

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

College of Southern Nevada
Student Union, Rooms U126-130
6375 W. Charleston Boulevard, Las Vegas

Thursday, March 5, 2026

Friday, March 6, 2026

Video Conference Connection from the Meeting Site to:

System Administration, Reno

2601 Enterprise Road, Conference Room

and

Great Basin College, Elko

1500 College Parkway, Berg Hall Conference Room

Members Present: Mr. Byron Brooks, Chair
Ms. Stephanie Goodman, Vice Chair
Mr. Joseph C. Arrascada
Mr. Aaron Bautista
Mr. Patrick J. Boylan
Mrs. Susan Brager
Ms. Heather Brown
Mrs. Amy J. Carvalho
Mrs. Carol Del Carlo
Dr. Jeffrey S. Downs
Mr. Carlos D. Fernandez
Mr. Pete Goicoechea
Ms. Jennifer J. McGrath

Others Present: Mr. Matt McNair, Chancellor
Ms. Renee Davis, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic and
Student Affairs
Mr. James J. Martines, Vice Chancellor and Chief General Counsel
Mr. Chris Viton, Vice Chancellor of Budget and Finance/ Chief
Financial Officer
Ms. Keri D. Nikolajewski, Chief of Staff to the Board of Regents
Mr. Chris Nielsen, Special Counsel to the Board of Regents
Dr. Stacy S. Klippenstein, President, CSN
Dr. Kumud Acharya, President, DRI
Dr. Amber Donnelly, President, GBC
Dr. Amber Lopez Lasater, Acting President, NSU
Dr. Jeffrey W. Alexander, President, TMCC
Dr. Chris Heavey, Interim President, UNLV
Mr. Brian Sandoval, President, UNR
Dr. J. Kyle Dalpe, President, WNC

Faculty senate chairs in attendance: Tracy Sherman, CSN; Dr. Vera Samburova, DRI; Oscar Sida, GBC; Dr. El Hachemi Bouali, NSU; Cruz Laudenslager, System Administration; Dr. Jinger Doe, TMCC; Dr. Maria Roberts, UNLV; Dr. Jennifer McClendon, UNR; and Eric York, WNC. Student body presidents in attendance: Sovereign Hone, CSN; Jennifer Rodriguez Serrano, GBC; Lahana Pearce, NSU; Brianna Malasaga, TMCC; Kelechi Odunze, UNLV-CSUN; Devin Lopez, UNLV-GPSA; Carmina Aglubat, UNR-ASUN; Ratchanya Dev Chinnappan, UNR-GSA; Karla Salas, WNC; and Devan Glensor, UNR-ASUNSOM. NSHE Classified Council member in attendance: Derita Hopkins.

Chair Byron Brooks called the meeting to order at 12:53 p.m. with all members present. CSN student Audrey Bennett sang the National Anthem. CSN Student Senator Brayden Boulter led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Information Only-Public Comment – The following individuals expressed concern regarding CSN faculty contracts and collective bargaining agreement process: Steven Thornberry, Luis Ortega, Staci Walters, Troy Beals, Jim Matovina, Kenneth Monks, Joshua Levin, and Patrick Villa.

The following individual expressed support for CSN's proposed Eastside Education & Training Center and Medical Education & Training Center (Agenda Items 12 and 13): Randy Robison

The following individual addressed the development and utilization of 42 acres of land at the intersection of Tropicana and Koval: Tracey Mizrachi.

The following individuals submitted written public comment:

- Expressed concern about important analytical context missing from the annual athletics reports (Agenda Item 14): Mike Lewis
- Expressed support for the 2027-29 biennial operating budget and capital improvement proposals (Agenda Item 18): Samantha Feder
- Urged the inclusion of students in discussion of the 2027-29 biennial operating budget and capital improvement proposals (Agenda Item 18): Adrienne Finlay
- Expressed concern regarding CSN faculty contracts and the collective bargaining agreement process: Jodi Gonz, Gracie McDonough, Jack Sawyer, Stephanie Villamor, Irene Coons, Jason Green, Tara Busch, Robert Manis, Scott S. Beckstrand, Staci Walters, Dr. Lata Koneru, Luke Parker, Kali Rao, Smita Rao, Joseph Hassert, and Flora Rudacille
- Remarkd on NSU culture and community: Erika Abad
- Expressed opposition to proposed decreases in compensation for summer courses, increasing faculty workweeks, and removing shared governance from the process of selecting a department chair: Josh Cook

The meeting recessed at 1:14 p.m. and reconvened at 1:34 p.m. with all members present.

2. Information Only-Institutional Student and Faculty Presentations – CSN President Stacy S. Klippenstein welcomed the Board to the Charleston campus. He celebrated CSN as a teaching institution that remains futurist by implementing transformative solutions. Dr.

2. Information Only-Institutional Student and Faculty Presentations – *(Continued)*

Klippenstein introduced three faculty members and one student to share an innovative approach to teaching and learning that incorporates technological advances.

Dr. Anne DeClouette, Professor of Business Administration, provided an update on the Faculty Center Visioning Task Force. She stated their goal is to support faculty in developing high-impact student-centered learning experiences.

Dr. DeClouette noted that the team has spent two and a half years scouring literature and seeking advice from institutions like Nevada State University and organizations like the POD Network. She highlighted that the program incorporates both qualitative and quantitative research, and that the team has identified a physical space on the Charleston campus and plans for a soft launch this fall.

Dr. Mark Taormino discussed the transformative power of Artificial Intelligence, comparing its impact to the shift from horses to automobiles. He acknowledged the noise and fear surrounding AI. Dr. Taormino leads a 90-minute Seminar Series that goes into classrooms of any subject to talk turkey and level the playing field. He emphasized that AI should be a study buddy, not a homework machine. Further, Dr. Taormino demonstrated a web application that uses an airplane landing metaphor to teach Excel syntax. He noted that because the AI provides scaffolded hints and unlimited attempts, students move from fear and anxiety to achieving 100% mastery.

Regent Arrascada left the meeting.

Dr. Joshua Levin presented Levity Learning, an AI-powered educational platform he developed. The platform uses an AI assistant, Dr. Levity, to guide students through Socratic questioning and limitless educational experiences. Dr. Levin shared a snippet of a locked study mystery where students must use evidence-based reasoning rather than confirmation bias to solve a case. He stated that this represents authentic learning and assessment where study, feedback, and outcomes are unified into one seamless experience. CSN Journalism student Luke Pendleton shared his first-hand experience with the Levity program. Mr. Pendleton noted that unlike platforms that focus on memorization or quick completion, this program forces him to reason through the material. He highlighted the platform's Socratic Sage assignments, noting that interacting with the AI feels less like answering a question and more like having a thoughtful conversation.

Chair Brooks and the Board offered thanks for a very interesting presentation.

3. Information Only-Regents' Welcome, Introductions and Reports – Regent Carvalho noted her monthly meetings with the State Board of Education, emphasizing a commitment to strengthening education partnerships in Nevada. She highlighted the work of NSHE institutions in dual enrollment and teacher education. Regent Carvalho extended appreciation to the UNR College of Education and Human Development's Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) team. She noted their close collaboration with the Nevada Department of Education to support K-12 schools and students. Regent Carvalho also thanked Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs Renee Davis for a

3. Information Only-Regents' Welcome, Introductions and Reports – (Continued)

January presentation on the NSHE College Readiness dashboard. Regent Carvalho participated in the Clark County School District's community dream session, providing feedback on their strategic planning process. She commended Regent Del Carlo for her role as Chair of the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Board of Directors and thanked the System Office for a successful Washington D.C. visit. Regent Carvalho expressed that it was an absolute honor to advocate for the System alongside students, specifically, CSN students Sovereign and Sarah.

Regent Arrascada returned to the meeting.

Regent Del Carlo shared her priorities and recent national activities as ACCT Chair. She presented a magazine featuring her article on CEO health and wellbeing. Regent Del Carlo participated at the National Bellwether College Consortium Awards in San Antonio. She reported that Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC) was a semi-finalist in the workforce category and knocked it out of the park. Regent Del Carlo highlighted an invitation from Dr. Keith Curry (Compton College) to participate in an initiative regarding the black male student, echoing the legacy of the late Tyrone Thompson. She recorded a podcast for Women's History Month with Dr. Vince Solis and announced an upcoming co-presentation with Dr. DeRionne Pollard at the AACC conference focused on a seminar for new college presidents. Regent Del Carlo extended congratulations to newly tenured faculty, noting that it is a very rigorous process.

Regent Boylan thanked UNR President Sandoval for his patience and persistence in the development of the Veterinary School, noting he had been advocating for this for four to five years. Regent Boylan expressed his excitement to see the project's launch emphasizing that Nevada is short on veterinarians and the school is a vital addition.

Regent Brown visited Great Basin College (GBC) and Western Nevada College (WNC) to view their new buildings. At GBC, she expressed excitement that the 27-year-old carpet is no longer there and observed that the new spaces at both campuses were already being actively used by staff. She congratulated Nevada State University on kicking off women's flag football with three major victories. Regent Brown thanked CSN leadership for the opportunity to meet with five out of six congressional representatives in Washington D.C. to discuss deep dives into what can be done from the state side and the federal side. Regent Brown praised the student body for their active representation and social media presence, urging them to keep Regents honest and on their toes.

4. Information Only-Chair of the Nevada Student Alliance Report – NSA presiding officer Lahana Pearce noted she was proud to brag about all the work currently happening across the various student governments.

NSA recently launched a new Canvas feature to gather student feedback anonymously. Recent input indicates that students are seeking more scholarship opportunities, greater availability of in-person classes, and a deeper understanding of the role of the Board of Regents. Since the January 2026 special meeting, NSA has visited classes to provide transparency regarding recent tuition and fee increases. Ms. Pearce noted that scholarships

4. Information Only-Chair of the Nevada Student Alliance Report – (Continued)

and testing fee support programs remain open for students despite rising financial challenges.

Truckee Meadows Community College Student Government Association (SGA) officers are active within the Mental Health Advisory Committee and the Democratic Engagement Coalition Committee. Recent initiatives include a blood drive, spring club fair, and voter registration drive. TMCC SGA is also concluding its election for 2026-2027 officers, and preparing for President Alexander's inauguration.

Associated Students of the University of Nevada, Reno is focused on student involvement and traditions, bringing back the Battle of the Organizations for the first time since the pandemic. They also hosted major programming weeks (Welcome Back Week, Mackay Week) and collaborated with Athletics to increase student attendance at basketball games. UNR's Graduate Student Association (GSA) is managing leadership transitions and recently processed over 200 applications for the GSA Spring Awards. Additionally, the Graduate School awarded the Graduate Student Parent Success Award to 46 student parents this year.

The Associated Students of the College of Southern Nevada (ASCSN) is currently updating its bylaws to reflect best practices in student leadership and is promoting upcoming elections to increase participation in shared governance. A series of student forums are being planned to create an open dialogue between students and executive administration.

University of Nevada, Las Vegas Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) is hosting a research forum on April 18th with nearly 200 presentations. They are also considering resolutions requesting transparency regarding the 12% tuition increase. The Consolidated Students of UNLV (CSUN) is making significant investments in student spaces, including a \$100,000 match with the University for a new study space in Wright Hall. They also passed \$15,000 in emergency funding for the on-campus food pantry.

