

**SPECIAL MEETING**  
**BOARD OF REGENTS**  
**NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

Truckee Meadows Community College  
Red Mountain Building, Rooms 255/256  
7000 Dandini Boulevard, Reno

Thursday, May 8, 2025

Video Conference Connection from the Meeting Site to:  
System Administration, Las Vegas  
4300 S. Maryland Parkway, Board Room  
and  
Great Basin College, Elko  
1500 College Parkway, Berg Hall Conference Room

Members Present:

Mrs. Amy J. Carvalho, Chair  
Mr. Joseph C. Arrascada  
Mr. Aaron Bautista  
Mrs. Susan Brager  
Mr. Byron Brooks  
Ms. Heather Brown  
Mrs. Carol Del Carlo  
Mr. Carlos D. Fernandez  
Mr. Pete Goicoechea  
Ms. Stephanie Goodman  
Ms. Jennifer J. McGrath

Members Absent:

Dr. Jeffrey S. Downs, Vice Chair  
Mr. Patrick J. Boylan

Others Present:

Ms. Patricia Charlton, Interim Chancellor  
Ms. Lynda P. King, Senior Associate General Counsel  
Mr. Christopher G. Nielsen, Special Counsel to the Board of Regents  
Ms. Keri D. Nikolajewski, Chief of Staff to the Board of Regents  
Mr. Chris Viton, Vice Chancellor of Budget and Finance and Chief Financial Officer  
Dr. Amber Donnelly, Interim President, GBC  
Dr. DeRionne P Pollard, President, NSU

Faculty senate chairs in attendance included the following individuals: Mr. David Sexton, GBC; and Dr. Jinger Doe, TMCC. Classified council chairs in attendance included the following individuals: Ms. Arkaitz Aldecoaotalora-Munisoguren, TMCC; and Ms. Stacy Wallace, NSU, ex-officio.

*Land Acknowledgment*

*Before beginning, we take a moment to recognize that here in Nevada we stand on the land of the Wa She Shu – Washoe; Numu – Northern Paiute; Nuwe – Western Shoshone; and Nuwu – Southern Paiute. We take a moment to recognize and honor their stewardship that continues into today. With this recognition, we state an intention to rightfully include their voice and respect them as the 27 sovereign tribal nations of Nevada.*

Chair Carvalho called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. with all members present except Vice Chair Downs and Regents Boylan and Brooks. Regent Fernandez led the Pledge of Allegiance and Chair Carvalho read the Land Acknowledgment.

1. Information Only–Public Comment

The following individual provided written public comment opposed to continued increases in the retirement percentage withdrawals:

- Kenneth Roman (*Ref. Roman.Kenneth05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.*)

Regent Brooks entered the meeting.

The following individuals provided in-person or written public comment in support of Jeffrey W. Alexander, Ph.D., as the next TMCC President:

- Lisha Allison (*Ref. Allison.Lisha05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.*)
- Amber Anaya (*Ref. Anaya.Amber05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.*)
- Jinger Doe (*Ref. Doe.Jinger05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.*)
- Jeremy Elsmore (*Ref. Elsmore.Jeremy05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.*)
- Anne Flescher
- Mindy Hsu (*Ref. Hsu.Mindy05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.*)
- Martha Johnson-Olin (*Ref. Johnson-Olin.Martha05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.*)
- Melissa Medina (*Ref. Medina.Melissa05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.*)
- Olga Mesina (*Ref. Mesina.Olga05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.*)
- Sharif Rumjahn (*Ref. Rumjahn.Sharif05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.*)
- Joseph Sanpietro

The following individuals provided in-person, written, or telephonic public comment in support of Clarissa J. Cota, J.D., as the next TMCC President:

- Ericka Aviles (*Ref. Aviles.Ericka05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.*)
- Nancy Brune
- Taylor Easley (*Ref. Easley.Taylor05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.*)
- Kenneth Evans (*Ref. Evans.Kenneth05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.*)
- Edith Fernandez (*Ref. Fernandez.Edith05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.*)
- Becca Franssen (*Ref. Franssen.Becca05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.*)

1. Information Only–Public Comment – *(Continued)*

Public comment In support of Clarissa J. Cota, J.D., as the next TMCC President: –  
*(Continued)*

