

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
The Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico
October 21, 2025
12:00 PM Executive Session - Continuing Education Room B
1:00 PM Open Session - UNM Continuing Education Auditorium

Members Present

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

Administration Present

Garnett S. Stokes, President; Barbara Rodriguez, Interim Provost and EVP for Academic Affairs; Teresa Costantinidis, 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; Bruce Cherrin, Acting University Controller; Shawna Wolfe, VP Institutional Support Services; Fern Lovo, VP Athletics; Assata Zerai, VP Change & Empowerment; Eric Scott, VP Student Affairs; Dan Garcia, VP Enrollment Management; Daniel Jones, General Counsel; Francie Cordova, Chief Compliance Officer; Kevin Stevenson, VP Human Resources; Terry Babbitt, President's Chief of Staff; Ben Cloutier, Executive Director of Strategic Communications; deans and others.

Advisors Present

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

Presenters

None

CALL TO ORDER AND CONFIRMATION OF A QUORUM

Regent Chair Paul Blanchard called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm in the UNM Continuing Education Auditorium and confirmed a quorum with 6 members present in person (Regents Blanchard, Campos, Williams, Tackett, Reyes, and Fortner). Regent Payne joined virtually at 12:10 pm.

VOTE TO ADOPT THE AGENDA

- **The motion to adopt the agenda passed unanimously with six regents present and voting (1st Fortner; 2nd Reyes).**

VOTE TO CLOSE THE MEETING AND PROCEED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

- **The motion to close the meeting and proceed in executive session passed unanimously with six regents present and voting (1st Campos; 2nd Tackett; roll call vote – all members voted yes)**

[At 12:06 pm, the regents proceeded to the UNM Continuing Education, Room B. Regent Payne joined the Executive Session virtually at 12:10 pm.]

Executive Session agenda:

- Discussion and/or determination of limited personnel matters 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, the regents proceeded to the UNM Continuing Education Auditorium. Regent Payne joined virtually at 1:20 pm.]

VOTE TO RE-OPEN THE MEETING

- **The motion to re-open the meeting passed unanimously with seven regents present and voting (1st Fortner; 2nd Tackett; roll call vote – all members voted yes).**

Regent Blanchard reconvened open session at 1:17 pm and certified that only those matters described in the Executive Session Agenda were discussed in the closed session.

Land Acknowledgement Statement of the University of New Mexico

Regent Blanchard affirmed UNM's Land Acknowledgement Statement. Emily Morelli, Secretary to the Board, 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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **The motion to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2025 regular meeting passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0 (1st Fortner; 2nd Tackett).**

PRESIDENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT (ATTACHMENT A)

President Stokes' administrative report highlighted recent University activities, including homecoming and the opening of the UNMH Critical Care Tower.

She recognized significant multi-agency efforts (UNM PD, APD, State Police) to improve game-day safety and transit operations and announced a forthcoming comprehensive development and feasibility study to modernize University Stadium and reimagine South Campus as a mixed-use district.

President Stokes also noted that the College of Education & Human Sciences received a federal grant to launch the E3 Program (Effective Evidence-Based Education) to prepare special education teachers. The grant will support 28 graduate students over five years.

Finally, President Stokes gave an extensive review of ongoing legislative planning, including collaboration with the Council of University Presidents on unified higher education priorities; request for a 2.7% increase in I&G funding to match inflation; an anticipated employee compensation increase aligned with state agencies; non-recurring requests related to safety, technology, equipment, and renewal projects; an overview of UNM's Research & Public Service Project (RPSP) requests; and a summary of UNM's capital outlay priorities, noting HED's recommendation of \$551M, including \$540M for the School of Medicine.

Regent Payne inquired about the difference between HED's recommendations and UNM's request. Regent Tackett noted HED's generosity in funding the School of Medicine initiative.

REGENTS' COMMENTS

None.

ADVISORS' COMMENTS

Robert Lavin, President, Faculty Senate, reported the successful passage of the faculty parental leave policy after years of collaborative work, while noting the remaining need to establish support for postdoctoral fellows, who fall outside current policy structures.