The Associated Students of Western Nevada College (ASWN) celebrated the Lunar New Year and is preparing for elections and the upcoming Global Game Day and alcohol awareness programming. Great Basin College (SGA) reported that 95% of senator positions are now filled. They are anticipating a 20% increase in student organizations in the near future.

Ms. Pearce reflected on her four-year journey through student leadership, calling the experience honorable, exhausting, and transformational. She emphasized to administrators that transparency should be consistent, support for students should be unwavering, and that student voices strengthen institutions.

5. Information Only-NSHE Classified Council Report – Ms. Derita Hopkins, Executive Member at Large for the NSHE Classified Council, presented the report. She acknowledged Melinda Caskey of Great Basin College as a nominee for the 2026 Regents' Outstanding Classified Staff Award. Ms. Hopkins noted that the Council looks forward to the Board approving her award. She also highlighted that discussions with Chancellor

5. Information Only-NSHE Classified Council Report – (Continued)

McNair focused on building trust back into the System along with the current funding formula. Staff expressed concerns regarding the cost of the annual parking permits, specifically at UNLV. The Council is advocating for a policy change and implementation that would lower the cost for classified employees.

Additionally, Ms. Hopkins highlighted that the Council requested to expand grant-in-aid so it can be used at all NSHE institutions, as it is currently limited to certain ones. Ms. Hopkins outlined the Council's work to provide a unified front against the changes to health insurance plans proposed by PEBP. They are encouraging constituents to express their concerns about the proposed premium and deductible increases by submitting public comment. Recent financial reviews and recalculations of premium rates will be presented at the next PEBP meeting in March. Ms. Hopkins recognized the CSN Executive Board (led by Sarah Tatiana and Siobhan Reves) and CSN President Klippenstein for being transparent and showing up to meetings every month.

6. Information Only-Chair of the Council of Faculty Report – Dr. Jinger Doe presented an overview of faculty tenure, describing it as a central tenet of higher education designed to foster academic freedom and institutional integrity. She emphasized that tenure is the culmination of a rigorous, multi-year probationary period where candidates are evaluated against high standards in teaching, scholarship, and service. The comprehensive review process involves multiple levels of oversight, including faculty peers, deans, chief academic officers, the president, and ultimately, the Board of Regents.

Dr. Doe highlighted that tenured faculty are creative problem solvers and experts who choose to build their professional futures in Nevada. Beyond their research, these individuals represent a vital investment in student success. They serve as essential mentors, research supervisors, and professional connectors, building the meaningful relationships that drive student persistence and graduation.

Dr. Doe characterized tenure as fiscally responsible. By promoting long-term commitment, the institution avoids the high costs of faculty turnover while benefiting from deep institutional knowledge. She emphasized that such stability is crucial for effective shared governance and the continuous refinement of academic policy. Dr. Doe framed tenure not merely as a reward for past achievements, but as a formal expectation of sustained excellence and continued service to the students and the State of Nevada.

7. Information Only-Chancellor's Report – Chancellor McNair noted that Chief Financial Officer Chris Viton is moving to UNLV. Mr. McNair emphasized that it would be hard to overstate Mr. Viton's impact regarding legislative funding and System finance. The System has filled key vacancies including Yonata Rubin as Chief Human Resources Officer, Amy Reyna as Executive Director of Operations, and Ryan McInerney as Assistant Vice Chancellor of Strategic Communications. Chancellor McNair acknowledged that while operational excellence is still aspirational, the System is moving in the right direction.

Chancellor McNair reported that he and Chair Brooks completed listening sessions on each campus to understand the culture, unique strengths, and passion across the state. He

7. Information Only-Chancellor's Report – (Continued)

identified key issues including financial sustainability, student access, affordability and value, workforce alignment and economic impact, governance and institutional trust, mission differentiation and coordinated student pathways.

Mr. McNair emphasized that legislative engagement is the most important goal this year, to build trust and a coherent strategy for the next session by bringing a unified voice from the System. He noted his highest priority is to build trust within the System to create environments where students thrive. Additionally, Chancellor McNair announced the start of a new, collaborative strategic planning process to build a shared vision for the future. Its aim is to keep pillars like access and affordability while new focus areas may include the role of System Administration, healthcare, artificial intelligence, and unmanned aerial systems.

Chancellor McNair concluded by congratulating those granted tenure and recipients of the Distinguished Nevada and Regents' awards, noting their service, scholarship, and commitment make a big difference for Nevada.

8. Information Only-Board Chair's Report – Chair Byron Brooks recognized Professor Foreman for her remarkable service to the College of Southern Nevada (CSN). She joined as a full-time faculty member in the human behavior department on August 21, 1991. For over three decades, she taught sociology and human behavior at the North Las Vegas campus. The Board thanked her for her 34 years of dedication and wished her the best in her well-earned retirement.

Chair Brooks acknowledged student Hisonni Johnson and the CSN videography program for winning five student production Emmy awards from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (Pacific Southwest chapter). The awards came after the program earned 18 nominations. Their work was created under the guidance of Professor John Aliano, who was recognized for highlighting the strength of the hands-on media production program.

The Board presented formal recognition to NSHE Chief Financial Officer Chris Viton for his dedicated service, steadfast leadership, and meaningful contributions to the System. He was praised for his thoughtful fiscal stewardship, strategic vision, and deep commitment to transparency. It was noted that Mr. Viton's leadership strengthened financial planning and supported the long-term stability of Nevada's public colleges and universities. The Board expressed sincere appreciation for his professionalism and integrity.

9. Approved-Consent Items – The Board approved the consent items except for items 9b, 9c, and 9d, which were considered separately.

9a. Approved-Minutes – The Board approved the following meeting minutes:

- October 17, 2025, Board of Regents special meeting
(Ref. BOR-9a1 on file in the Board Office).

9. Approved-Consent Items – (Continued)

- November 20, 2025, Foundation meetings
 - CSN (Ref. BOR-9a2 on file in the Board Office).
 - DRI Research (Ref. BOR-9a3 on file in the Board Office).
 - DRI Research Parks Ltd. (Ref. BOR-9a4 on file in the Board Office).
 - GBC (Ref. BOR-9a5 on file in the Board Office).
 - NSU (Ref. BOR-9a6 on file in the Board Office).
 - TMCC (Ref. BOR-9a7 on file in the Board Office).
 - UNLV (Ref. BOR-9a8 on file in the Board Office).
 - UNR (Ref. BOR-9a9 on file in the Board Office).
 - WNC (Ref. BOR-9a10 on file in the Board Office).
- December 4-5, 2025, Board of Regents meeting (Ref. BOR-9a11 on file in the Board Office).

9e. Approved-Honorary Degree, GBC – The Board approved conferring an honorary baccalaureate degree to nominee Terri Clark (Ref. BOR-9e on file in the Board Office).

9f. Approved-Honorary Degrees, NSU – The Board approved conferring an honorary master’s degree to the following nominees:

- Stephanie Garcia-Vause (Ref. BOR-9f1 on file in the Board Office).
- Jon Porter (Ref. BOR-9f2 on file in the Board Office).

9g. Approved-Honorary Degrees, UNLV – The Board approved conferring an honorary doctorate degree to the following nominees:

- Jacob Coin (Ref. BOR-9g1 on file in the Board Office).
- Jung-Ho Suh (Ref. BOR-9g2 on file in the Board Office).

Regent Brown moved approval of consent items 9a, 9e, 9f, and 9g. Regent Brager seconded. Motion carried.

Pursuant to NRS 281A.420, Regent Carvalho disclosed a family member is a UNLV graduate student who works with someone being considered for appointment to the Task Force on Power-Based Violence at Institutions of Higher Education. Additionally, Regent Carvalho is a UNLV graduate student working with a professor nominated for tenure. She concluded that the independence of judgment of a reasonable person in her situation could be materially affected by these relationships and she will abstain from voting on items 9b and 9c.

Pursuant to NRS 281A.420, Regent Downs disclosed he is an employee of Western Nevada College (WNC). After consulting with legal counsel, Regent Downs determined that since he does not work directly with the specific people involved, his independence of judgment is not affected and he will vote on items 9b and 9c.

9. Approved-Consent Items – (Continued)

9b. Approved-Appointments, Task Force on Power-Based Violence at Institutions of Higher Education – The Board reappointed two members and appointed two new members to the Task Force on Power-based Violence at Institutions of Higher Education, pursuant to NRS 396.141(1) (Ref. BOR-9b on file in the Board Office):

- José Meléndrez, M.S.W., UNLV
- Michelle Sposito, J.D., UNLV
- Ricardo Salazar, M.S.W., UNR
- Adrian Barrera, M.B.A., WNC

Associate Vice Chancellor Renee Davis noted that Ms. Lindsey Wolterbeek withdrew from consideration.

Regent Boylan moved approval of consent item 9b.
Regent Del Carlo seconded. Motion carried. Regent Carvalho abstained.

9c. Approved-Tenure – The Board approved awarding tenure to the applicants who have met the standards for tenure as outlined in the NSHE Code (Title 2, Chapters 3, 4 and 7).

- University of Nevada, Las Vegas (Ref. BOR-9c1 on file in the Board Office).
- University of Nevada, Reno (Ref. BOR-9c2 on file in the Board Office).
- Nevada State University (Ref. BOR-9c3 on file in the Board Office).
- College of Southern Nevada (Ref. BOR-9c4 on file in the Board Office).
- Great Basin College (Ref. BOR-9c5 on file in the Board Office).
- Truckee Meadows Community College (Ref. BOR-9c6 on file in the Board Office).
- Western Nevada College (Ref. BOR-9c7 on file in the Board Office).

Regent Brown moved approval of consent item 9c.
Regent Del Carlo seconded. Motion carried. Regent Carvalho abstained.

9d. Approved-Honorary Degree, CSN – The Board approved conferring an honorary associate degree to nominee Frank R. Woodbeck (Ref. BOR-9d on file in the Board Office).

Regent Del Carlo extended special congratulations to Mr. Woodbeck.

Regent Del Carlo moved approval of consent item 9d.
Regent Goicoechea seconded. Motion carried.

Chair Brooks announced agenda item 12 will be taken out of order and items 10 and 11 will be heard on Friday.

10. Approved-Eastside Education & Training Center, CSN (Agenda Item 12) – The Board approved the following: 1) CSN’s participation in the Eastside Education & Training Center (EETC) project; 2) Authorization for the Chancellor to accept the Economic Development Agency (EDA) grant; 3) Authorization for the Chancellor to sign the Joint Use Management Agreement; 4) Authorization for the Chancellor to sign the Lease Agreement; 5) Authorization for the Chancellor to execute such other ancillary documents or instruments as may be necessary to implement any of the foregoing; and 6) Approval for the Chancellor to make non-material modifications to the EDA grant, Joint Use Management Agreement, and Lease Agreement as the Chancellor deems appropriate after consultation with NSHE counsel (*Ref. BOR-12 on file in the Board Office*).

