

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of  
The Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico  
September 16, 2025 at 10:30 AM  
UNM Student Union Building (SUB) Ballroom B & Cherry Silver Room  
*Livestreamed at <https://live.unm.edu/board-of-regents>*

Members Present

Paul Blanchard, Chair  
Christina Campos  
Victor Reyes, Vice Chair  
Paula Tackett, Secretary-Treasurer (virtually)  
Jack Fortner  
Patricia Williams

Administration Present

Garnett S. Stokes, President; Barbara Rodriguez, Interim Provost and EVP for Academic Affairs; Teresa Constantinidis, EVP for Finance and Administration; Mike Richards, EVP for Health Sciences and CEO of the Health System; Rebecca Napier, VP Finance & Administration, HSC; Kate Becker, CEO, UNM Hospital; Norma Allen, University Controller; Shawna Wolfe, VP Institutional Support Services; Fern Lovo, VP Athletics; Assata Zerai, VP Equity and Inclusion; Eric Scott, VP Student Affairs; Dan Garcia, VP Enrollment Management; Daniel Jones, General Counsel; Francie Cordova, Chief Compliance Officer; Kevin Stevenson, VP HR; Terry Babbitt, President's Chief of Staff; Ben Cloutier, Chief University Marketing and Communications Officer; deans and others.

Advisors Present

Andrew Norton, ASUNM President; Travis Broadhurst, GPSA President; Roberta Lavin, Faculty Senate President; Aprilyn Chavez Geissler, Alumni Association President; Damion Terrell, Staff Council President

CONFIRMATION OF PRIOR SPECIAL MEETINGS IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board of Regents met in closed session on Monday, September 15, 2025 from 2:00 pm to 2:33 PM on Main Campus in the Student Union Building, Cherry Silver Room. The meeting was held in closed session under the following Open Meetings Act (NMSA 1978) exceptions: discussions of limited personnel matters as defined in and permitted by Section 10-15-1{H}(2), NMSA (1978). Regents present in person were Paula Tackett, Paul Blanchard, Victor Reyes, Christina Campos, and Patti Williams. Jack Fortner attended virtually. There were no administrators present. The matters discussed were limited to those specified in the notice and agenda for the meeting; there were no matters upon which official action was taken.

CALL TO ORDER AND CONFIRMATION OF A QUORUM

Chair Paul Blanchard called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. in the UNM Student Union Building, Ballroom B and confirmed a quorum with a roll call vote with 5 members present (Blanchard, Campos, Reyes, Williams, and Fortner).

VOTE TO ADOPT THE AGENDA

- **The motion to adopt the agenda passed unanimously with five regents present and voting (1<sup>s</sup> Fortner; 2<sup>nd</sup> Campos).**

VOTE TO CLOSE THE MEETING AND PROCEED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

- **The motion to close the meeting and proceed in executive session passed unanimously with five regents present and voting (1<sup>s</sup> Fortner; 2<sup>nd</sup> Campos; roll call vote - all members voted yes)**

*[Regents proceeded upstairs to the Cherry Silver Room for Executive Session. Regent Tackett joined the closed session virtually at 10:36 am.]*

Executive Session agenda:

- Discussion and/or determination of a limited personnel matter pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 10-15-1H(2). Discussion and/or determination of matters subject to the attorney-client privilege pertaining to threatened or pending litigation in which the University is or may become a participant pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 10-15-1H(7).

*[After discussion, Regents proceeded downstairs to Ballroom B. Regent Tackett joined the open session virtually at 11:24 am.]*

#### VOTE TO RE-OPEN THE MEETING

- **The motion to re-open the meeting passed unanimously with five regents present and voting (1st Reyes; 2nd Fortner).**

Regent Blanchard re-opened the meeting at 11:16 am in the Student Union Building, Ballroom B and certified that only matters listed in the above Executive Session agenda were discussed in Executive Session.

#### VOTE TO CERTIFY THAT ONLY THE ITEMS LISTED ON THE EXECUTIVE SESSION WERE DISCUSSED DURING CLOSED SESSION

- **The motion to certify that only the items listed on the Executive Session agenda were discussed in closed session passed unanimously with seven regents present and voting (1<sup>st</sup> Campos; 2<sup>nd</sup> Reyes).**

#### Land Acknowledgement Statement of the University of New Mexico

Regent Blanchard affirmed UNM's Land Acknowledgement Statement. Emily Morelli, Secretary to the Board of Regents, read it aloud:

*Founded in 1889, The University of New Mexico sits on the traditional homelands of the Pueblo of Sandia. The original peoples of New Mexico - Pueblo, Navajo, and Apache - since time immemorial, have deep connections to the land and have made significant contributions to the broader community statewide. We honor the land itself and those who remain stewards of this land throughout the generations and also acknowledge our committed relationship to Indigenous peoples. We gratefully recognize our history.*

#### VOTE TO CONFIRM THE APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **The motion to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2025 Regular Meeting and the June 30, 2025 Special Meeting passed 6-0-1 (1<sup>st</sup> Fortner; 2<sup>nd</sup> Reyes).**

#### PRESIDENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

President Stokes presented information on increased Fall 2025 enrollment, the work of rapid response teams to the evolving landscape of federal funding, strategic planning, and enhancements to the student experience (ATTACHMENT A). She also announced her retirement with the following statement:

"As I approach eight years of service as your President—and after several wonderful decades of service in higher education leadership, it soon will be time for me to step away and begin a new chapter in my life with my husband, Jeff, who has served as my partner throughout this leadership journey. I have informed the Board of Regents that the 2025-26 academic year will be my last serving as your President. I am sharing this news with you and the Board of Regents now to ensure there is ample time for a search for my successor and a smooth transition.