Damion Terrell, President, Staff Council, expressed gratitude to President Stokes for her leadership and commitment to a smooth transition. He highlighted concerns regarding health-care premium increases and reported progress on joint staff-faculty campus lighting improvements. He also summarized recent staff engagement efforts, including a new Managers Summit and recognition awards, and encouraged staff participation in Veterans Week events and campus-wide food drive efforts.

Andrew Norton, President, ASUNM, updated the regents on collaborations with Athletics, such as Red Rally, Silent Lights, and brand-partnered outreach that brought thousands of students to athletic venues. He announced that the Lobo Lift transportation initiative will officially launch in January with hired student staff and administrative support and noted that the Student Fee Review Board process is well underway. He noted the visibility of safety initiatives around campus and expressed the hope for student voices to be involved in the upcoming presidential search.

Travis Broadhurst, President, GPSA, thanked the board for the venue to make comments, echoed the hope for graduate student involvement in the upcoming presidential search and expressed appreciation for President Stokes' service. He highlighted the success of a recent "Know Your Rights" event, organized with the Provost's Office and the faculty union, providing immigration and international rights education to graduate students, staff, faculty, and undergraduates. He thanked the university for approving a 6% raise for graduate workers and expressed hope that the Board would support the remaining articles in the union bargaining agreement once ratified. He reported a significant increase in GPSA programming this year and noted that GPSA has already distributed \$55,000 to graduate student organizations. He noted GPSA's legislative priorities, underscoring the need for increased funding for the NMHED graduate scholarship and completion of the SUB solar panel project.

Connie Beimer, on behalf of the VP, Alumni Association, reported record-breaking success in this year's green chile roast season, with more than 13,700 pounds roasted and over 2,250 alumni attending events across the country. She celebrated the strong turnout and enthusiastic participation at Homecoming 2025 events, which brought alumni together for athletics activities, reunions, and tailgates. She announced upcoming activities, including a Haunted Mansion event at Hodgkin Hall and the Veterans Day celebration at the Alumni Memorial Chapel.

PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATED TO THE AGENDA

There were no public comments.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CONSENT DOCKET

Regent Blanchard confirmed that the Student Success, Teaching and Research item "B. KUNM Radio Board Bylaws – Article 8: Revision" was removed from the Consent Docket.

- **The motion to approve all remaining items listed on the consent docket passed unanimously with a vote of 7-0 (1st Fortner; 2nd Reyes)**

VOTE TO APPROVE CHARGE TO THE UNM PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- **The motion to approve the charge to the Advisory Search Committee, subject to the revisions discussed in Executive Session, passed unanimously with a 7-0 vote (1st Tackett; 2nd Reyes)**

PUBLIC COMMENT NOT RELATED TO AGENDA

Rupali Gautam, Nicole Centazzo and Danielle Rivera, all UNMH residents, spoke about concerns regarding low salary increases for residents affecting recruitment, retention, and patient care; declining national residency applications at UNM; equitable meal access and adequate funds for residents; and the importance of recognizing holidays meaningful to communities in a minority-majority state and that reflect UNM's values, such as Juneteenth and Martin Luther King, Jr. day.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Regent Reyes motioned to adjourn the meeting, Regent Fortner seconded; all were in favor; the meeting adjourned at 2:02 pm.

Approved:



Paul Blanchard, Chair

Attest:



Paula Tackett, Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes originated and finalized by Emily Morelli

ATTACHMENT A: BOARD OF REGENTS OCTOBER 21, 2025 MINUTES

President's Report

Garnett S. Stokes

October 21, 2025



Study to Modernize University Stadium



Effective Evidence-based Education Grant





**NM Research &
Discovery week**

6-14 NOVEMBER 2025

Critical Care Tower





2026 Legislative Session Preparation

FY27 *Preliminary*

Higher Education Unified Priorities

- Recurring requests
 - Increase in formula Instruction & General (I&G) Funding
 - General Operations
 - Student Supports
 - Campus Safety
 - Employee Benefits
- Compensation
 - Equivalent to state agency and public education employees
 - Increase the percentage funded by the state