President Klippenstein provided an update on the Westside Education & Training Center (WETC), a partnership between CSN and the City of Las Vegas, constructed in 2025 and opened last fall. Dr. Klippenstein noted the project’s contribution to the revitalization of the Historic West Side of Las Vegas. This spring, it has already seen hundreds of students receiving entry-level training. President Klippenstein noted WETC’s programs include advanced manufacturing, logistics and operations, welding, information technology, construction skills, and healthcare such as dialysis tech training. The program also partners with City of Las Vegas Fire and Rescue to offer a credit-based EMT training program, and offering basic education for those pursuing a GED.

Dr. Klippenstein introduced the East Side Education & Training Center (EETC) as CSN’s next collaborative project. He noted the east side neighborhoods are in a higher education desert, similar to the Historic West Side. CSN again partnered with the City to replicate WETC on the east side. President Klippenstein described the proposed site as a 99 acre development on the former Desert Pines golf course at the intersection of Bonanza and Pecos roads. The proposed 15,000 square foot center will use the same footprint renderings as WETC. Dr. Klippenstein outlined the project’s funding commitments including \$7 million from EDA, \$10 million from the City of Las Vegas and approximately \$1.5 million from CSN. He expressed hope that construction would be initiated by September of 2026 with the completion and opening on or about September of 2027.

Dr. Tammy Malich, Director of Youth Development and Social Innovation at the City of Las Vegas, spoke about the programming efforts. She noted that, like WETC, the EETC model will be backwards mapped, with training programs already going on so that a pipeline is in place when the facility opens. Pipeline training courses will be offered in the East Las Vegas Community Center so that when the EETC opens, there will already be participants.

Regent Brager expressed thanks to Councilman Brian Knudson for being instrumental to the City of Las Vegas, including the medical arena and particularly with students. Regent Brown acknowledged that it spoke volumes that WETC broke ground less than a year ago and CSN is already trying to duplicate those efforts. Regent Fernandez stated he represents the Historic West Side and sees the importance of being able to scale something that has shown incredible success and make a difference in the community. Regent Carvalho noted that the project literally meets students and communities where they are, which was the right thing to do.

10. Approved-Eastside Education & Training Center, CSN (Agenda Item 12) – (Continued)

Regent Bautista added that the EETC is something really needed for East Las Vegas and for students. Vice Chair Goodman acknowledged the partnership with Mayor Pro Tem Knudson, noting that when he is involved it seems like bureaucracy does not exist. Regent Boylan shared his hope that the EETC becomes just as successful as WETC so that another could be established on the north side.

Regent Fernandez moved approval of the following:
1) CSN's participation in the Eastside Education & Training Center (EETC) project; 2) Authorization for the Chancellor to accept the Economic Development Agency (EDA) grant; 3) Authorization for the Chancellor to sign the Joint Use Management Agreement; 4) Authorization for the Chancellor to sign the Lease Agreement; 5) Authorization for the Chancellor to execute such other ancillary documents or instruments as may be necessary to implement any of the foregoing; and 6) Approval for the Chancellor to make non-material modifications to the EDA grant, Joint Use Management Agreement, and Lease Agreement as the Chancellor deems appropriate after consultation with NSHE counsel. Regent Bautista seconded. Motion carried.

11. Information Only-Medical Education & Training Center, CSN (Agenda Item 13) – President Klippenstein presented information on the Medical Education & Training Center (METC) (Ref. BOR-13 on file in the Board Office).

The approximately 34,000 square foot METC will be located in the Las Vegas Medical District. It will include a fully functioning childcare center to eliminate the primary obstacle of single parents seeking to start a new career. The Center's proposed location is adjacent to zip codes with the highest unemployment rates and much lower-than-average workforce participant rates, especially among women in Ward 2. Dr. Klippenstein noted that programming will concentrate on entry-level medical assisting and medical technology training with internship and apprenticeship opportunities within walking distance.

President Klippenstein noted the WETC, EETC, and METC projects warm his heart, especially in collaborating with the City to do something different. He referenced *The Great Upheaval* by Art Levine and Scott Van Pelt, and noted that the work is exactly what that book talks about in higher education.

Dr. Klippenstein outlined the funding commitments including \$11,400,000 EDA grant request, \$17,000,000 from the City of Las Vegas, and a CSN commitment totaling \$3,000,000.

11. Information Only-Medical Education & Training Center, CSN (Agenda Item 13) – (Continued)

Mayor Pro Tem Knudson shared a story of living at UMC for a month with a sick child where he observed that the level of exhaustion was not limited to doctors and nurses, but phlebotomists, X-ray techs, and more. He attributed this to not producing enough healthcare workers. He further noted that the City has put about \$100 million into the Medical District for sewers, power lines, and roads to make sure it is a healthy environment for healthcare professionals. Further, Mr. Knudson observed that it would not be possible to improve access and quality of healthcare without investing heavily in higher education.

Mayor Pro Tem Knudson expressed his vision that METC will drive economic diversification, leading to apartment complexes, restaurants, and amenities that students and employees can enjoy.

Regent McGrath thanked Mayor Pro Tem Knudsen for recognizing the need for access to childcare, calling the efforts phenomenal. Regent Del Carlo highlighted the project as a home run for the workforce and suggested that the initiative deserves a national award or a Bellwether award.

12. Approved-Athletics Reports, UNLV, UNR, NSU, CSN AND TMCC (Agenda Item 14) – The Board approved the UNLV, UNR, NSU, CSN, and TMCC Athletics Reports for Fiscal Year 2024-2025, pursuant to Board policy (Title 4, Chapter 24, Section 1, Subsection 9) (Refs. BOR-14a, BOR-14b, BOR-14c, BOR-14d and BOR-14e on file in the Board office).

UNLV Interim President Chris Heavey introduced Athletics Director Erick Harper who presented the 2024-25 report. Mr. Harper emphasized the department's mission of developing champions in the classroom, in competition, and in the community. He emphasized UNLV Athletics' number one priority remains the student-athlete experience and their holistic development. Mr. Harper noted that student-athletes achieved their 15th and 16th consecutive semesters with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better, they maintained an 80%-plus graduation success rate for the fifth straight year, and 18 out of 19 teams posted a semester GPA of 3.0 or better, with the final program reaching 2.96. Additionally, 194 student-athletes were named to the Mountain West All-Academic team.

Director Harper celebrated that for the first time in history, UNLV had three First Team Academic All-Americans in football: Ricky White III, Jalen Catalon, and Jackson Woodard. Mr. Woodard was also named the Mountain West Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year. UNLV competed in a second straight Mountain West Championship and a second straight bowl game for the first time in school history. Mr. Harper highlighted that Lady Rebel Basketball won their fourth straight regular-season championship, and made their fourth straight postseason appearance. Additionally, conference titles were earned in Women's Golf and Men's Swim and Dive. Track and Field saw a double winner in the 100-meter and 200-meter sprints. Director Harper also emphasized that UNLV won the Mountain West SAAC Community Service Award, contributing over 1,300 service hours to initiatives like Nevada Reading Week, and the UNLV Food Pantry.

12. Approved-Athletics Reports, UNLV, UNR, NSU, CSN AND TMCC (Agenda Item 14) –
(Continued)

Mr. Harper noted that the department added \$10.5 million in endowments over the last year. Additionally, payouts are projected to grow from \$690,000 in FY24 to \$1.1 million in FY26. He stated that the Thomas & Mack Center continues to be a major hub, hosting over 1 million visitors and holding 200 events annually. Director Harper asserted that the department remains focused on enhancing donor engagement, revenue generation, and elevating academic benchmarks to ensure every student-athlete is prepared for life beyond sport.

Regent Arrascada raised a concern regarding a reported \$37.22 million in self-generated revenue for fiscal year 2024, while another section listed \$38.9 million. He specifically questioned a \$24 million turnaround, where the department moved from a reported \$21 million deficit to a \$2.5 million surplus. Director Harper clarified that the NSHE report is cash-based while the NCAA report is accrual-based. He explained that the accrual-based figures include trade gifts and gifts-in-kind. Mr. Harper noted other examples including revenues generated through the Thomas and Mack Center for Rebel and Lady Rebel basketball games, GASB adjustments (Governmental Accounting Standards Board), and accounts receivable, such as a \$175,000 subsidy for traveling to the University of Hawaii, which was accrued in the 24-25 fiscal year despite the cash arriving in a subsequent calendar year.

Regent Arrascada pointed out the remaining \$26.7 million deficit and asked about the plan to pay it off. Director Harper stated that once the Mountain West funds materialize, the department will aggressively reduce the deficit, supplemented by any positive cash-based numbers. Interim President Heavey added institutional context, noting that the deficit was due to low levels of institutional support in previous years that were incommensurate with the levels of spending. Further, the University's strategy includes using institutional funds to erase at least half of that deficit in the near future, and utilizing the eventual legal settlement (which may be years away) to handle the remainder or absorbing that second half institutionally through discretionary funds if no settlement funds materialize.

Regent Arrascada inquired how the department achieved significant decreases in facility operations (\$3.4 million) and overhead (\$4.2 million). Director Harper explained that the department has moved toward utilizing internal staff for maintenance (including plumbing, electrical, and painting) rather than outsourcing. Additionally, he noted they have managed vacancies by utilizing hourly staff instead of hiring new Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs). Regent Arrascada asked if the reduction in equipment expenses meant a decreased investment in safety equipment like shoulder pads, neck braces, and helmets. Director Harper clarified that they have actually increased health and safety aspects. Additionally, savings were achieved through efficiency and creative management, such as using sand and water in containers for field weights instead of purchasing a whole entire new dumbbell rack, utilizing gift and in-kind donations such as a red light therapy bed and stationary bicycles, and centralizing equipment oversight under Tasha Smith to ensure all student-athletes across all sports receive the necessary gear while remaining efficient. Regent Arrascada thanked Director Harper for the pragmatic approach and his detailed explanations.

12. Approved-Athletics Reports, UNLV, UNR, NSU, CSN AND TMCC (Agenda Item 14) – (Continued)

Regent Fernandez sought clarity regarding student access. According to his understanding, access funds provided through tuition were not used in athletics. However, he pointed to a current report indicating \$820,000 in access funds. He asked whether this represented a different access account and noted there are similarly named accounts. Interim President Heavey responded that while the report initially listed 820,000, the actual amount provided in student fee access is 810,000. He explained that the confusion stemmed from two different types of funds. UNLV does provide 810,000 from this fund to athletics.

Dr. Heavey noted that UNLV does not use any state access funds for athletics. He apologized for the confusion and suggested that Chief Financial Officer Viton could provide further details regarding the difference between those two accounts if required.

