I. CALL TO ORDER: 3:00 p.m.

II. PRESENT:

A. BOR Members: Chairman Ramon G. Villagomez, Vice Chairman Fermin M. Atalig, Regent Manuel A. Sablan, Regent Abelia Cing-Cabrera, Regent Teresa Taitano, and Regent Kimberlyn King.

B. NMC Faculty, Staff, and Students: President Jack Sablan, Jesse C. Borja, Esq. (Legal Counsel); Barbara Moir, Ed Camacho, Marlin Van Der Veen, Sallie Sablan, Diana Greenough, Kohne Ramon, Tony DL Guerrero, Chao Chiu, Alvaro Santos, Janice Tenorio, Rose Igitol, Helen Camacho, Christi Omengibar, Fred Hill, Eric Plinske, Stanley Mar, and Vince Merfalen (recorder).

C. Guests: Mr. Daniel H. Nielsen (Governor’s Office), Aldwin Fajardo (Tribune), Rene P. Acosta (Variety), Cathy Anderson (MCV), and Vincent L. Tammed (MCV).

III. Chairman

A. Proposed agenda was reviewed and approved.

B. Minutes of the Regular BOR meeting of 25 Feb 2000 was approved with changes.

IV. Committee Reports:

A. Program Committee

1. Last Committee meeting was 3/28/00. Regent Cing-Cabrera presented highlights of the meeting.

2. Policies 5015 (Student Employment/Training Classifications and Wages) and 5027 (Participation in Commencement Exercises) are new policies for Student Services. The proposals were introduced
to the BOR consideration and adoption. The chairman referred the proposals to the Program Committee for evaluation and recommendation.

3. Proposed changes to Policies 3002 (Instructional Obligations), and 3009 (Curriculum Changes) were submitted for BOR consideration and approval. The proposed policies were referred to the Program Committee for evaluation and recommendation.

4. Policy 3047 (Academic Advisement) is a new policy. The proposal was introduced to the BOR for consideration and adoption. The proposal was referred to the Program Committee for evaluation and recommendation.

5. Concepts of the Basic Police Officer Certification, Basic Law Enforcement Certification, and the Associate of Arts/Science degree in Agriculture were presented. These programs will be presented again to the BOR after the Academic and Management Councils complete their reviews.

6. Update on the Pacific Rim Academy: Equipment are now arriving on Saipan and being put into place. Screening of applicants for the program is ongoing with classes starting in April 2000.

7. The NMC Logo Committee presented the top three nominations for a new NMC logo. Bobbie Hunter and Polly DL Guerrero presented the nominations and read aloud a brief description of each one. The regents were asked to vote on the nominations and select the new NMC logo. Chairman Villagomez tabled voting on the options until later during the meeting in order for the board members to digest the information presented. Just prior to Executive Session, Chairman Villagomez asked for input from the audience. The regents adopted option 1 by a majority vote.

a) **Option 1:** Submitted by Robert Hegwood

There are two major elements of this design. The central element is the stylized voyaging canoe. The Micronesian voyaging canoe with its distinctive crab-claw sail is found in both ancient Chamorro and current Carolinian culture. Among voyaging cultures, the art of the navigator represents the
height of skill and learning. Island peoples were dependent upon the skills of their navigators to find their way across the ocean to trade, or find and develop unknown lands. In today’s world the knowledge provided by a college education is what is needed to compete economically and to discover new ways to serve the people of the Commonwealth. This modern aspect is reflected in the particular nature of the stylization of the canoe, choosing its forward profile so that in silhouette it resembles a blazing lamp, the Western symbol of the light of knowledge. The second element is the oval border which is heavy and black inscribed with the name “Northern Marianas College” at the top and “1981” the year of the school’s founding. The font chosen for the border is broad, stark, and angular. Against the heavy border it suggests carving in wood bringing to mind the wood working traditions of the islands as well as to suggest the lean graphical forms of traditional tattoos. The font form is also reminiscent of Greek lettering, a culture known for its learning and whose intellectual traditions lie at the very foundations of Western civilization.

b) **Option 2**: Submitted by Larry Lee

sun = symbolizes light, knowledge

open book = symbolizes scholarly study

flowers = symbolizes mwaar & lei used for cultural traditions

graduation cap = symbolizes academic goals

latte stone = symbolizes Chamorro culture

palm trees = represents tropical Pacific environment
c)  **Option 3:** Submitted by Rolando Del Rosario

The shield has represented the best in all institutions of higher learning throughout history. It befits yours as well. The latte stone shows the relationship between the past and the present, and the future of the Marianas Islands. It was there when the great chiefs taught their children, and will be there for generations to come. Just as knowledge is never-ending, so it is with the latte stone. The last addition is the torch. What is a torch? A torch is the light that can never be put out so long as there is someone to carry it. You are that torch. The torch of knowledge, wisdom, and integrity that will be handed down from generation to generation.