Research and Public Service Projects

New Requests			
Project Title	FY26 Appropriation	FY27 Request	Change from FY26
UNM-Gallup Community Health Worker Program		\$106,300	
UNM-Gallup Law Enforcement Academy		\$400,000	
Behavioral Health Technical Assistance Center		\$1,800,000	
College of Population Health		\$2,500,000	
Office of Substance Use Disorders		\$4,250,000	
ARID		\$1,937,000	
Quantum		\$2,930,000	
Achieving Persistence to Degree		\$931,300	
Expansion Requests			
UNM-Taos Nursing Program	\$884,600	\$1,017,200	\$132,600
ENLACE-Pathways Statewide Collaborative	\$980,700	\$3,000,000	\$2,019,300
Office of the Medical Investigator	\$11,811,200	\$16,084,700	\$4,573,500
UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center	\$8,461,400	\$10,761,400	\$2,300,000
Athletics	\$11,657,800	\$13,098,500	\$1,440,700
KNME Educational Television	\$1,352,500	\$1,825,000	\$472,500
Teacher Education Programs at UNM Branch Campuses	\$62,800	\$293,400	\$230,600
UNM Press	\$482,500	\$682,500	\$400,000
Utton Transboundary Resources Center	\$461,700	\$898,600	\$436,900

Research and Public Service Projects

- UNM Athletics
Current funding: \$11.7 million Expansion Request: \$13.1 million
- College of Population Health
New funding request: \$2.5 million
- Substance Use Disorders Initiatives: Virtual Addiction Treatment Clinical, Research, and Educational Program
New funding request: \$4.25 million

Special, Supplemental, and Deficiency Requests

Central Campus	
<i>Special Requests</i>	Request
Safety Initiatives	\$18,994,000
CAMPerinos	\$190,390
KUNM (2-years operating)	\$548,000
Graduate Assistants Compensation	\$1,377,500
Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)	\$20,000,000
Technology Enhancement Fund	\$50,000,000
Athletics Capital Requests	\$57,500,000
North Campus Greenhouse Gas Reduction Initiative	\$8,000,000
South Campus Golf Course Water Conservation Improvements	\$14,000,000
<i>Deficiency Request</i>	
Accessibility -Academic Affairs	\$459,220
<i>Supplemental Request</i>	
Accessibility -Academic Affairs	\$460,000
Health Sciences Center	
OMI Lighting & Body Management System	\$5,677,200
College of Population Health	\$2,500,000
UNM Taos	
UNM Taos k-12 outreach	\$223,835

Capital Projects

CAPITAL FUNDING REQUEST PRIORITIES	ESTIMATED PROJECT COST	FY27 APPROPRIATION REQUEST	RECOMMENDED RECOMMENDATION	FUNDING TYPE
Investments in Workforce				
NM Workforce Expansion: SOM Education Building & Enabling Projects	\$600,000,000	\$540,000,000	\$540,000,000	GOB/OSF
Taos Armory Renovation	\$7,000,000	\$5,950,000	\$0	
Valencia Automotive & Welding Technology Program	\$5,000,000	\$3,750,000	\$0	
Total Investments in Workforce	\$612,000,000	\$549,700,000		
Renewal & Renovations				
School of Law Renovation	\$16,000,000	\$15,500,000	\$0	
Gallup Calvin Hall North Wing Renovation	\$4,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	GOB
Gallup Gymnasium: Public Education Complex Renovation	\$3,000,000	\$0	\$0	
Los Alamos Student Services & Success Center Renovation	\$4,200,000	\$3,150,000	\$3,150,000	GOB
Los Alamos Open Space Upgrade Phase 2	\$3,570,000	\$1,250,000	\$0	
Taos Pueblo Hall Renovation	\$3,090,980	\$2,500,980	\$2,500,000	STB
Athletics: University Stadium Facility Improvements	\$100,000,000	\$50,000,000	\$0	
Athletics: Softball Improvement Phase 3	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$0	
Athletics: Technology & Video Board Replacement & Improvements	\$7,500,000	\$2,500,000	\$0	
Total Renewal & Renovations	\$146,360,980	\$82,900,980		
Sustainability & Energy Resiliency				
NM Workforce Expansion: North Campus Targeted Demolition	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000	GF
Data Center - CNM Improvements	\$5,500,000	\$5,500,000	\$0	
Utility Service Geo-Exchange	\$8,000,000	\$8,000,000	\$0	
Total Sustainability & Energy Resiliency	\$16,000,000	\$16,000,000		
Strategic Planning				
Planning Project Strategic Planning	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$0	
Total Strategic Planning	\$300,000	\$300,000		