Vice Chair Goodman inquired about the significant amount of debt. She requested clarification on the checks and balance system, and specifically asked who holds responsibility for balancing budgets, whether internally by Athletics or by the institutional CFO. She further inquired if the University CFO has direct access to athletic department numbers or if they simply receive and review submitted figures. Director Harper stated that Athletics works directly with the central campus CFO office. He noted he has worked very closely with UNLV Interim Chief Financial Officer Elise Bunkowski over the past year. Mr. Harper explained that while budgets are developed internally, they are forwarded to the University CFO for review. Additionally, he noted certain expenses such as medical costs, nutrition, and travel, are completely out of their control and increase regularly. Interim President Heavey provided additional detail regarding a recent transition in financial management. He explained that in the summer, the reporting structure was changed so that the CFO of Athletics now reports directly to the University CFO, rather than the Athletic Director. Dr. Heavey expressed confidence that the new structure will ensure there is no ambiguity about who is responsible, and provide greater clarity about the information. He noted that while spending plans are set, revenue (e.g. football attendance) remains uncertain and susceptible to aberrations, such as lower-than-expected turnout for games at Allegiant Stadium. Interim President Heavey announced that a consultant will be brought in to look at the sustainability of the program to ensure it matches the University's capacity to support it.

Regent Goicoechea left the meeting.

Vice Chair Goodman noted that NIL fundraising appeared robust, seemingly equivalent to the annual athletic department fundraising. Director Harper clarified that NIL and revenue-sharing funds come specifically from interested donors. While the department encourages donors to participate in both general athletic and NIL spaces, some choose to stick strictly to NIL. Mr. Harper stated that UNLV is currently in the top three within the Mountain West Conference regarding NIL numbers. He added a caveat that reporting across the country can be inconsistent, noting that some are not reporting the accurate numbers historically in the NIL space.

12. Approved-Athletics Reports, UNLV, UNR, NSU, CSN AND TMCC (Agenda Item 14) -
(Continued)

Vice Chair Goodman expressed frustration regarding the pay to Allegiant Stadium for every game. She characterized the expense as ridiculous and suggested working with the Las Vegas Raiders to negotiate a donation back to the University at the end of the year to offset the costs.

Regent Goicoechea returned to the meeting.

Vice Chair Goodman left the meeting.

Regent Brager requested an update on the \$5 million from the Sam Boyd Stadium funds. She noted her understanding from a previous briefing that those funds were intended to be placed into a fund specifically to help women's sports. She requested a direct answer on the current status of that money and whether it is being utilized within the sports department. Director Harper stated that Interim President Heavey had transferred those funds into athletics to support athletics. He explained that while the money is being utilized to cover a lot of activities, he could not drive a dollar amount specifically to women's sports. Regent Brager reiterated her request for an absolute direct answer regarding how much, if any, of that specific money went to women's sports. She emphasized her commitment to the issue. Interim President Heavey clarified that the funds were used for ongoing expenses to manage the department's sustainability. He acknowledged there had been a prior discussion about creating a quasi-endowment with those funds for women's sports. Dr. Heavey affirmed that many of the ongoing expenses covered are for women's sports, and highlighted a recent event that raised significant NIL money for the women's basketball team. He clarified that while they are doing everything possible to provide resources, they did not carve that money out specifically to put only into women's sports. Regent Brager stated that she was specifically told in a meeting that money from that specific source would be banked to benefit women's sports. She emphasized that her concern extends to all institutions because women who participate in sports excel better in life. Regent Brager expressed her hope that all leadership would take action to benefit women so that youth would continue to choose Nevada colleges rather than seeking scholarships elsewhere.

Regent Brager left the meeting.

Regent Arrascada further noted that in a side-by-side comparison of athletic reports, UNLV appears to have tuition waivers totaling \$3.7 million and access funds of \$800,000. He contrasted that with the University of Nevada, Reno which reports \$2.8 million in tuition waivers and no access funds. Regent Arrascada requested an explanation for how UNLV Athletics determines the specific number of waivers and access funds directed to the department. Director Harper stated that when he assumed his current role, those funding levels were already coming in and that he could not personally answer how the initial amounts were determined. Mr. Harper committed to researching the matter with financial leadership. UNLV Interim Chief Financial Officer Elise Bunkowski provided further clarification: She explained that those figures represent very old central commitments that

12. Approved-Athletics Reports, UNLV, UNR, NSU, CSN AND TMCC (Agenda Item 14) – (Continued)

were established prior to the current administration. The \$3.7 million in fee waivers originated from an old letter of intent with the state, likely dating back to 2012. The allocation of access funds was an internal commitment made between a previous CFO and the then-Athletic Director. Ms. Bunkowski noted that the University has kept them standard and has not changed the amounts. Further, Interim Chief Financial Officer Bunkowski confirmed that the University does plan for it to continue to avoid causing further strain on the athletics budget.

Vice Chair Goodman and Regent Brager returned to the meeting.

Chair Brooks followed up on previous questions regarding athletics financing. He inquired whether the current funding levels are intended to be a permanent state of finance or if there is a plan to pull back some of that support in the next four to five years. Interim President Heavey explained that the University is bringing in an external consultant to examine sustainability options. He noted that outcomes are somewhat unpredictable as they attempt to forecast revenue sources, including the Allegiant Stadium waterfall bill, which runs out in 2030. He emphasized the importance of examining the ROI the institution receives in terms of performance visibility, advertising, and other indirect benefits stemming from national conversations around bowl games. Interim President Heavey confirmed that work is currently being done to make the athletics budget smoother in the future.

Chair Brooks requested a spotlight on the support provided to student-athletes who do not continue to professional leagues like the NFL or NBA. Director Harper detailed the department's career development initiatives including the Empower Her Program utilizing Diana Bennett's endowment specifically for women's career development. Additionally, the department brings in experts to speak on financial literacy. Director Harper shared a recent success story of a student-athlete who sought professional investment advice from a finance company. Additionally, the department promotes an 8-week athletic internship program for student-athletes to shadow staff in fundraising, marketing, ticketing, and the NBA Summer League. Mr. Harper noted that the entire staff is very open to allowing student-athletes to shadow them and learn about the industry and life after-sport.

Chair Brooks thanked Director Harper and Interim President Heavey for the clarity provided in the report and the positive light shown on student-athlete success beyond the field.

The meeting recessed at 3:51 p.m. and reconvened at 4:07 p.m. with all members present except Vice Chair Goodman and Regent Brager.

President Brian Sandoval introduced Stephanie Rempe, Athletic Director at the University of Nevada, Reno. Director Rempe highlighted significant competitive milestones from the previous year including two Mountain West championships, two Coaches of the Year, two Players of the Year, and Freshman of the Year across various sports. Additionally, the softball program achieved a variety of records. Special mention was made of Aaliyah

12. Approved-Athletics Reports, UNLV, UNR, NSU, CSN AND TMCC (Agenda Item 14) - (Continued)

Jenkins, who was named the Mountain West Player of the Year and a Division I Softball All-American. She was also the first female athlete to receive the Scholar-Athlete Award for the Mountain West Conference.

Director Rempe underscored a strong commitment to academic performance. She noted 88 student-athletes graduated during the last year and 12 programs achieved a GPA of over 3.0. Director Rempe described the women's golf team's performance as remarkable, achieving a GPA of 3.898. All student-athletes have maintained over a GPA for 21 straight semesters. The athletic department reached its highest rate ever with a GPA in the spring of 2025. Additionally, five programs achieved perfect graduation success rates, with an overall department rate of 89%.

Director Rempe provided updates on several facility projects including construction on the fieldhouse, softball lights being flipped on to host the conference championships this year, progress on the arena and improvements at the baseball stadium. Director Rempe additionally emphasized that the department continues its efforts in building Nevada's college town through community engagement by student-athletes and coaches. Director Rempe noted that fundraising and external efforts are on the rise. She concluded with a commitment to investing in the health, wellness, and development of student-athletes.

Chair Brooks expressed appreciation for the expediency with which the report was delivered. Regent Brown specifically inquired about the transfers in, noting a year-over-year increase of approximately \$2.7 million from 2025 to 2026. She observed that the next 5-year projection shows institutional support exceeding \$18 million annually and asked if it represents the new reality for budgets in perpetuity. Director Rempe confirmed that the assessment was fair. She provided additional context that prior to President Sandoval's arrival, a conference comparison revealed that the UNR athletics department was at the bottom of the league in terms of investment. Upon hiring President Sandoval and Director Rempe, a commitment was made to reach the median of the conference for campus support to allow the University to compete for championships. Director Rempe noted that while President Sandoval has done a remarkable job elevating the department, specifically women's teams and facilities, the University is still at the median. Ms. Rempe clarified that the median is always two years behind and that UNR's investment is currently about \$9 million to \$10 million less than the campus support provided at UNLV. Regent Brown expressed appreciation for the comparison but offered a different perspective on calculating institutional investment. She suggested that a fair assessment should involve looking at the total number of students divided by the investment. Using that metric, she stated that UNR's investment per student remains significantly more than UNLV's because UNR has fewer students. Director Rempe acknowledged that as an interesting perspective yet emphasized that the department manages the same number of sports and student-athletes regardless of total campus enrollment.

Vice Chair Goodman returned to the meeting.

12. Approved-Athletics Reports, UNLV, UNR, NSU, CSN AND TMCC (Agenda Item 14) - (Continued)

Regent Brown inquired about the financial impact of moving men's basketball to the GSR Arena. Director Rempe confirmed that men's basketball is the big revenue leader and that, similar to the transition to Allegiant Stadium, the new arena will offer significantly more premium spaces, including club seats, suites, and loge boxes. The higher cost options are expected to elevate revenue without necessarily making standard tickets more expensive.

Ms. Rempe stated that the University expects revenue to increase because they will have a higher volume of tickets available at premium price points. Regent Brown noted that athletics is a loss leader and that she does not expect budgets to be perfectly balanced. However, she emphasized the importance of monitoring the scale of investment noting over \$70 million in the last five years, and a projected \$90 million in the next five. Director Rempe stated she does not see the costs going backwards due to rising expenses and the direction of revenue share, but committed to continued collaboration with the University CFO and President Sandoval to manage the gap.

Regent Carvalho expressed appreciation for previous comments regarding the new reality of athletic budgets. She specifically acknowledged that everything is going up, citing rising prices for equipment and travel, and cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) approved by the Board in previous years. Regent Carvalho noted that rising costs are a primary reason for the greater numbers seen across all institutions. Additionally, she stated her belief that sports are not necessarily a loss leader. Regent Carvalho emphasized that there are many intangible benefits to athletics on campuses that should be considered alongside the financial figures. She highlighted the Board's interest in understanding the strategic direction going forward including a desire for deeper information regarding the plans for UNLV and UNR during economic uncertainty, and NIL philosophy. She noted that while the Board understands the need to pay athletes, there is currently a lack of understanding regarding the philosophy behind how institutions are doing that. Regent Carvalho suggested that if the Board understands the underlying philosophy and direction, then conversations between the Board and the institutions can become much more positive rather than focusing on uncomfortable questions. She confirmed that the Board is very supportive of athletics. However, she emphasized their role as the fiduciary, stating the Board's primary goal to ensure dollars are spent wisely and to understand spending as well as the institutions themselves do.

Regent Arrascada inquired about specific actions being taken to increase revenues at the same rate as expenses to avoid additional University support. Director Rempe highlighted several key revenue sources including ticket sales, sponsorships, and philanthropy. She mentioned the creation of the Battle Born Recruiting and Retention Fund specifically for revenue sharing.

