



Adopted on October 3, 2025

NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE

Regular Meeting of August 13, 2025

3:30p.m Board of Regents Conference Room
As Terlaje, Saipan

Minutes of the regular meeting of August 13, 2025

In compliance with the Commonwealth's Open Government Act, to fulfill this requirement of this regular meeting was provided as follows to all stakeholders:

- a) On August 08, 2025, advance written notice of this regular meeting was posted in the Marianas Variety News and Views.
- b) On August 11, 2025, a copy of this advance notice of the meeting was uploaded on the college's website at www.marianas.edu.
- c) On August 11, 2025, advance written notice of this meeting was emailed to the College campus.
- d) Any individuals who has requested notice of this meeting has been forwarded a copy of the notice of such meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Roll call

Board Members Present: Jesse Tudela, EdD, Chairman; Regent Elaine Hocog Orilla, Vice-Chairperson; Regent William (Bill) Cing; Regent Michelle Sablan.

NMC Administration and Staff Present: Galvin Deleon Guerrero, EdD, President; Frankie Eliptico, Vice-President of Administration & Advancement; Lorraine Maui, Interim Dean of Academic Programs & Services/ABE Director; Kevin Bautista, President's Office Director; Vilma Reyes, Office of Institutional Effectiveness Director; Polly Masga, Human Resource Director; Charlotte Cepeda, Dean of Student Support Services; Guadalupe Camacho, Staff Senate President/ Counselor for Student Support Services; Helen Camacho, Executive Secretary to the Board of Regents (Recorder).

Via Zoom Present: Maria Aguon, Tinian Center Executive Director; Lisa HacsKaylo, Institutional Researcher Office of Institutional Effectiveness; David Attao, Chief Financial Officer; Ryan Calvo, Information Technology Project Coordinator; Becky Sablan, Executive Secretary to the President.

- b. Review and Adoption of Agenda

Regent Orilla motioned to adopt the agenda, seconded by Regent Sablan with changes to the order of items:

1. Move Item # 7 – Election of Officers to Item #5
2. Move Item # 8 before the adjournment

All members voted yes, the motion passed. **The agenda is adopted with changes.**

c. Review and Adoption of Minutes

- i. May 01, 2025 regular meeting

Regent Sablan motioned to adopt the minutes, seconded by Regent Orilla. All members voted yes, the motion passed. The minutes was approved.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

a. Individuals may testify on items on this agenda during this period. Written testimony is also accepted. Individuals are requested to limit their testimony to five (5) minutes. Chairman Tudela recognized one individual who signed up for public comments:

- Lisa Hacskaylo, OIE Institutional Researcher was present as a member of the public, not in her capacity as an employee, and provided testimony. Lisa shared her observations about the recent change in how proposed policies are introduced to the board. Presenting proposals to the board at the same time as stakeholders has created confusion and hesitancy within the college community, as it departs from the established governance process outlined in the NMC Governance Guide.

To strengthen governance, Lisa suggests:

- Documenting this process change in the Governance Guide, including its purpose and expected outcomes.
- Providing clear communication from the board and president emphasizing that all feedback is welcome and necessary before final proposals move forward.
- A copy of her testimony was shared with the Board.

III. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

- a. Finance Committee – No reports.
- b. Audit Committee – No reports.
- c. Human Resources Committee - Summary and recommendations provided by Regent Cing.
- d. Regent Nominating Committee - Regent Orilla reported on upcoming nominations.
- e. Program Committee - Regent Sablan indicated forthcoming recommendations.
- f. Facilities Committee – No report.
- g. Ad Hoc Committee – No report.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

a. Organizational Chart Policy

Regent Cing motioned to table this item, seconded by Regent Sablan. All agreed, the motion passed. **Tabled for next meeting.**

b. Honorary Regents

Regent Cing motioned to table this item, seconded by Regent Sablan. All agreed, the motion passed. **Tabled for next meeting.**

c. Teach-Out Policy

Regent Sablan motioned to adopt the Teach Out Policy, seconded by Regent Orilla. In response to Chairperson Tudela's inquiry, the college indicated that the policy has gone through shared governance to include the Academic Council, College Council.

