

**MESALANDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**

April 6, 2023

The Mesalands Community College Board of Trustees met in special session on Thursday, April 6, 2023, at 5:48 p.m. in the Great Room, Building “A” in Tucumcari, New Mexico.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Ms. Stephenson, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:48 p.m. (Due to technical problems the meeting began eighteen minutes late.)

The following board members were present: Ms. Teresa Stephenson, Mr. Phillip Box, Mr. Jimmy Sandoval, and Mr. Tom Sidwell.

LIST OF ACTION ITEMS

- 1) Approval of Agenda
- 2) Approval of Authorization for Everyone’s Federal Credit Union
- 3) Approval of Authorization for the New Mexico State Treasurer Office
- 4) Approval to go into Executive Session
- 5) Approval to Reconvene from Executive Session
- 6) Action if needed from Executive Session
- 7) Approval to Appoint New Board Member for District 1

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Exhibit 1) – ACTION

ACTION – Mr. Box moved to approve the agenda with the correction of moving Item VIII, Appointment of New Board Member for District 1 to item III. Mr. Sidwell seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with members voting: Mr. Box, yes; Mr. Sandoval, yes; Mr. Sidwell, yes; and Ms. Stephenson, yes. The motion carried.

III. APPOINTMENT OF NEW BOARD MEMBER FOR DISTRICT 1 – ACTION

There were three people that sent a letter/resume of interest for the vacant Board member position for district 1: Mr. Bobby Kandel, who joined the meeting by phone, Mr. Richard Primrose, and Mr. Carlos Romero were both present. The following questions were asked to each candidate:

1. How do you see yourself contributing to the board and the success of Mesalands Community College?
 - Mr. Kandel - My goal is teaching, the community needs Mesalands. More community involvement in a huge way. I have been involved and have experience with students. We need more push towards traditional, CTE, agricultural and trades programs focus and provide more marketing. We

had a college fair and MCC was not there, we need to be getting more exposure and involved with dual enrollment.

- Mr. Primrose -I have worked for the last 21 years as city and county manager. I have experience working with personnel and the day-to-day operations in both entities. Also, a Certified Procurement Officer (CPO) with experience in budgets, grants, gross receipts, and property tax. We need to do all we can to keep Mesalands here, it is a huge benefit to the citizens of our community. I have been retired for two years, so I feel like I have the time to put into the development of this establishment. My expertise in managing the city and county would be helpful to the college. I have been through numerous audits and received very good audit reports. I am a lifetime resident of Quay County. I want to do all that I can to help Mesalands.
- Mr. Romero - I was born and raised in Tucumcari, I have a vested interest in Mesalands, my children have attended Mesalands along with friends and family. I have worked for 25 years for the New Mexico State Environment Department as a director and manager. I have had staff working for me. I bring expertise in working with the state and legislators in rulemaking and fighting for funding for different programs. Also, I have been on the Tucumcari Public School Board, I am sure it is similar working with Higher Education.

2. What do you view as the role of a Board of Trustee member?

- Mr. Kandel – Lookout for the good of the school and what is the best for the students, look even deeper into the financial oversight and curriculum and that the interest aligns with the goals. Make sure that everything aligns and get more people through our college.
- Mr. Primrose – The role is the same as the city and county commission; to oversee the policies and procedures and the budget, and the hiring of the Administrator to run the day-to-day operations. All Boards entities should work together to pull resources and work with all the entities and State.
- Mr. Romero – Helping Dr. Moss or whoever the President is, and as a trustee to know where we stand and who we can talk to as a school and listen to the constituents. That is part of the responsibility, to listen, and I can listen and make sure everyone is heard. I know what the responsibility of a trustee is, and I am fully ready to go beyond what our responsibilities require.

3. How can a board (or member) become more engaged with the college?”

- Mr. Kandel – You need to “want to, a simple yes!” Everything you do, by getting involved when there are events. Going out and visiting and listening to the community and being visible, when you are there, be approachable. One of the greatest things to do is to simply show up.
- Mr. Primrose – You need to be available, we have several people that we answer to, I have an open-door policy, the public has a right to talk to the trustees and voice their concerns, not only the citizens but also the students. First go to Dr. Moss, he is the CEO and relay any issues or concerns that arise. Listen to everyone’s concerns.