Regent Arrascada raised a point regarding parity. He noted that looking at both athletic reports side-by-side, UNLV receives \$8.39 million in state appropriations while UNR receives \$5.78 million. He stated there is no parity when the state provides more support for athletics to one institution over the other. Regent Brown clarified that those state-generated figures are calculated based on the square footage of the facilities.

12. Approved-Athletics Reports, UNLV, UNR, NSU, CSN AND TMCC (Agenda Item 14) – (Continued)

In response to Regent Arrascada's questions about information availability, Director Rempe stated she takes the approach that UNR is a public institution and welcomed the opportunity to open their books and provide transparency into the department's finances. Additionally, President Sandoval provided a detailed update on the Mountain West Conference litigation. He reported that five schools are departing for the Pac-12 (joining Washington State and Oregon State), resulting in two types of litigation. One type is contractual departure fees litigating against departing schools for money owed per their contracts. The other is poaching fees litigating against the two remaining Pac-12 schools who agreed to pay poaching fees if they took any Mountain West schools as part of their scheduling arrangement.

President Sandoval acknowledged that the first round of mediation did not result in a settlement, and the cases are expected to proceed to trial next year, with attorney's fees already reaching seven figures. Mr. Sandoval expressed deep frustration regarding the sustainability of NIL and revenue sharing. He stated that the current system is not sustainable because costs keep escalating. The University risks becoming a farm team for bigger schools in Power 4 conferences that can offer seven-figure deals to transfer players. President Sandoval emphasized that while the University wants to be competitive, it is a struggle for schools of their size. Additionally, he summarized the four-year journey of the department, noting that they have corrected significant facility deficiencies, such as a lack of locker rooms for women's teams, and are now in a much better place than they were before.

NSU Acting President Amber Lopez Lasater invited the athletic director, Yvonne Wade, to report on the institution's inaugural athletic year. Director Wade noted that this report would focus on the intentional launch of Scorpion Athletics. She detailed the journey of establishing varsity athletics at NSU, which began with campus leadership and consultants from Comprehensive Athletic Consulting. Director Wade stated that the strategic decision was made to start small and purposeful with two sports that previously had no collegiate representation in Nevada: Women's Flag Football and Men's Track and Field. She acknowledged the approach allowed NSU to meet an unmet need in the state while aligning with institutional capacity. Recruiters enrolled 50 pioneer student-athletes, 25 for each program, from the local community to establish the foundation of Scorpion Athletics. Director Wade outlined her primary charges to establish strong policies and procedures aligned with governing standards, hire coaches and essential personnel for student-athlete development, and coordinate campus resources for academic support and student services, and kick off competitive seasons to set the tone for NSU athletics. Director Wade highlighted that a significant milestone was the inaugural Scorpion Kickoff Classic held at the Intermountain Health Performance Center, the headquarters of the Las Vegas Raiders. She noted that hosting their first collegiate competition at a world-class facility sent a powerful message about community investment.

Director Wade emphasized that NSU is currently operating as an independent collegiate athletic program but is actively pursuing membership in the NAIA. She explained that the NAIA was chosen intentionally because it offer emphasis on character and student-

12. Approved-Athletics Reports, UNLV, UNR, NSU, CSN AND TMCC (Agenda Item 14) – (Continued)

centered competition. Additionally, it provides structure that allows for steady growth rather than rapid expansion and a cost model that is significantly more sustainable for a young program. Director Wade clarified that the university is seeking conference alignment with the Great Southwest Athletic Conference (GSAC) to minimize travel costs and academic disruption for student-athletes. She announced that as part of the NAIA application, NSU will add women's track and field and cross country with a limited roster. Ms. Wade noted this expansion will be accomplished without requesting additional institutional funding through strategic budget reallocation and shared operational efficiencies.

Director Wade emphasized that the department's philosophy remains focused on building a foundation first, ensuring that solid policies, strong student support systems, and financial sustainability are in place before exploring additional sports based on facility access and community input. She concluded by stating that NSU athletics is built on opportunity and access, reflecting the values of the institution. Chair Brooks thanked Director Wade for the report, and observed that it was fantastic being at that inaugural flag football game and praising the student-athletes as extraordinarily powerful and determined.

CSN President Stacy Klippenstein introduced Nick Garritano, the interim Officer-in-Charge of the athletic department and head baseball coach. Coach Garritano reported that CSN is in the initial stages of hiring a full-time athletic director, with the goal of having the position filled for the 26-27 fiscal year. The department prioritized academic excellence as its first and foremost importance. He reported that student-athletes averaged a 2.95 GPA, significantly exceeding the NJCAA minimum of 1.75. Additionally, 34 student-athletes earned NJCAA Academic All-American honors (3.6+ GPA) and 62 student-athletes graduated with 36 transferring to four-year institutions to continue their careers. Coach Garritano highlighted that over 70% of the most recent cohort identify as first-generation college students.

Coach Garritano recognized the successful transition to Region One in the ACCAC. The baseball team won the ACCAC regular-season championship and finished as Region One runner-up, while Softball and Women's Basketball both finished as Region One runners-up. Of the 196 student-athletes served, more than 150 are from Southern Nevada, helping build a college-going culture in the community.

Coach Garritano noted that the report reflected the final year under the \$2 per credit hour fee structure, which resulted in a deficit position. He expressed gratitude for the approved fee adjustment taking effect in fiscal year 2026, which is projected to eliminate the current deficit, return the department to positive reserves, and establish a sustainable financial model in a responsible way.

Mr. Garritano also highlighted that the Carolyn Goodman SCORE program continues to impact Southern Nevada, with 1,297 new officials entering the Southern Nevada Officials Association through this partnership since Fall 2022. Chair Brooks and President Klippenstein recognized Coach Garritano for his national ranking as one of the best junior

12. Approved-Athletics Reports, UNLV, UNR, NSU, CSN AND TMCC (Agenda Item 14) – (Continued)

college baseball coaches and his success in coaching major league talent, specifically mentioning CSN alumnus Bryce Harper.

President Jeffrey W. Alexander introduced Jeff Hawkins, Director of Fitness, Wellness, and Athletics at Truckee Meadows Community College. Director Hawkins presented the annual report for fiscal year 2025, outlining five primary objectives: 1) recruit 80% of athletes from Nevada; 2) increase access for first-generation student-athletes; 3) maintain or improve academic success and persistence rates; 4) continue philanthropic work in the local community; and 5) increase branding and media exposure.

Director Hawkins reported that the program met all primary objectives. Key academic highlights included all 53 athletes, including 31 first-year students, declared degree pathways. The athletics program received numerous Scenic West Athletic Conference awards and had eight athletes named NJCAA Academic All-Americans. Additionally, academic success was bolstered by mandatory study halls, tutoring, homeroom assistance, and designated athletic advisors.

Director Hawkins noted that TMCC demonstrated a strong commitment to local student-athletes. More than 90% of athletes came from Nevada. The program remained 100% compliant with all facets of Title IX, ensuring equitable facilities, resources, and budgets for all participants. He stated that both men's and women's soccer programs continued strong performances, with the women's team achieving an unblemished preseason record. Director Hawkins also announced the addition of women's volleyball, a program born from a student government-sponsored club that grew to over 100 members. He also highlighted community engagement including the second year of youth soccer camps and participation in philanthropic efforts with partners like Three Square Food Bank and the Children's Cabinet.

Director Hawkins emphasized that TMCC Athletics remains fiscally sound and well-managed, maintaining a positive balance and increasing fundraising by more than 50% from the previous year. He noted that future objectives include exploring additional intercollegiate sports, enhancing sports medicine and equipment and developing an athletic grants and scholarship program.

Regent Brown moved approval of the Athletics Reports for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 from UNLV, UNR, NSU, CSN AND TMCC. Regent Bautista seconded. Motion carried. Regent Brager was absent.

13. Information Only-Proposed Purchase of Real Property, 555 Reactor Way, Reno, Nevada, TMCC (Agenda Item 15) – Truckee Meadows Community College President Jeffrey W. Alexander presented information concerning the proposed purchase of real property at 555 Reactor Way (APN 012-362-03) in Reno, Nevada, for the TMCC expansion at the William N. Pennington Applied Technology Center (Ref. BOR-15 on file in the Board Office).

13. Information Only – Proposed Purchase of Real Property, 555 Reactor Way ,Reno, Nevada, TMCC (Agenda Item 15) – (Continued)

Dr. Alexander highlighted a massive surge in the Applied Technology Division, with enrollment up 37% in fall 2025 and a staggering 56% this spring semester. He explained the growth is primarily driven by several factors. The Bachelor of Architecture program is currently scattered across multiple rooms and needs a single studio setting for national accreditation. The Advanced Manufacturing program trains over 1,000 apprentice workers annually and partners with firms like Tesla that wish to double the pace of training in 2026. A new AAS degree in Construction Management was launched to support the rapid pace of building in the region.

President Alexander described the building located at 555 Reactor Way, less than a mile from the Edison site, as the proposed site to accommodate the growth. The 33,000-square-foot facility includes a 23,000-square-foot warehouse for advanced manufacturing and architecture studios, and a 10,000-square-foot two-story office building for classrooms and faculty offices. Additionally, the site offers much-needed expanded parking capacity.

Dr. Alexander confirmed that TMCC has completed extensive due diligence to ensure the investment is sound. He stated that the property appraisal came in at \$8.125 million. Additionally, a facilities assessment found it in excellent condition with only minor maintenance expected. Further, a two-phase environmental test for soil and groundwater came back clean.

President Alexander said that TMCC plans to bond the investment over 10 years. He explained that annual revenues from the three programs already exceed the appraised value by 40%, to easily cover the approximate \$1 million annual bond payment. Dr. Alexander confirmed TMCC has already secured a \$1.7 million grant from the US Department of Education to equip the new center. He explained that the College will now seek the Chancellor's approval to enter formal negotiations. Dr. Alexander confirmed that if a price is agreed upon, the final contract will be brought to the Business, Finance, and Facilities Committee at the June 2026 quarterly meeting.

President Alexander stated the personnel plan is to relocate the three programs to the new facility including their faculty and support staff. He clarified that management personnel currently at the William N. Pennington Applied Technology Center will have responsibility for both sites, which will collectively be referred to as the Edison site for short.

Regent Del Carlo noted the significant value of the acquisition stating that a new building could not be built for 8.1 million nor get the planning dollars to do it. She described the purchase as being like a gift, noting the building is in really good shape and the location and parking are great for the northern Nevada ecosystem. President Alexander confirmed the importance of the infrastructure. He stated that the purchase comes with almost 50 new parking spots, an addition the administration is excited about. Regent Fernandez commended the passion and vision of the faculty and staff, and expressed his anticipation toward seeing people graduate from the new space.

14. Information Only-Public Comment (Agenda Item 16) – None

The meeting recessed at 5:10 p.m. and reconvened on Friday, March 6, 2026, at 9:08 a.m. with all members present.

Chair Brooks announced that agenda item 29 would be taken out of order to accommodate presenters' schedules.

15. Information Only-Public Comment (Agenda Item 17) – The following individuals expressed concern regarding CSN faculty contracts and the collective bargaining agreement process: Rachelle Bassen, Andrew Lavengood, Sheena Guynn, John Aliano, Dr. Nayelee Villanueva, Dr. Melissa Giovanni, Staci Walters, and Dr. Pete Martini.

