



NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE  
BOARD OF REGENTS  
Special Meeting of November 12, 2020

Minutes

I. Call Meeting to Order

The special meeting of the Board of Regents of the Northern Marianas College was held on Thursday, November 12, 2020 in the BOR Conference Room, Saipan Campus. Regent Charles V. Cepeda, BOR Chairman called the meeting to order at 11:00a.m. and called for roll of the members. Six (6) members were present and a quorum was established. Chairman Cepeda welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**a. Roll Call**

Regents present in person:

Regent Charles Cepeda, Chairman  
Regent Jesse M. Tudela  
Regent Irene Torres  
Regent Michelle Lin Sablan

Regent present virtually:

Regent Elaine Hocog Orilla, Vice-Chairperson (Via Zoom NMC Rota Center)  
Regent Michaela U. Sanchez, Treasurer (Via Zoom NMC Tinian Center)

Excused absent:

Regent Zenie P. Mafnas

NMC Staff/Faculty:

Frankie Eliptico, NMC Interim President; Charlotte Cepeda, Dean of Learning and Student Success; Konrad Reyes, Personnel Specialist, Human Resources; Rachel Fusco, Capital Improvement Project Director; Polly Masga, Human Resources Director; Raymond Muna, Prior Learning Assessment; Barnaby Lizama, Interim Facilities Director; Dr. Randy Yates, Associate Professor, SPED; Les Ogumoro, Program Manager III (AHEC); Geraldine Rodgers, Assessment

Specialist; Bobbie Hunter, Assistant Professor; Raynard Travilla, Interim Director of Marketing; Helen B. Camacho, Executive Board Secretary (Recorder)

Board Legal Counsel:

Tiberius Mocanu

**b. Review and Adoption of Agenda**

Chairman Cepeda moved on to the next item which is the adoption of the November 12, 2020 special meeting agenda and requested for a motion from the board members.

**Action:** Regent Orilla motioned to adopt the agenda, seconded by Regent Torres. All members voted yes, the motion carried.

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 three (3) minutes. Written comment is also accepted. - None.

III. Old Business

a. Minimum Qualification Policy 5005 Update

Regent Orilla informed the board that the Human Resources Committee met earlier today, November 12, 2020. The committee reviewed the proposed changes to Board Policy 5005 with regard to the Minimum Qualifications. IP Frankie explained the staff worked hard on the proposed changes for this policy. Polly Masga, HR Director also recognized the members that worked on the proposed changes. After much discussion, the committee indicated that they are ready to make its recommendation to the full board.

**Action:** Regent Orilla motioned to adopt Board Policy No. 5005 - Minimum Qualification as amended, seconded by Regent Sablan. All members voted yes, the motion passed. Policy 5005 is hereby amended with the changes.

Chairman Cepeda thanked the committee and college for the work put into this and also recommended that all policies need to be revisited.

b. CIP Update

IP Frankie provided an update on the ongoing projects at the college. A listing of the projects was provided to the board. He highlighted the status of those projects to include the:

1) OIA CIP Project: Building V Renovation, Solar Power Project

2) USDOE Projects: funding the A&E status is that the college is working with USDOE, the FMP will guide the growth; expected to finalize the contract in the next few days; finalizing the contract

3) EDA: \$23.8 Million total; since notified the college to resubmit the project or combine it into one single project; expecting an announcement.

4) FEMA: Meet weekly with Patrick Guerrero, Liaison to the Main Office in D.C; FEMA disqualified some of the buildings because they weren't built to a certain code; withdraw the Soudelor; Patrick said it is moving forward and will keep us updated. Mitigation funds; building contents that NMC lost (i.e computers, furnitures) got the approval for that this week, asking Patrick to review before we accept their offer of \$2.2 Million offer. The 428 project is the biggest one; Mangkhut ones are still being processed; the information has been submitted already and waiting for contacts with the Governor's Office to release the reimbursement; Workforce Development funds and FEMA match; providing 90 percent of the funds and NMC has to come up with the 10 percent;

5) NMHC : Reached out to NMHC to deobligate the funds; We'll have more information on this and will provide more details about the next steps.

6) CREES: \$400k for Plant Biotechnology Building is not enough; harden one of the existing semi concrete buildings;

#### IV. New Business

##### a. Presidential Search Resolution (Amendment)

Chairman Cepeda shared that the document before them is to amend the resolution to include a staff member and one administrator representative on the PSC committee.

**Action:** Regent Orilla motioned to approve the resolution with the amendments, seconded by Regent Torres. 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 Orilla motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Regent Torres. The meeting ended at 11:50a.m.