



**NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE
BOARD OF REGENTS'
Special Meeting of February 23, 2022**

Minutes

I. Call Meeting to Order

a. Roll Call

Regent Charles Cepeda, BOR Chairman called the meeting to order at 3:30pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting. He called for a roll call and six members were present. A quorum was established. The special meeting of the Board of Regents of the Northern Marianas College was held in the BOR Conference Room, Saipan Campus and online (remotely) using the Zoom platform.

Board Members In Person:

Regent Charles V. Cepeda, BOR Chairman
Regent Michelle Lin Sablan

Board Members on Zoom:

Regent Elaine Hocog Orilla, BOR Vice-Chairperson
Regent Michaela Sanchez, BOR Treasurer
Regent Jesse Tudela
Regent Zenie Mafnas

Excused Absent:

Regent Irene Torres

NMC Staff in Person:

Galvin Deleon Guerrero, EdD, NMC President
Frankie Eliptico, Vice-President for Administration and Advancement
David J. Attao, Chief Financial Officer
Helen Camacho, Executive Secretary to the Board of Regents (Recorder)

NMC Staff Present in Zoom:

Charlotte Cepeda, Dean of Student Services
Vilma Reyes, Dean of APS
Geri Rodgers, Staff Senate President
Timberley Ngewakl, Finance Office
JC Sullivan, SMHA
Roman Tudela, Acting HRO Director
Renedel Buno, Information & Technology
Heejung Sin (Chloe), UCEDD
Maria Aguon, Tinian Center Executive Director
Tinian Center Staff
Velma Deleon Guerrero, SMHA

b. Review and Adoption of Agenda

Chairman Cepeda called for the adoption of the agenda.

Action: Regent Orilla motioned to adopt the agenda, seconded by Regent Sablan. All members voted yes, the motion passed. The agenda is adopted with no changes.

II. Public Comment Period: Individuals may verbally testify on items on the agenda during the Public Comment Period. Testifiers are requested to limit their comments to five (5) minutes. Written comment is also accepted. – None.

III. Old Business

None.

IV. New Business

a. NMCs FY2023 Appropriations Budget request

Regent Mafnas informed the board that the finance committee met and is ready to recommend the approval of the college's budget request for FY2023.

Action: Regent Mafnas motioned to approve NMCs FY2023 Appropriations Budget request, seconded by Regent Sanchez. Chairman noted that we are in discussion. Chairman Cepeda began by thanking the college for including the Board's budget and for incorporating the request to support going green and digital. The board supports this move and understands the need to go in this direction.

Galvin Deleon Guerrero, EdD, NMC President shared the overall budget to include incorporating the changes that the board requested, additional monies to meet

accreditation recommendations, building Information and Technology, expanding and meeting the workforce needs as well as other programs. He added that this is a reflection of the college keeping pace with the current trends in higher education. President Deleon Guerrero also mentioned that another item that was included in the budget is the grant requirements from USDA for NMC CREES to seek the local match in requesting \$1.2 million. He shared that when we are not given that budget, we will need to go back to USDA to request for that waiver. We will continue to request that waiver and continue to request for that budget. President Deleon Guerrero also shared with the board that the CNMI will now establish its own lead center for the Small Business Development Center. However, part of the grant for the SBDC includes matching funds for a half million dollars which cannot be waived. President Deleon Guerrero yielded to VP Frankie for more comments.

VP Frankie Eliptico recognized the work by the finance team, the CFO, and the assistance from the other departments in preparing the budget. He shared that this is just the start of the budgeting process which will then be submitted to the Governor's office and the legislature. The college will need the board's assistance in advocating for the budget.

CFO Attao also thanked the board for their input and guidance in this process. The entire college was instrumental and helpful. It allows us to better prepare for the needs of our community.

Regent Orilla thanked the college administration in preparing the budget request for the college, she supports the passage. Chairman Cepeda called for the vote.

Action: All members voted yes, the motion passed.

V. Executive Session (At any time during the scheduled meeting of the Board of Regents may be required to enter into executive session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential). – None.

VI. Adjournment

Action: Regent Sablan motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Regent Orilla. All members voted yes, the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 3:45pm.