The following individual expressed concerns regarding the living and working conditions of graduate student assistants: Bianca Oliveira.

Carmina Aglubat urged the inclusion of students in discussions on the 2027-29 biennial budget and capital improvement proposals (Agenda Item 18).

16. Approved-2027 Board of Regents Meeting Dates and Locations (Agenda Item 10) – The Board approved a schedule of dates for special meetings to be held in 2027.

The Board discussed whether to move its special meetings to Thursdays (Option A) or continue holding them on Fridays (Option B) in 2027.

Upon a roll call vote, the Board approved the 2027 meeting dates presented under Option B, as amended: January 4-5, February 19, April 16, July 16, August 20, October 15, and November 19. Chair Brooks and Regents Arrascada, Bautista, Brown, Carvalho, Downs, Fernandez, and Goicoechea voted for Option B (Friday). Vice Chair Goodman and Regents Boylan, Brager, Del Carlo, and McGrath voted for Option A (Thursday).

Proposed dates and locations for 2027 quarterly meetings will be brought back to a future meeting.

17. Approved-Distinguished Nevadan Awards (Agenda Item 11) – The Board of Regents approved granting the Distinguished Nevadan Award to the 2026 nominees.

Regent Brown nominated Diana L. Bennett, Chair and Co-founder of Paragon Gaming. She highlighted her pioneering leadership in the global gaming industry and her extensive philanthropic work through the Bennett Family Foundation, supporting organizations like Three Square Food Bank, UNLV Foundation, and LGBTQ advocacy via The Center (*Ref. BOR-11b on file in the Board Office*).

17. Approved-Distinguished Nevadan Awards (Agenda Item 11) – *(Continued)*

Regent Del Carlo nominated philanthropist Dr. Dixie May. She recognized her lifelong support of the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR), particularly her contributions to women's athletics, the Wilbur D. May Youth Center, and the Dean Future Scholars program (*Ref. BOR-11c on file in the Board Office*).

Regent Downs nominated Thomas J. Hall, a prominent Reno-Tahoe real estate attorney and aviation enthusiast. Mr. Hall was recognized for his 60-year history of service to UNR, his leadership in the Reno Air Racing Foundation, and his role with the George W. Gillemot Foundation, which provided a record \$36 million gift to UNR's College of Engineering (*Ref. BOR-11d on file in the Board Office*).

Vice Chair Goodman nominated Alan Feldman, a Distinguished Fellow at the UNLV International Gaming Institute. She emphasized his advocacy for responsible gaming through the GameSense program and his integral role in the development of the Smith Center for the Performing Arts (*Ref. BOR-11e on file in the Board Office*).

Chair Brooks nominated Donna Lee, a 20-year U.S. Navy veteran. He detailed her extensive advocacy for Nevada's veterans, including her work with the Henderson Veterans Treatment Court and her leadership in suicide prevention and housing initiatives for justice-involved veterans (*Ref. BOR-11a on file in the Board Office*).

Regent Del Carlo moved approval of granting the Distinguished Nevadan Award to Diana L. Bennett, Dr. Dixie May, Thomas J. Hall, Alan Feldman, and Donna Lee. Regent Brager seconded. Motion carried.

18. Approved-2027-29 Biennial Operating Budget/2027 Capital Improvement Projects – The Board, institution Presidents, and System staff discussed the process of developing NSHE's 2027-29 biennial operating budget request and the budget for capital improvements for the 2027 Legislative Session, including the establishment of System budget priorities and possible enhancements to the base formula funded operating budgets, as well as other state-funded budgets. Additionally, the Presidents presented their capital improvement and enhancements to their operating budgets (*Ref. BOR-18 and Supplemental Material on file in the Board Office*). The Board authorized the Chair and Chancellor to include the following priorities in the development of the 2027-29 biennial operating budget request for further review and discussion at the April 17, 2026, special meeting: small institution factor 100% funding, fee waiver unfunded mandate support, deferred maintenance, campus security, and adequacy of total funding.

Pursuant to NRS 281A, Regent Carvalho disclosed her status as a graduate student at UNLV. She stated that the independence of judgment of a reasonable person would not be materially affected and confirmed she would vote on the matter.

Regent Downs disclosed he is an employee of Western Nevada College. After consulting with legal counsel, Regent Downs determined that since he has no connection to the

18. Approved-2027-29 Biennial Operating Budget/2027 Capital Improvement Projects –
(Continued)

buildings discussed, his independence of judgment is not affected, and he will vote on the matter.

Chief Financial Officer Chris Viton presented the initial overview of budget planning for the 2027-2029 biennium. Mr. Viton noted that his presentation serves as the beginning of a process that will culminate in a submission to the Governor's Finance Office by September 1, 2026. He outlined the timeline for both capital and operating budget requests. By April 1st, campuses must submit capital priorities to begin project manager assignments. At a special meeting in April, the Board will receive a preliminary view of ranked capital priorities. June 1st is the deadline to provide the list of ranked capital priorities to State Public Works. In June and July, the Board will review preliminary operating budget priorities so that final approval of the operating budget request for submission to the Governor is granted at August special meeting.

Mr. Viton provided a recap of the previous legislative session to set the context for current needs. He explained that most operating base funding items were approved, though the formula redistribution remains a point of ongoing discussion. While initially receiving little capital from the executive budget, the legislature ultimately funded several one-shot items including UNR's life science building and UNLV's business building. Mr. Viton further explained that numerous programs (e.g., nursing expansion, graduate assistant stipends) were funded via one-time monies, creating a continuing risk of needing to secure permanent base funding.

Chief Financial Officer Viton identified three primary themes for the upcoming request. He recommended shifting the conversation from a competitive redistribution model (winners and losers) to an adequacy-based model leveraging previously applied analysis. Additionally, Mr. Viton advocated the push for 100% funding (currently only at 40%) for the small institution factor approach. He further recommended addressing graduate assistant stipends, Part-Time Instructor (PTI) rates, and the sustainability of the Millennium and Promise Scholarships.

Mr. Viton explained the capital request will be grouped into three Public Works categories. Deferred Maintenance will address the backlog beyond the standard \$15M biennial appropriation. Construction Projects will identify new facility needs identified by campus presidents. Planning Projects will outline funds needed for the design phase of future buildings to ensure a pipeline of shovel-ready projects.

Chief Financial Officer Viton emphasized the goal of transparency and early Board involvement at each step of the ranking process. Regent Del Carlo and Mr. Viton discussed the methodology for the funding formula. He clarified that while the funding formula remained in use, the distribution portion had been specifically set aside. Mr. Viton explained that the base components (weighted student credit hours for campus caseload adjustments, the small institution carveout, and the research carveout) have been consistently applied since 2013 to address base and maintenance adjustments. However, the portion of the formula used to redistribute the base among campuses based on weighted

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student credit hours was not approved in recent sessions. Chief Financial Officer Viton noted that it was largely due to legislative concerns about redistribution and the sustainability of hold-harmless requests. Consequently, the System is shifting its focus toward an adequacy of funding model. Mr. Viton explained the System is working with business officers and presidents in leveraging applied analysis to develop recommendations that focus on what represents adequate total funding, considering both student and state components, rather than a redistribution-based request.

UNLV Interim President Chris Heavey presented the university's capital requests for the upcoming legislative session, highlighting a \$91 million request for deferred maintenance to address billions of dollars in aging infrastructure. He identified the replacement of the Fine Arts building (the oldest on campus) as a top priority, noting it is currently unusable in the summer due to failing HVAC Systems.

Dr. Heavey also emphasized the need for a new School of Nursing facility within the medical district to allow for program expansion. Additional requests include safety and security funding for increased campus police and technology enhancements, including the potential for a Nevada Institute for Cyber Security operations center to serve the state. Interim President Heavey also presented programmatic needs to transition one-time funding to permanent status for nursing expansion, Graduate Medical Education (GME), teacher apprenticeships, and the behavioral health workforce.

Interim President Heavey clarified for Regent Boylan that previous safety funding was already deployed for upgrades. Regent Del Carlo recommended including a specific slide for the legislature regarding the cost of mandated fee waivers, particularly for Native American students, which President Heavey noted has seen a dramatic increase in participation. Vice Chair Goodman expressed strong support for the Fine Arts building, highlighting its workforce relevance and the installation of an exquisite two-story Chihuly chandelier.

President Brian Sandoval presented the University of Nevada, Reno's budget priorities, totaling \$74.9 million for FY 2028 and \$42.45 million for FY 2029. Mr. Sandoval emphasized that the requests are strategic investments in safety, workforce development, academic excellence, and infrastructure. He outlined a requested \$3.2M (FY28) and \$2.44M (FY29) for the Northern Nevada Command staffing initiative, including 10 additional peace officers and 6 community service officers. Additionally, a one-time \$800,000 investment was requested for controlled access systems at the Knowledge Center and DeLaMare Library.

President Sandoval noted the largest priority area (\$10.7M in FY28 and \$14.9M in FY29) includes funding to launch an accredited College of Veterinary Medicine, nursing program expansion (targeting 69 additional students), social work expansion to address mental health shortages, and sustaining and expanding Graduate Medical Education (GME) programs. Mr. Sandoval requested \$5.75M annually, primarily for the Knowledge Fund to increase graduate assistant stipends by \$2,000, establish the Nevada Graduate Fellowship

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(Continued)

Program, and support faculty recruitment and retention. UNLV's student access request includes \$5M annually for the Digital Wolf Pack Initiative (providing iPads to all students) and funding for the Online Learning Initiative to attract 500-700 new net students. President Sandoval also requested \$5.2M to help cover mandated fee waivers (e.g., Native American fee waivers), which are currently funded out of the existing campus budget. Mr. Sandoval noted a requested \$43M (FY28) and \$7M (FY29) for critical deferred maintenance, including \$17M for HVAC/chiller upgrades and \$19M for roof replacements across 17 buildings. For athletics, \$5M annually was requested to update funding formulas and support \$2.5M in new NCAA scholarship opportunities for women's and Olympic programs following the House v. NCAA settlement.

Regent Boylan inquired about campus infrastructure, specifically the upside down pyramids seen on campus. President Sandoval clarified that those are large-scale outdoor air conditioning units brought in every spring to cool buildings housing the swimming pool, gymnasium, classrooms, and dance studios. Mr. Sandoval noted that renting those units is expensive and unsustainable, and the university's request includes a permanent overhaul of the HVAC System for those facilities. Regent Boylan also raised questions about the fiscal impact of mandated fee waivers (e.g. Native American, National Guard, and foster student waivers). He questioned how the waivers cost the university additional money if the infrastructure (e.g. lights, instructors) is already in place. President Sandoval explained that while these waivers provide extraordinary benefits, they represent lost tuition revenue that would otherwise fund salaries, utilities, and advisors. He emphasized that those costs must be absorbed within the existing budget, meaning the institution effectively carries the financial burden.