- Mr. Romero – Community engagement is the big thing, pushing the advantage of concurrent programs is very important, it is a huge benefit. This is important to push for the advantage to enable them to go on to a 4-year program and graduate in 3 years. There are a lot of things to contribute to the community, it is important for us to make sure everyone knows about it.

Ms. Stephenson asked if there was a motion to nominate a candidate or candidates. Mr. Jimmy Sandoval nominated Mr. Richard Primrose. Mr. Tom Sidwell seconded the motion. Ms. Stephenson asked if there were any other nominations. There were no other nominations.

Discussion – Mr. Box stated that it was really nice we had three well-qualified people interested, this is encouraging. Ms. Stephenson thanked each one for their interest in Mesalands.

ACTION – Mr. Sandoval moved to appoint to the Board of Trustees the nomination of Mr. Richard Primrose to fill the vacancy for District 1. Mr. Sidwell seconded the motion. A roll call vote taken with members voting: Mr. Sidwell, yes, Ms. Stephenson, yes; Mr. Box, yes; and Mr. Sandoval. yes. The motion carried. Mr. Primrose will serve the remainder of the term until the next election. Mr. Primrose will contact Ms. Ellen White to set up a time next week to be sworn in.

IV. AUTHORIZATION FOR EVERYONE’S FEDERAL CREDIT UNION – ACTION

ACTION – Mr. Sidwell made the motion to grant authorization and signatory to the following three people from Mesalands for Everyone’s Federal Credit Union accounts: Ms. Blanca Pauliukevicius, Dr. Allen Moss, and Ms. Tammy Hall. Mr. Box seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with members voting: Mr. Sandoval, yes; Mr. Sidwell, yes; Ms. Stephenson, yes; and Mr. Box, yes. The motion carried.

V. AUTHORIZATION FOR NEW MEXICO STATE TREASURER’S OFFICE – ACTION

ACTION – Mr. Box made the motion to grant authorization and signatory to the following four people from Mesalands for the New Mexico State Treasurer Office Accounts: Ms. Blanca Pauliukevicius, Dr. Allen Moss, Ms. Teresa Stephenson, and Mr. Tom Sidwell. Mr. Sandoval seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with members voting: Mr. Sidwell, yes; Ms. Stephenson, yes; Mr. Box, yes; and Mr. Sandoval, yes. The motion carried.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION - ACTION

ACTION – Mr. Sidwell moved that the Board enter Executive Session for limited personnel matters as allowed for in NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1 (H) (2), for litigation as allowed for in NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1 (H) (7), and for real property and water rights as allowed for in NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1 (H) (8). Mr. Box seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with members voting: Ms. Stephenson, yes; Mr. Box, yes; Mr. Sandoval, yes; and Mr. Sidwell, yes. The motion carried.

VII. RECONVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION – ACTION

ACTION – Mr. Box moved that the Board Reconvene from Executive Session which was limited to discussions as stipulated above for limited personnel matters as allowed for in NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1 (H) (2), for litigation as allowed for in NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1 (H) (7), and for real property and water rights as allowed for in NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1 (H) (8). Mr. Sidwell seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with members voting: Mr. Box, yes; Mr. Sandoval, yes; Mr. Sidwell, yes; and Ms. Stephenson, yes. The motion carried.

VIII. ACTION, IF NEEDED BASED ON EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Stephenson stated there is one action item that is needed, based on Executive Session.

ACTION – Mr. Sidwell made the motion to increase Dr. Allen Moss, Interim President salary to \$120,000. Mr. Sandoval seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with members voting: Mr. Sandoval, yes; Mr. Sidwell, yes; Ms. Stephenson, yes; and Mr. Box, yes. The motion carried.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Reschedule the Regular Board meeting from Tuesday, April 18 to Thursday, April 27, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in the Great Room – Building “A”

X. ADJOURN

Ms. Stephenson stated there was no further business and the meeting adjourned. The meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

[signature on original]

Teresa Stephenson
Vice Chair

[signature on original]

Thomas Sidwell
Secretary/Clerk