- Evelyn Garcia Morales *(Ref. GarciaMorales.Evelyn05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.)*
- Eric Garner *(Ref. Garner.Eric05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.)*
- Paula Gomez *(Ref. Gomez.Paula05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.)*
- Giovanni Jones *(Ref. Jones.Giovanni05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.)*
- Isabella Jorgensen *(Ref. Jorgensen.Isabella05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.)*
- Wendy Solorio *(Ref. Solorio.Wendy05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.)*
- Janeth Vences-Balvas *(Ref. VencesBalvas.Janeth05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.)*
- Frank Woodbeck
- Lincoln Zimmerman *(Ref. Zimmerman.Lincoln05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.)*

The following individuals provided written or telephonic public comment in support of J. Kyle Dalpe, Ph.D., as the next TMCC President:

- Brandie Davis
- Cliff Sorensen *(Ref. Sorensen.Cliff05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.)*

The following individual provided written public comment asking why there is an advisory committee if their advice is not taken by the search committee:

- Amber Anaya *(Ref. Anaya.Amber05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.)*

The following individual provided written public comment voicing concern with a candidate brought forward who is unqualified for the job:

- Ian Mitchell *(Ref. Mitchell.Ian05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.)*

The following individual provided in-person public comment voicing support for the appointment of Dr. Amber Donnelly as the permanent GBC President:

- Dave Sexton

The following individual provided in-person public comment voicing concern with the end of the search committee meeting and asking why student voices are not heard:

- Emarie Bettere

The following individual provided in-person public comment suggesting that the Board be fully informed before a premature motion is brought forward:

- Patrick Villa

2. Approved–Appointment, President of Truckee Meadows Community College – The Board approved the appointment of Jeffrey W. Alexander, Ph.D. as the next President of Truckee Meadows Community College and the Employment Agreement and contract terms and authorized the Interim Chancellor to execute the Agreement. *Ref. BOR-2a and supplemental material on file in the Board Office.)*

2. Approved–Appointment, President of Truckee Meadows Community College – (Continued)

- Jeffrey W. Alexander, Ph.D. *(Ref. BOR-2a and supplemental material on file in the Board Office.)*
- Clarissa M. Cota, J.D. *(Ref. BOR-2b and supplemental material on file in the Board Office.)*
- J. Kyle Dalpe, Ph.D. *(Ref. BOR-2c and supplemental material on file in the Board Office.)*

Chair Carvalho disclosed that her husband is a part-time employee at CSN in an area that Vice President Clarissa Cota oversees. They do not work together daily, and she does not directly supervise him. Because the independence of judgment of a reasonable person would not be materially affected, she will vote on this matter. She disclosed the relationship under NRS Chapter 281A.

Search Committee Chair Del Carlo stated the committee brought forward outstanding candidates, and any one of them will be an asset to TMCC. Each candidate will be asked the same two questions. She asked that there be a robust discussion before a motion is made. The Regents are looking for the best fit for the institution.

Search Committee Chair Del Carlo welcomed J. Kyle Dalpe, Ph.D. Dr. Dalpe responded to interview questions.

Search Committee Chair Del Carlo welcomed Jeffrey W. Alexander, Ph.D. Dr. Alexander responded to interview questions.

Search Committee Chair Del Carlo welcomed Clarissa M. Cota, J.D. Ms. Cota responded to interview questions.

Regent Fernandez acknowledged that all three are strong candidates. He stated that Clarissa Cota is an outstanding leader who can bring the state together. She has his support, and he believes that working with Dr. Alexander, they will bring the institution to the next level. In the concept of shared governance, he hopes the Board will rally behind whoever is chosen.

Regent Arrascada stated that the results of the search committee meeting continue to reverberate. There were strong emotions sent to the Committee by the community, northern Nevada, and TMCC, WNC, and CSN faculty. They are all worthy candidates, but today Jeffrey Alexander and Kyle Dalpe shined.

Regent Goicoechea voiced his concern about the number of new presidents and there not being much longevity.

Regent Brown stated there are three great candidates. She added that a candidate does not have to be from northern Nevada to excel. We need to embrace and support the candidates. Clarissa Cota is a strong candidate who can do the job. Her work in southern Nevada is a testament to her abilities.

2. Approved–Appointment, President of Truckee Meadows Community College – (Continued)

Regent McGrath stated that what impressed her the most was the support during public comment and from the TMCC community for Jeffrey Alexander. That is a huge factor that leads her to support his candidacy. The continuity is attractive, and it will be more efficient to have him continue at TMCC in the presidency.

Regent Brager shared her respect for the advisory committee, and noted the Board is ultimately responsible for the decision. She believed that succession is important, and the Board should consider it in the future. She will support whoever the choice is and they will be successful.