Chair Brooks and Regent Del Carlo further discussed the nature of these unfunded mandates. Regent Del Carlo suggested creating a one-page template to distinguish between mandates imposed by the Legislature versus those initiated by the Regents, noting that the Board might seek legislative funding for legislative mandates. Regent Brown expressed appreciation for prioritizing University Police Department (UPD) staffing for the Northern Command, noting that additional officers are necessary due to campus expansion and increased activity. President Sandoval concluded by clarifying that the items in his presentation were not ranked in order of importance, but rather represent the university's collective top priorities.

Regent McGrath left the meeting.

Regent Brown left the meeting.

NSU Acting President Amber Lopez Lasater presented the university's legislative requests, which are grounded in three key areas: workforce alignment, responsible growth, and student support.

She highlighted that NSU's access strategy is scaling in alignment with state priorities, and specifically noted that growth in weighted student credit hours in nursing translates to

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(Continued)

nearly \$2.9 million in additional funding formula dollars. She also identified speech-language pathology as a high-demand area for deliberate investment. Regarding student success and safety, Acting President Lopez Lasater emphasized that initiatives for transportation, wellness, food insecurity, and housing are being prioritized due to their significant impact on student completion. She additionally noted a funding request to invest in AI-assisted security cameras that provide immediate recognition of potential threats and emergencies.

Dr. Lopez Lasater acknowledged that while NSU is a younger campus, there are immediate needs for HVAC, chillers, and fire systems to maintain the campus at full capacity. Acting President Lopez Lasater also noted that the university is exceptionally tight on space. The university's priorities include an Academic Village, the Esteem Building, and a Student Wellness Center.

Acting President Lopez Lasater reported that NSU successfully secured a \$1.8 million federal earmark to begin the architectural and engineering phases of the wellness center project. She concluded by stating that the investments provide a high return on investment for student success and the general viability of the institution.

Regent McGrath returned to the meeting.

Regent Boylan inquired about the university's specific needs regarding safety and security funding. Acting President Lasater clarified that out of a previous \$11 million system-wide allocation, NSU received \$800,000. She explained that those funds are currently being utilized for lighting upgrades, additional cameras, and building access improvements. However, Dr. Lasater noted that the university is requesting an additional \$2 million to fully address its security requirements. Regents inquired about a \$1 million initiative for increased student support, specifically targeting food and housing. Acting President Lasater explained that investing in removing those barriers has an incredible impact on student retention. She clarified that the funds would support emergency scholarships allocated on a case-by-case basis to help students with rent and housing needs, potentially for off-campus locations. She concluded by stating that the general outline of the initiative would be further refined with specific details prior to the upcoming legislative sessions.

President Kumud Acharya, DRI, presented the Institute's budget outlook and strategic requests, noting a base state operating budget of just over \$11 million. President Acharya expressed gratitude for the funding formula changes in FY23, which have provided greater stability and competitiveness for DRI. Dr. Acharya presented the Cloud Seeding program as its top priority. Following a previous biennial allocation of \$1.2 million, DRI is seeking \$750,000 annually for the 2027-2029 biennium. President Acharya noted the program increases precipitation by 10-13%, adding approximately 40,000 acre-feet of water in the last session alone. Additionally, Dr. Acharya noted that DRI is seeking \$7 million in one-shot funding to renovate its Boulder City facility into a sustainable Resiliency Research and Education Center. The project follows an initial \$850,000 kickstart from

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(Continued)

Congresswoman Dina Titus and aims to create a state-of-the-art hub for STEM programs and teacher education.

Dr. Acharya further explained funding needs for the Nevada Water Program to address the state's reliance on 70-year-old groundwater data. DRI is requesting \$4 million per biennium over the next few cycles following a \$6 million ARPA investment in 2023 that aims to provide updated data for appropriate water rights allocation. President Acharya requested \$3 million for critical upgrades to aging infrastructure, specifically fume hood and exhaust controls, and the replacement of 30-35 years old boilers.

Regent Brown returned to the meeting.

President Acharya emphasized that while DRI is a small institution, it maintains big ambition and big goals for the state of Nevada. Regent Downs inquired about the cloud seeding program, specifically whether seeding in one area negatively impacts precipitation downwind or in neighboring areas. President Acharya clarified that cloud seeding does not steal precipitation from other neighborhoods. He explained that the process involves adding silver iodide to clouds during winter months to trigger precipitation that would otherwise remain in the atmosphere and be lost. Dr. Acharya emphasized that the program targets moisture that is not ready to come down on its own, thereby increasing the total amount of water reaching the ground rather than redistributing existing rainfall. Regent Boylan followed up with a question regarding contrails seen in the sky when no clouds are present, asking if they were related to cloud seeding. President Acharya explained that contrails have no association with cloud seeding. He clarified that contrails are formed when aircraft using hydrogen fuel release fumes that react with oxygen in the air to create water vapor. He further noted that these trails are not poisonous and that DRI's cloud seeding is primarily conducted from the ground during winter months when low-hanging precipitation is present. The discussion concluded with an invitation from President Acharya for the Regents to visit the DRI campus to observe the program's operations firsthand. Though the topic was outside the primary budget agenda item, Chair Brooks allowed the discussion as a point of information, noting its educational value.

Chair Brooks left the meeting.

Regent Brager left the meeting.

Dr. Amber Donnelly, President of Great Basin College, presented the institution's budget priorities. She highlighted significant enrollment growth from approximately 2,900 students in Fall 2023 to 3,600 currently. Dr. Donnelly emphasized the critical need for caseload growth funding to support this expansion and requested that the small institution factor be funded at 100% (noting it is currently phased in at only 40%). President Donnelly outlined key requests including an increase in the weighted student credit hour funding for health sciences from a 2:1 ratio to a 3:1 ratio to align more closely with CTE programs (currently 4:1). Dr. Donnelly noted that additional funding is requested to meet the target ratio of 1 advisor per 350 students. Further, DRI is requesting \$5 million annually to replace

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physical key locks with a modern badging system and to install cameras across all remote campuses, which currently have a limited security presence. President Donnelly noted a 100% increase in mandated fee waivers (serving 118 students across five reservations).

Additionally, President Donnelly requested funding to manage the BetterMind mental health platform, which has grown from 4 students to 150. Dr. Donnelly also emphasized the Winnemucca Industrial Technology Building as a top priority. GBC is seeking \$29 million to build a permanent 20,000 square foot facility to replace a leased building that expires in 2029. GBC has committed \$5 million in seed money and plans a \$5 million capital campaign. President Donnelly presented a \$2.2 million request for two new roofs on buildings where HVAC units are currently being replaced, noting the roofs have exceeded their life expectancy.

Dr. Donnelly also presented a design change for a Pahrump project to focus on industry-specific buildings rather than traditional structures. The new plan reduces the estimated cost from \$130 million to approximately \$80-\$90 million including infrastructure.

Chair Brooks and Regent Brager returned to the meeting.

President Donnelly highlighted a win for the college with the receipt of \$630,000 in WIN funding for the CDL program. The funds allowed for the purchase of an additional semi-truck and the hiring of new faculty. Vice Chair Goodman inquired about Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land, asking if GBC is restricted from partnering with private industry on those lands. President Donnelly clarified that while partnerships are possible, the college is still bound by state legal requirements including prevailing wages and competitive bidding for state projects regardless of whether a private partner constructs the facility.

Regent Del Carlo inquired if GBC could utilize building designs from the College of Southern Nevada to meet their needs. President Donnelly explained that GBC's current priority is an industrial technology building, similar to the design used in Winnemucca, to house electrical, machining, manufacturing, welding, and diesel programs. She noted that the facilities are strategically located to support workforce needs for Anglo Gold in Beatty and the lithium deposits in Tonopah, with Pahrump serving as the primary feeder for those locations.

Regent Boylan inquired about security funding. President Donnelly reported that an initial \$400,000 was used to upgrade antiquated video systems and implement keyless entry in Winnemucca and Ely. She emphasized that a comprehensive system to tie all campus buildings together would require approximately \$5 million. Dr. Donnelly also noted that while the campus currently has one police officer through Northern Command, they are working on a new assessment to increase security presence.

Regent Downs left the meeting.

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CSN President Klippenstein presented operational and capital priorities for the upcoming biennium, focusing on safety, student support, and campus expansion. Dr. Klippenstein requested \$2.5 million to expand camera coverage, enhance classroom safety features (panic software), and improve internal lockdown capabilities. CSN requested an increase in the funding weight for health programs from the current 2.0 to 4.0 for lower division and 4.4 for upper division to align with technical education weights and R1 institution standards. President Klippenstein noted funding requests for additional academic advisors to reach the mandated 350:1 student-to-advisor ratio (currently at 631:1 based on a 30,000 headcount).

Dr. Klippenstein further requested \$1.63 million for staffing to support the expanding prison education program and an additional \$1.2 million (on top of the existing \$2.2 million) for the Silver State Opportunity Grant (SSOG) for low-income students. President Klippenstein highlighted requested funding for eight new full-time faculty members to support the co-requisite math expansion and addressed the need for market-competitive salaries (e.g., requesting \$150,000 for veterinarians to support the veterinary program).

Additionally, CSN requested \$8.7 million to expand dual enrollment through stipends, technology, and scholarships. Dr. Klippenstein noted the CSN Northwest Campus as a top priority that remains the university's primary capital focus to address an educational desert in one of Las Vegas's fastest-growing areas. While the original \$156 million request for a 60,000 square foot building was scaled to \$146 million (removing the first responder training center), a Phase 1 option of a 31,000 square foot building is being explored at a cost of \$122 million. CSN has committed to a braided funding approach, with the foundation pledging \$10 million. President Klippenstein also requested \$9.37 million for a high-priority seismic retrofit on the North Las Vegas campus and \$1.2 million for the final central plant tie-in at the Henderson campus. CSN requested a total deferred maintenance need of \$72 million, noting that many campus buildings are over 35 years old.

Regent Downs returned to the meeting.

Regent Carvalho left the meeting.

Regent Boylan inquired about employee safety, citing a recent climate survey where staff reported feeling unsafe. President Klippenstein clarified that the concerns stem from a combination of factors, including walking to vehicles at night, readiness for active shooter scenarios, and the need for better camera systems and lockdown capabilities. He emphasized that the requested funding for enhanced camera systems and lockdown technology is a high item for employees. Regent Boylan also pointed out a specific safety hazard: a small, dangerous drain on campus, which President Klippenstein noted would be addressed as part of the ongoing facilities assessment and master planning process. Regent Brager emphasized the urgent need for presence in the southwest area (including Mountain's Edge), even if it initially involves modular buildings. She noted that while the Northwest Campus remains the top priority, the southwest is expanding rapidly and requires educational training facilities. President Klippenstein confirmed that dialogue with

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(Continued)

the county regarding southwest expansion is already underway. He noted the possibility of a shared facility or an addition to an existing building, similar to the cost-saving approach used with Grant Sawyer Middle School.

Regent Carvalho returned to the meeting.

Regent McGrath left the meeting.

TMCC President Jeffrey Alexander presented the biennial priorities for the college. Dr. Alexander emphasized a focus on maintaining the current funding formula with fidelity while addressing critical infrastructure and safety needs. He noted a top priority is fully funding caseload growth and inflation for completed weighted student credit hours. President Alexander emphasized the importance of maintaining the current formula to ensure the hard work and priorities it incentivizes are delivered upon. Dr. Alexander reported that student fee waivers cost TMCC approximately \$500,000 annually. He noted that while these are currently carried as a cost on the books, the college seeks support to offset this financial burden. President Alexander presented safety and security requests.