When I first arrived on campus in February of 2018, I encountered an incredible community, amazing students, faculty and staff, and a collective desire to elevate the institution. While I will leave it to others to put my tenure into perspective, I am incredibly proud of what we have done together in alignment with UNM2040 and with our mission: promoting discovery, generating intellectual and cultural contributions, honoring academic values, and fostering an educated, healthy, and economically vigorous New Mexico. I am also proud of the work of our students, faculty, and staff over the years, all of whom have helped lift up the institution and improve the lives of our communities around the state. And I am proud that we accomplished so much together while living our shared values of *excellence, inclusion, environment, integrity* and *place* in our words and actions.

But I want to be clear – I am not going anywhere yet. There is still a great deal of work ahead of us this academic year as we move forward in pursuit of our vision and face head-on the challenges being encountered by higher education institutions across the country. I will continue to work on behalf of the University and the community each and every day until my term is over, and I will do everything I can to assist the Board of Regents in a smooth transition to better ensure UNM's future success and continued impactful service to New Mexico, a state I love and will always hold close to my heart.

It has been an honor to serve as your President. I'm grateful to the Board of Regents and the UNM community for their continued support. No matter where my journey into retirement takes me, I will always be a Lobo!"

#### REGENT COMMENTS

Regent Blanchard spoke on behalf of the regents to thank President Stokes for her visionary stewardship and outstanding commitment to UNM and wish her well in retirement. He also noted the board was committed to a robust search for the next president of UNM.

#### ADVISORS COMMENTS

Roberta Lavin, Faculty Senate President, introduced the current priorities of Faculty Senate - research, campus safety, and equity across UNM campuses.

Damion Terrell, Staff Council President, noted the upcoming management summit and outstanding supervisor awards. He also encouraged staff to support OKUNM, KNME and Lobo Athletics. He also noted the retirement of Mary Clark, past Staff Council president.

Andrew Norton, ASUNM President, thanked the regents for all the work they do. He thanked the administration for safety improvements to campus. He noted that ASUNM is fully staffed and will be hosting a statewide conference for student leadership. He also thanked Athletics for collaborative efforts with students. He noted students are concerned about research funding.

Travis Broadhurst, President of GPSA, thanked President Stokes for her leadership. The GPSA Fall grant cycle is open, where grants and scholarships are awarded to graduate students. GPSA has increased appropriations to graduate student organizations and has many upcoming events. He also thanked Provost Rodriguez regarding her support of international graduate students. Lastly, another priority of GPSA will be healthcare benefits for graduate students.

Aprilyn Chavez Geissler, Alumni Association President, thanked the regents for their work on behalf of UNM. She reported on several recent and upcoming activities engaging alumni and supporting students.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT RELATED TO AGENDA

There were no public comments related to the agenda.

#### VOTE TO APPROVE 1820 RANDOLPH ROAD SE – REAL PROPERTY ACQUISITION

- **The vote to approve 1820 Randolph Road SE – Real Property Acquisition passed unanimously (1st Fortner, 2nd Campos)**

#### VOTE TO APPROVE NEW BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEMBERS TO THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

- **The vote to approve New Board of Director Members to the University of New Mexico Alumni Association passed unanimously (1<sup>st</sup> Reyes, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tackett)**

#### VOTE TO APPROVE PRESIDENTIAL CONTRACT RENEWAL

- **The vote to approve Presidential Contract Renewal passed unanimously (1<sup>st</sup> Reyes, 2<sup>nd</sup> Campos)**

#### INFORMATION ITEM

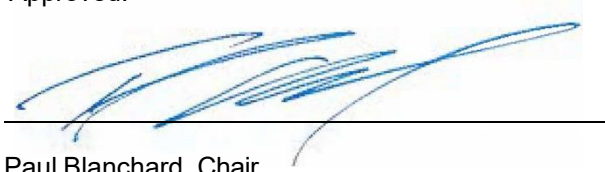
Dan Garcia, Vice President for Enrollment Management reported on current UNM enrollment figures.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS NOT RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments.

There being no further business, Regent Reyes motioned to adjourn the meeting, Regent Fortner seconded; all were in favor; the meeting adjourned at 12:03 pm.

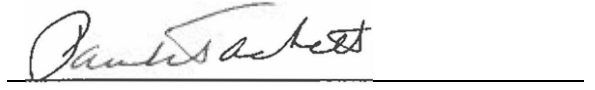
Approved:



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Paul Blanchard, Chair

Attest:



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Paula Tackett, Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes originated and finalized by Emily Morelli