MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF REGENTS
Special Meeting
Friday, April 1, 2011
Continued on Thursday, April 7, 2011
11:15am

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

Attendance:

Board of Regents: Regent Juan T. Lizama, BOR Chairperson; Regent Elaine Hocog Orilla, BOR Vice-Chairperson; Regent Andrew L. Orsini; Regent Maria (Malua) T. Peter; and Regent Frank M. Rabauliman (via phone conference).

Honorary Members: Larry Lee, Faculty Senate President; Antonio Tiples, ASNMC President; and Clarice Arriola, Staff Senate President.

College Staff and Faculty: Lorraine T. Cabrera, Interim President; Maria Aguon, Tinian Campus Administrator (via VTC Tinian Campus); Leo Pangelinan, Dean of Student Services; Cynthia Guerrero, Admissions and Records Office Director; Farah Younis, OIA Marketing Manager; Frankie Eliptico, OIA Director; Joyce Taro, Academic Programs & Services; John Manalo, HRO Manager; Bobbi Merfalen, Dean of Academic Programs & Services; Gerri Willis, President’s Office; and Helen B. Camacho, OIA (Recorder).

Others: Jesus C. Borja, NMC Legal Counsel; Junhan Todeno, Marianas Variety News Reporter; and Moneth Deposa, Saipan Tribune News Reporter.

The Special Meeting of the Board of Regents was called to order on Friday, April 1, 2011 at 11:15a.m. in the BOR Conference Room at the Northern Marianas College, Saipan Campus.

a. Roll Call

BOR Chairperson Juan T. Lizama called roll. Five members of the Board of Regents were present.
b. Review and Adoption of Agenda

Motion: Regent Orilla moved to adopt the agenda.
Second: Regent Peter seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Presidential Search

Chairperson Lizama informed the general public that were present in the gallery that the board has made some accomplishments with regard to the ongoing presidential search and review of the applicants for NMC President. He provided a brief update and indicated that Dr. Christa Adams has withdrawn her application for NMC President.

Withdrawal of Application from Dr. Christa Adams:

Motion: Regent Orsini moved to accept the withdrawal of Dr. Christa Adams as an applicant for NMC President.
Second: Regent Peter seconded the motion.
Discussion: Regent Rabauliman requested for some clarification on the need for the board to make the withdrawal a formal acceptance or acknowledgement. Chairperson Lizama felt it would be prudent on his part and for the entire board to formally include this as part of the process. Regent Rabauliman thanked Chairperson Lizama for the explanation and cast his vote.
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Yes – Regent Orilla
    Regent Orsini
    Regent Peter
    Regent Rabauliman
    Chairperson Lizama

Chairperson Lizama also noted that the board is still operating under the resolution and they still have the task of selecting the president from the two remaining candidates.

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION –

Motion: Regent Peter moved to go into executive session at 11:24 a.m on Friday, April 1, 2011.
Second: Regent Orilla seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.
Executive Session ended at 11:52am on Friday, April 1, 2011. For the record, Regent Rabauliman did not participate during the executive session portion of the meeting pursuant to the Board Policy on meetings via VTC No. 1015.9. The board did not take any action after the executive session.

**Motion:** Regent Orilla moved to recess at 11:57a.m. on Friday, April 1, 2011. The meeting will continue at 2:30p.m. on April 1, 2011.

**Second:** Regent Peter seconded the motion.

**Vote:** The motion passed unanimously.

V. **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairperson Lizama called the meeting to order at 3:50p.m. on Friday, April 1, 2011.

**Motion:** Regent Peter moved to recess the meeting at 3:51p.m. on Friday, April 1, 2011.

**Second:** Regent Orsini seconded the motion.

**Vote:** The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting recessed at 3:51p.m on Friday, April 1, 2011. The meeting will resume on Thursday, April 7, 2011 at 11:00a.m.
College Staff and Faculty: Lorraine T. Cabrera, Interim President; Maria Aguon, Tinian Campus Administrator (via VTC Tinian Campus); Leo Pangelinan, Dean of Student Services; Farah Younis, OIA Marketing Manager; Joyce Taro, Academic Programs & Services; Frankie Eliptico, OIA Director; John Cook, CNMI Archives; Matt Pastula, Library Services Director; and Helen Camacho, OIA (Recorder).

Others: Jesus C. Borja, NMC Legal Counsel; Junhan Todeno, Marianas Variety News Reporter; and Moneth Deposa, Saipan Tribune News Reporter.

The Special Meeting of the Board of Regents was called to order on Thursday, April 7, 2011 at 11:20a.m. in the BOR Conference Room at the Northern Marianas College, Saipan Campus.

a. Roll Call

BOR Chairperson Juan T. Lizama called roll. Four members of the Board of Regents were present.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Interim President Cabrera pointed out that a recent news article stating that NMC received $5 million had prompted the President’s office to obtain some clarification, only to find out that the amount was lesser than what was reported.

III. OLD BUSINESS

a. Presidential Search

Chairperson Lizama stated that the board is ready to make a formal announcement of the selection for President of Northern Marianas College.

Motion: Regent Orilla moved that the board formally offer the position of Northern Marianas College President to Dr. Sharon Y. Hart.

Second: Regent Peter seconded the motion.

Discussion: Regent Peter inquired about the amount of time to be given to Dr. Hart to respond to the offer.

Chairperson Lizama indicated that the board will give Dr. Hart 5 days, or no later than April 12, 2011, Saipan time. He stated that the board looks forward to Dr. Hart’s acceptance of the offer.

Regent Orsini indicated that in the event that Dr. Hart does not accept or does not respond to the offer within the timeline given to her, then the offer will automatically seize.
Chairperson Lizama was not sure about what would happen if Dr. Hart does not respond to the offer within the allotted time and asked for Counsel Borja’s guidance. Counsel Borja indicated that he hasn’t seen the draft offer and a lot will depend on the offer itself. Furthermore, if an offer is given with a timeline as to when to respond and no response is received by that timeline then it is automatically terminated.

Chairperson Lizama indicated that it would be prudent that Counsel Borja reviews the contract before the offer is sent to Dr. Hart. He also requested to follow the approval as to form format. Counsel Borja responded that he will also include this item in the contract.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion:** Regent Orilla moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:30p.m. on Thursday, April 7, 2011.
**Second:** Regent Peter seconded the motion.
**Vote:** The motion passed unanimously.