Chairperson Tudela called for the vote, and all voted to pass the policy. The **policy was adopted.**

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. Election of Officers

By Acclimation, Regent Sablan is nominated to serve as BOR Treasurer.

b. BOR Resolution No. 2025-03: A Resolution to update bank signatures

Regent Cing motioned to adopt board resolution 2025-03, a resolution to update bank signatures where new Chairperson of the Board of Regents is Jesse M. Tudela, EdD and the new Treasurer is Regent Michelle Lin Sablan, seconded by Orilla. **All members voted yes, the motion passed.**

Board Resolution 2025-03: A Resolution to update bank signatures is adopted.

c. RFP for Litigation and Legal Counseling Services

The president provided some background information for this agenda. It is the wish of the board to obtain its own legal counsel.

Regent Cing motioned to authorize the college to seek RFP for Litigation and Legal Counseling Services, seconded by Regent Orilla. **All members agreed, the motion passed.**

d. NMC President's Evaluation (2024-2025)

Regent Cing motioned to endorse the president's evaluation (2024-2025), seconded by Regent Orilla. Chairperson Tudela remarked that he is pleased the president has accomplished most of the areas on which he was evaluated. However, he noted that the evaluation results were unexpected, and that recent public comments highlighted concerns about shared governance processes. He emphasized that these comments underscore the importance of clarifying what is written in policy versus what the board practices. He stated that the board must exercise due diligence by streamlining its processes and adhering to its own policies.

President Dr. G thanked the board for adopting the 360-degree evaluation, noting that it is a challenging yet highly effective approach. He acknowledged HR Director Polly Masga and Chair Cing for their leadership in the process. He also highlighted that the Board of Regents has conducted presidential evaluations consistently for the past four years, which serves as a valuable resource for accreditation purposes. **All members voted yes, the motion passed.**

VI. COLLEGE EXECUTIVE REPORTS

a. President's Report

- i. Facilities Update – Short video shared of the 44th Commencement Exercise.
- ii. Accreditation Update – Update provided by Dean Char, a copy of the slides was also shared with the board.
- iii. Finance Update – Congratulations for a 18th year of clean audit and no findings. CFO Dave provided the board additional information, including central government funding. Proposed special board meeting to approve the FY26 Operations budget.
- iv. Legislative Update – Kevin provided updates from the local and federal levels.

VII. UPCOMING BOARD ACTIVITIES AND MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

- a. NMC Board of Regents Vacancies - ongoing updates.
- b. NMC 45th Anniversary Plans - The planning process is in progress, preparations are underway with continued planning, coordination, and updates. The Student Center Ribbon Cutting will serve as the kickoff to a series of anniversary events.
- c. NMC Strategic Master Plan -
- d. Upcoming Events noted: NMC Charter Day, CNMI Innovation Incubator Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, the APAFS Summer Training & ACCT in New Orleans

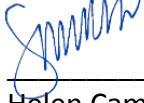
VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Regent Orilla motioned to move into executive session at 5:30pm, seconded by Regent Sablan. The executive session ended at 5:48p.m. **No actions were needed or taken during executive session.**

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Regent Sablan motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Regent Orilla. All the members voted yes, the meeting ended at 5:49pm.

Minutes recorded and Submitted by:



Helen Camacho
Executive Secretary to the Board of Regents

Concurred by:



Galvin Deleon Guerrero, EdD - NMC President

Approved by:



Jesse Tudela, EdD - Chairman, Board of Regents

Mission

The mission of Northern Marianas College is to cultivate stewardship through scholarship. Embracing our agency and cultural identity on the global stage, the College strives to take care of our community, our resources, and our people by cultivating the structural pursuit of knowledge across the Marianas.

Vision

As we sail ahead with a focus on learning, let us lift the tide for everyone.