



Board of Regents Minutes

Date: Thursday, March 19, 2026

Time: 9:00 a.m. MST

Location: Zoom Webinar

Public Zoom Webinar: <https://nmt-edu.zoom.us/j/97703739901>

- 1) **Call to Order.** Regent Chair David Lepre Sr. called the special meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and recognized other Regents attending: Yolanda Jones King, Jerry Armijo, and Cody Johnston. Regent Srinivas Mukkamala was absent from the meeting. Chair Lepre read a formal statement affirming the meeting's compliance with the Open Meetings Act. He noted that roll call votes would be used for all actions and requested that all participants clearly identify themselves when speaking. He also clarified that the Zoom webinar link had been made publicly available.
 - a) **Proof of Meeting Notice.** Ms. Vanessa Grain, Special Assistant to the Regents, confirmed that legal notices were placed in the *Albuquerque Journal* and *El Defensor Chieftain*.
- 2) **Approval of Agenda.** The agenda was approved on a motion by Regent Armijo and a second by Regent King. Ms. Grain conducted a roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously.
- 3) **Public Comment.** None.
- 4) **Executive Session.** NMSA Section 10-15-1 H (7) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, if required to consider limited legal matters. NMSA 1978, Sec 10-15-1 (H) (2), of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, if required to consider limited personnel matters. Regent Armijo made a motion to meet in Executive Session. Regent Johnston seconded the motion. Ms. Grain conducted a roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously. The regular session was adjourned at 9:05 a.m.
- 5) **Reconvene in open session and take final action, if any, on such limited legal and personnel matters which shall be acted upon in open session following conclusion of the closed session.** At 9:38 a.m. Chair Lepre entertained a motion to return to the open session. Regent King so moved, followed by a second from Regent Johnston. Ms. Grain conducted a roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Lepre announced that no official action was taken in the closed executive session, and only those matters cited were discussed.
- 6) **Action Items.**
 - a) **Approval of Presidential Search Committee Recommended Finalists.** Regent King moved that the New Mexico Tech Board of Regents accept the recommendation of the Presidential Search Committee of the five finalists for the position of President of New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, as follows: Montserrat Fuentes, President at St. Edward's University; Andrew Hamilton, VP for Academic Success at Texas State University; Michael Jackson, Interim President at New Mexico Tech; Kerop Janoyan, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies at California State University – Long Beach; and Carlos Romero, Associate Vice President for Research at New Mexico Tech. Regent Armijo seconded the motion. Ms. Grain conducted a roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Lepre thanked the presidential search committee for their hard work. Dr. Steve Simpson, Search Committee Chair, gave a summary of the candidate visits to campus the week of March



23. Laura Sanchez, NMT's General Counsel, let the Regents know that she will work with Ms. Grain to make sure all the proper Open Meetings Act legal notices are posted as required for the upcoming presidential candidate visits to the campus.

7) Individual Board Member Comments. None.

8) Announcements and New Business. Chair Lepre announced there will be another regular board meeting on Friday, April 10, 2026 to discuss the candidates, with the final appointment of the president being decided at the regular board meeting on Friday, April 17, 2026. Chair Lepre also gave a reminder about the Budget Forum on Thursday, April 2, 2026 at the Deju House starting at 9:00 am.

9) Adjournment. Regent Armijo moved to adjourn the meeting. Regent King seconded the motion. Ms. Grain conducted a roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:44 a.m.

Approved by the Board of Regents on April 17, 2026.

Approved by Dr. David Lepre Sr., Chairman.

Attested by Dr. Yolanda Jones King, Secretary-Treasurer, Yolanda Jones King