B.  Fiscal-Legislative Committee

1.  Last Committee meeting was 3/29/00. Regent Sablan presented highlights of the meeting.

   a)  NMC Financial situation is “good.” Regent Sablan explained his assessment based on the most recent financial reports from the Comptroller.

   b)  Update on Audits: Mr. Dave Berger, the Comptroller, and Mr. Harris Lawrence (former Comptroller) will be meeting next Monday. They will try to obtain needed information from Mr. Lawrence that will assist with the audits.

   c)  Based on the financial reports and current financial status, the Fiscal and Legislative Committee support the proposed Compensation Plan. The proposed plan will be discussed in detail by the Personnel Committee.

C.  Personnel Committee

1.  Last Committee meeting was 3/29/00. Regent Atalig presented highlights of the meeting.

2.  President Selection:
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a) Regent Atalig, Chairman of the selection committee, gave written notice to Chairman Villagomez of the committee’s nomination for president.

b) Chairman Villagomez announced that Mr. Jack Sablan was nominated to be the next president of NMC.

c) **Motion:** to adopt the recommendation of the selection committee.

d) **Motion Unanimously Carried.**

e) Mr. Dan Nielsen extends congratulations on behalf of the Governor.

3. Compensation Plan

a) Mr. Kohne Ramon presented the results of the compensation study and the proposed compensation plan.

b) Chairman Villagomez asked if NMC can financially support the proposal. Regent Sablan responded with “yes;” (based on financial reports and current cash flow).

c) Dr. Moir asked if the projections include faculty salaries. Answer: Yes.

d) Regent Sablan asked the administration to evaluate salary factors such as COLA and individual productivity.

e) **Motion:** to approve the proposed compensation plan with a condition that salary increments be retroactively unfrozen before a transition to the new plan is implemented. Restoration of the salary increments and any back-pay shall be made by 1 April 2000. Implementation of the Pay Plan shall be at the discretion of the President/Administration.

f) **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

4. Sabbatical/Educational leave. Update provided by Mr. Kohne Ramon. This issue is currently being worked on by a committee appointed by the Management Council.

V. NMC President’s Report:
A. The Senate has directed an oversight hearing to be held 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, 5 April 2000, at the Senate Chambers. The focus of the hearing will be NMC personnel and hiring practices on Saipan, Rota and Tinian campuses.

B. The Marianas Public Land Trust is asking about NMC’s intent to acquire Villagomez lands. President gave a verbal “yes” and promised written correspondence to follow.

C. Rota Mayor is following up on the transfer of CREES to Rota.
   1. BOR resolution is not clear if the change is a complete transfer of CREES or just an expansion of the program on the Rota Campus.
   2. The impact of a complete and total transfer to Rota is great if everything necessary is done to make the change work. The support base is currently on the main campus on Saipan where the majority of the total NMC students attend.

D. Budget call next week: Tuition revenues and operations.

E. Commencement is scheduled for 27 May 2000.
   1. The graduation class has been identified.
   2. Dr. Norma Ada is going to be the Keynote speaker.
   3. If there are 15 or more graduates from Rota, there will be a separate ceremony for Rota.

F. NMC continue to work with Mr. Dan Nielsen on setting up a joint meeting with the PSS Board and Commissioner. Meeting with Mr. Nielsen is scheduled for next Wednesday.

VI. Faculty Senate Report:

A. Faculty turn-over has dwindled the membership of the Faculty Senate.

B. The Faculty Senate elected new officers from 4 declared candidates and 2 write-ins.

C. During an upcoming faculty development day, time will be spent updating programs for the year and on training faculty on “How to Counsel Students.”

VII. President of the Student Body:
A. The Student Council is planning Charter Day.
   1. Hut building contest will include entries from the high school and elementary schools.
   2. BOR Chairman and NMC President were each asked to prepare a Charter Day message by 7 April 2000.

VIII. Miscellaneous: Upon returning to the regular session, from the Executive Session, President enters into the minutes:
   1. Update on the Oden case and miscellaneous personnel matters were discussed.
   2. Miscellaneous personnel matters.

Adjourn: 5:00 p.m.