analysis**

President Bailey presented the Open Projects that the Interim President to keep on their radar over the next six months. The projects are as follows and President Bailey will present these to the Interim President.

1. Arts Culture and Healing Project
2. Eddie Gutierrez and Eileen Trujillo – El Rito Project – Alumni Association Archive Project.
3. El Rito Water and Sewer Systems
4. El Rito Café
5. Playground Equipment – El Rito
6. El Rito Water Rights and Well
7. Property in El Vado
8. EARTH Shot
9. Rio Arriba County Community Recreation Center
10. Dormitories
11. Eagle Corporation
12. Foundation Efforts
13. CHESS
14. Website
15. Foundation money owed to the College
16. Office of Equity and Diversity
17. Campus Beautification
18. Sharing Governance
19. Climate Survey
20. Dual Service Energy Audit – partnership with Ameresco

Regent Velarde stated she has no questions and all of this is what President Bailey had in the air all this time and how he kept up with all of that is amazing to her. Thank you for being open, thinking out of the box, not being afraid to pull the trigger on things to be strategic. Thank you for all the work you have done for the community for

Regent Swentzell stated it going to be important to talk to the Interim President and we will still be calling him.

Regent Archuleta stated he is thinking about all this. How did this guy do it? He thinks more highly about him and thanked him and he will be missed.

Regent Juarez stated it is a lot of work, thank you for taking risks in doing so and it is benefitting everyone.

Board President Martin stated this shows the work from five years and this will help to continue to move forward.

**XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Board President Martin entertained a motion to go into Executive Session.

**Regent Swentzell moved to enter into executive session to discuss only those items listed on the agenda. Second – Regent Archuleta. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin - yes, Regent Swentzell - yes, Regent Juarez - yes, Regent Velarde - yes, Regent Archuleta - yes. Motion passed unanimously.**

**The Board of Regents entered into Executive Session at 11:09AM.**

**XII. POSSIBLE ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**No action taken**

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Board President Martin entertained a motion to adjourn.

**Regent Archuleta moved to adjourn. Second – Regent Velarde. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin - yes, Regent Swentzell - yes, Regent Juarez - yes, Regent Velarde - yes, Regent Archuleta - yes. Motion passed unanimously.**

The Board of Regents adjourned at 11:53AM.

APPROVED:



Michael A. Martin  
President



[Erica Rita Velarde \(Mar 3, 2022 06:03 MST\)](#)

Erica Velarde  
Vice President

2/20/2022  
Date

3/2/2022  
Date






# 2022-03-01 11-43

Final Audit Report

2022-03-03

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|-----------------|--|
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| By:             | Amy Pena (amy.pena@nnmc.edu)                 |
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