MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF REGENTS
Special Meeting
Wednesday, March 16, 2011
1:52 p.m.

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

Attendance:

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

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

**College Staff and Faculty:** Lorraine T. Cabrera, Interim President; Martin Mendiola, Rota Campus Administrator (via VTC Rota Campus); Maria Aguon, Tinian Campus Administrator (via VTC Tinian Campus); Dr. John Griffin, Business Department Chair; Tim Baker, Counseling Director; Leo Pangelinan, Dean of Student Services; Cyndi 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; Ivy Ealy, Finance Office; Marie Coleman, Finance Office; Dawn Chrystal (DC) Revilla, Acting CFO; John Cook, CNMI Archives; and Helen B. Camacho, OIA (Recorder).

**Others:** Jesus C. Borja, NMC Legal Counsel; Junhan Todeno, Marianas Variety News Reporter.

The Special Meeting of the Board of Regents was called to order on Wednesday, March 16, 2011 at 1:52 p.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 Peter moved to adopt the agenda.
Second: Regent Orsini seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

c. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Interim President Cabrera presented the following meeting minutes for review and adoption.

i. March 11, 2011 Special Meeting

- Page 2 – Larry Lee pointed out that his statement on the college’s accreditation being terminated is “very likely” not “definitely” as previously mentioned.
- Lee also indicated that 6 Presidents, not 12 Presidents, should be reflected in his statement about the two Presidents that were hired outside the CNMI being a disaster to the college.
- Page 4 item 3 Old Business: in the discussion of the motion, the second line where it says clarification has been obtained on whether there is a need to promulgate the policies so that the act of the board is clearer; change from promulgate to publish the policies in the commonwealth register.
- Interim President Cabrera indicated that the HR Policies are still being cleaned up; a numerical system of the policy will be provided.

Motion: Regent Peter moved to adopt the March 11, 2011 Special Meeting minutes with changes.
Second: Regent Orilla seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

ii. March 14, 2011 Special Meeting

Motion: Regent Orilla moved to adopt the March 14, 2011 Special Meeting minutes.
Second: Regent Peter seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION

(At any time during the scheduled meeting the Board of Regents may be required to enter into executive session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential)

Motion: Regent Peter moved to enter into executive session at 1:59 p.m. on Wednesday, March 16, 2011.
Second: Regent Orilla seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.
For the record, the executive session ended at 2:50 p.m. on Wednesday, March 16, 2011. The Board did not take any action on any matters discussed during executive session.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

a. Presidential Search

Chairperson Lizama informed the public that the board has made a decision and selected a President for the Northern Marianas College. Chairperson Lizama thanked the board members for a conscientious effort and for coming together after a long and arduous process.

Regent Orsini gave a brief synopsis of the presidential process and announced the names of the following top three candidates:

1. Dr. Jeffrey F. Armstrong, President of Muscatine Community College
2. Dr. Sharon Y. Hart, Deputy President, University College of the Caribbean, Kingston, Jamaica
3. Dr. Christa E. Adams, former President, Owens Community College, Ohio

The name of the selected candidate has been made but the announcement will be made at a later date. Regent Rabauliman wanted to clarify that a selection to continue the process was made and that a selection of a President has not yet been made. Chairperson Lizama reiterated that the board has chosen a candidate to become president subject to the criminal and financial investigation. The board is also bound to the requirements as set forth in the board resolution and is very hopeful that the college is closer to a having a new president. Chairperson Lizama also thanked Interim President Cabrera for her hard work and dedication during the search process.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Regent Peter moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:57 p.m. on Wednesday, March 16, 2011.
Second: Regent Orilla seconded the motion.
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.