Regent Brager moved to appoint Jeffrey W. Alexander, Ph.D., as the next President of Truckee Meadows Community College, approve the Employment Agreement and contract terms, and authorize the Interim Chancellor to execute the Agreement. Regent Goicoechea seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote. Chair Carvalho and Regents Arrascada, Bautista, Brager, Brooks, Goicoechea, Goodman, and McGrath voted yes. Regents Brown, Del Carlo, and Fernandez voted no. Vice Chair Downs and Regent Boylan were absent.

The Board discussed whether there should be a motion to reconsider, providing an opportunity for a unanimous vote. Special Counsel Nielsen stated that a motion to reconsider would require someone from the prevailing side to make the motion. Senior Associate General Counsel King added that a motion to reconsider is made to reconsider the decision that was previously made. It will open the motion to debate to think again about the decision the Board made and whether or not any of the Regents wish to change their opinion.

Regent Goicoechea moved to reconsider the prior action. Regent Brown seconded.

Regent Brooks appreciated the motion but thought the Board should move forward and celebrate a great win for TMCC.

Regent Goodman stated she did not feel comfortable voting on the motion. Regents made a choice, and she would like to see the Board move forward.

Regent Brown said she would like to see the Board support Dr. Alexander. He will do an amazing job at TMCC. She would appreciate the opportunity to have a unanimous vote. Consistency is important.

2. Approved–Appointment, President of Truckee Meadows Community College – (Continued)

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. Chair Carvalho and Regents Arrascada, Bautista, Brager, Brooks, Brown, Del Carlo, Fernandez, Goicoechea, Goodman, and McGrath voted yes. Vice Chair Downs and Regent Boylan were absent.

Regent Brager moved to appoint Jeffrey W. Alexander, Ph.D., as the next President of Truckee Meadows Community College, approve the Employment Agreement and contract terms, and authorize the Interim Chancellor to execute the Agreement. Regent Arrascada seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. Chair Carvalho and Regents Arrascada, Bautista, Brager, Brooks, Brown, Del Carlo, Goicoechea, Goodman, Fernandez, and McGrath voted yes. Vice Chair Downs and Regent Boylan were absent.

Dr. Alexander thanked the Board for its vote of confidence, support, and enthusiasm throughout the process. He pledged he is there for the Board, College, students, staff, and community. His door is always open. They will work on issues together.

Chair Carvalho stated that the support in the audience is a testament to Dr. Alexander's leadership.

Regent Fernandez stated it was his pleasure to meet with Dr. Alexander and tour the campus. He pledged his support every step of the way. He does not believe TMCC has reached its highest height, and he looks forward to working with Dr. Alexander and the broader community.

Regent Del Carlo thanked and congratulated Dr. Alexander. Searches are not an easy process, and it is a testament to anyone who goes through it. Dr. Alexander has the support of the community.

Regent Goodman stated she was excited to work with Dr. Alexander. He has always been engaging and will do great work.

3. Information Only-New Business

Regent Del Carlo requested a discussion on the search committee process and the number of names that can be brought forward.

Chair Carvalho congratulated Regent Pete Goicoechea for being inducted into the Nevada Senate Hall of Fame for his almost 40 years of public service to Nevada.

3. Information Only-New Business – *(Continued)*

Regent Goicoechea expressed his thanks and stated he was finding being a Regent to be his toughest job yet.

Chair Carvalho acknowledged that a new Pope has been chosen and is reported to be from the United States.

4. Information Only – Public Comment

The following individuals provided written public comment in support of Jeffrey W. Alexander, Ph.D., as the next TMCC President:

- Kim Harrell *(Ref. Harrell.Kim05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.)*
- Natalie Russell *(Ref. Russell.Natalie05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.)*
- Amy Williams *(Ref. Williams.Amy05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.)*

The following individuals provided written public comment in support of Clarissa J. Cota, J.D., as the next TMCC President:

- Nancy Brune *(Ref. Brune.Nancy05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.)*
- Reuben D'Silva *(Ref. DSilva.Reuben05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.)*
- Paul Dudzinski *(Ref. Dudzinski.Paul05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.)*
- Kristopher Kendrick *(Ref. Kendrick.Kristopher05.08.25 on file in the Board Office.)*

Jinger Doe thanked the Regents for their hard work and careful deliberation. She also thanked ACCT for bringing forward excellent candidates and for listening to all their voices.

The meeting adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

Prepared by:

Angela R. Palmer  
Special Assistant and Coordinator

Submitted for approval by:

Keri D. Nikolajewski  
Chief of Staff to the Board of Regents