Dr. Alexander noted a previous \$725,000 allocation used for door locks and electronic swipes at the Dandini campus, and stated that TMCC is seeking an additional \$1 million to complete the rollout across its remaining three campuses. President Alexander highlighted the Fire Rescue Training Center (Phase 2) is a top priority aimed at making TMCC a regional training destination for both wildland and structural firefighting. The project addresses a shortage of firehouses in Reno and provides a dedicated space for training, reducing reliance on the currently overcapacity facility in Carson City. TMCC reported receiving \$3.5 million in the past biennium for the Red Mountain building exterior and critical boiler replacements. TMCC requested support for HVAC and refrigeration modernization across four buildings, noting that equipment is well past its life cycle and essential for maintaining a functional learning environment during hot summer months.

Regent Boylan inquired about the specific allocation for safety and security. President Jeffrey Alexander clarified that the college previously received \$725,000 in security dollars, which have been fully committed to enhancing the Dandini campus. Those funds are being utilized for the installation of door locks, window screens, and an electronic door lock process currently underway. Dr. Alexander further reported that the college is seeking an additional \$1 million in the upcoming biennium to allow TMCC to roll out the electronic door lock and security project across its remaining three campuses, ensuring a standardized and modern security infrastructure systemwide.

WNC President J. Kyle Dalpe presented the institution's priorities. Dr. Dalpe emphasized that WNC has reached a momentum thanks to recent federal, private, and state support. He noted that the small institution factor is a top priority and WNC requested it be funded at 100%. President Dalpe noted it was only funded at 20% in the first year and 40% in the second year of the previous biennium, leaving a significant gap in the budget for GBC and WNC. Dr. Dalpe acknowledged that WNC is not requesting a new building for nursing due

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(Continued)

to receiving nearly \$7 million in federal and private funds to renovate the Fallon and Douglas campuses. However, President Dalpe stated that WNC is seeking continued state support for equipment and staffing to ensure these programs become self-sufficient. He requested additional funding for campus-wide video surveillance and cybersecurity. President Dalpe noted that \$400,000 from the previous session is currently being used for a video surveillance project, further investment is needed as these are currently funded only through registration fees and state allocations. Dr. Dalpe expressed support for mandated fee waivers. He acknowledged they provide critical access but come with a price tag that impacts the budget.

President Dalpe presented capital and deferred maintenance needs including a critical \$2 million HVAC unit for Sage Hall. He warned that without this fix, the building might have to be shut down during the summer as it can no longer limp along with the current system. Dr. Dalpe reported that the college is finally upgrading a bathroom from 1974, and recently completed a cafe renovation and an observatory project. President Dalpe noted that WNC's total list of requests amounts to \$16.7 million, which would allow the college to continue its current trajectory of growth and modernization.

Regent McGrath returned to the meeting.

Regent Brager emphasized the need for the Board to maintain a perspective that treats the needs of small campuses with the same priority as larger ones, advocating for a cautious and equitable approach to state requests. Regent Boylan inquired about WNC's specific request for Uninterruptible Power Supplies (UPS). President Kyle Dalpe clarified that while the campus currently has power supplies in operation, additional units are required as new campus facilities come online and older technology is replaced. President Dalpe also confirmed that WNC received \$400,000 for safety initiatives out of a previous \$11 million system-wide allocation.

Regent Del Carlo noted a recurring theme of HVAC, chiller, and boiler issues across all institutions and suggested that the System Office explore economies of scale by lumping these projects together at the System level to find cost savings. Chair Brooks expressed support for this suggestion, specifically mentioning the potential for utilizing regional vendors in northern and southern Nevada to navigate deferred maintenance more efficiently. President Dalpe noted that while WNC is one of the smallest institutions, it currently faces \$24 million in deferred maintenance. He highlighted the disparity in funding, noting that the entire System receives only \$15 million from the state each biennium for such projects.

Chief Financial Officer Chris Viton addressed questions about the HECC/SHECC (Higher Education Capital Construction) allocation, which has remained stagnant at \$15 million for decades. He explained that while the amount could theoretically be adjusted, it is currently funded primarily through the State General Fund. Mr. Viton explained that any increase would compete directly with other operating budget requests. Regent Del Carlo requested

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further clarification on why the amount has not been adjusted for inflation over the last 30 years as the budget process continues.

Chair Brooks recapped the running themes from the presentations, identifying several key priorities for the Board to focus on as they move toward the June and September budget deadlines. The themes included deferred maintenance, campus security, funding the small institutional factor at 100%, and fee waiver support. Regent Goicoechea advocated for incorporating these themes into a formal agenda item for the April meeting to establish a solid base for the legislative request. He emphasized the importance of telling a compelling story to the legislature. Regent Del Carlo echoed that sentiment and noted that state support for higher education has dropped from 19% to 12% of the state budget over time.

Regent Goicoechea moved to authorize the Chair and Chancellor to coordinate an agenda item for the April special meeting outlining key funding areas: 1) Small institutional factor at 100%; 2) Fee waiver/unfunded mandate support; 3) Deferred maintenance and campus security; 4) Targeting state support at 80% (i.e. adequacy model). Vice Chair Goodman seconded. Motion carried.

Chair Brooks thanked the presidents for the presentation of their institutional priorities.

8. Information Only-Board Chair's Report – Chair Brooks reopened Agenda Item 8 to recognize Mr. Mike Wixom, NSHE Special Counsel for Real Estate and Development, noting that this meeting marks his final day with the System. Chair Brooks expressed profound gratitude on behalf of the Board of Regents, Chancellor, and NSHE community. He noted Mr. Wixom's extraordinary contributions as a former Regent, Board Chair, and seasoned attorney.

The Board emphasized Mr. Wixom's legal brilliance and practical foresight, specifically noting his indispensable work in real estate law, land acquisitions, and complex development agreements that have shaped the physical landscape of Nevada's higher education institutions. Chair Brooks commended his diligence and precision, stating that the Board has relied upon his counsel with complete confidence.

The meeting recessed at 12:24 p.m. and reconvened at 12:33 p.m. with all members present except Vice Chair Goodman and Regent Brown.

19. Approved-Land Easement to the Boring Company, UNLV (Agenda Item 29) – The Board approved a subsurface easement to The Boring Company to support the construction and long-term operation of a transportation tunnel located beneath UNLV property and granted authority to the Chancellor to finalize and execute and easement agreement to govern and evidence the easement, in consultation with the NSHE Chief General Counsel or NSHE

19. Approved-Land Easement to the Boring Company, UNLV (Agenda Item 29) – *(Continued)*

Special Real Property Counsel, at the direction of the NSHE Chief General Counsel (*Ref. BOR-29 and Supplemental Material on file in the Board Office*).

Regent Brown returned to the meeting.

UNLV Interim President Heavey explained the easement would allow The Boring Company to extend its tunnel beneath the Thomas and Mack Center parking lot at the southwestern edge of the UNLV campus. Dr. Heavey noted that the easement preserves UNLV's right to a future station which would be constructed at the full expense of The Boring Company. He expressed excitement about the project as an innovative traffic solution for Southern Nevada, supported by the county, which would eventually connect the university to various regional locations.

Mr. Wixom provided detail regarding the valuation of the easement, noting a significant delta between two commissioned appraisals. UNLV's appraisal is valued at approximately \$1.1 million, based on the assumption that the 20-foot depth of the tunnel would preclude future vertical construction on the site. The Boring Company's appraisal is valued at approximately \$1,000, based on the assumption that the highest and best use for the area is its current function as a surface parking lot. Mr. Wixom clarified that both valuations were based on different yet reasonable engineering and land-use assumptions.

Counsel Wixom emphasized the importance of understanding these differences to make an informed fiduciary decision. The easement encompasses approximately 35,000 square feet (approximately 0.8 acres) at the corner of University Center Drive and the southwest corner of the Thomas and Mack Center parking lot. Mr. Wixom confirmed that he assisted in drafting the agreement and expressed confidence in the legal protections and indemnifications provided to UNLV and the Board regarding the construction and operation of the tunnel.

Vice Chair Goodman returned to the meeting.

Regent McGrath sought clarification on the discrepancy between the two appraisals. Counsel Wixom explained that the valuations were based on different assumptions. UNLV's appraisal assumed potential future building restrictions, while The Boring Company's appraisal assumed the land's highest and best use would remain a parking lot. Interim President Heavey noted that engineering solutions, such as wider footings, could allow for future vertical construction over the tunnels. He further highlighted that the proposed station, valued at approximately \$2 million, would be built by The Boring Company at no cost to the University.

Regent Boylan inquired about the impact of Clark County's proposed roadway at the intersection of University Center Drive and Tropicana. Interim President Heavey confirmed that The Boring Company has already engineered the tunnel to a depth of 100 feet to account for this potential project, though they may re-engineer to a shallower depth if the County's plans change.

19. Approved-Land Easement to the Boring Company, UNLV (Agenda Item 29) – (Continued)

Regent Downs expressed a desire for guaranteed student benefits. Mr. Tyler Fairbanks, representing The Boring Company, committed to providing internships, full-time jobs, and reduced fare rates for NSHE students.

Chief General Counsel Martines clarified for Regent Downs that while the proposed action would only grant an easement for the tunnel, the easement agreement includes a clause requiring The Boring Company to fund and construct a Vegas Loop terminal at a mutually agreed-upon location, subject to future Board approval.

Several Regents expressed enthusiasm for the project, citing its potential to diversify transportation and provide unique opportunities for engineering students.

Regent Brown moved approval of a subsurface easement to The Boring Company to support the construction and long-term operation of a transportation tunnel located beneath UNLV property and granting authority to the Chancellor to finalize and execute an easement agreement to govern and evidence the easement, in consultation with the NSHE Chief General Counsel or NSHE Special Real Property Counsel, at the direction of the NSHE Chief General Counsel. Vice Chair Goodman seconded. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

The meeting recessed at 1:11 p.m. and reconvened at 1:38 p.m. with all members present except Regent Bautista.

20. Information Only-Timeline for 2027-29 Tuition and Fees, University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine (Agenda Item 22) – UNR President Brian Sandoval presented a timeline for proposed updates to the 2027-29 biennium tuition and fee structure for the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine (UNR Med), (*Ref. BOR-22 on file in the Board Office*).

Regent Bautista returned to the meeting.

President Sandoval presented an update regarding the biennial review of tuition and fees for the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine, pursuant to *Handbook, Title 4, Chapter 17*. He noted that a committee is appointed in the spring of every even-numbered year to gather and review relevant data and provide recommendations to the Chancellor and the Board regarding appropriate tuition and fee levels for UNR Med students.

President Sandoval emphasized that the committee utilizes a structured, data-informed framework to ensure recommendations are comparative and aligned with institutional needs and regional context. He committed to a formal update on the committee's analysis and preliminary conclusions to be provided at the April 17, 2026, special meeting. Further,

20. Information Only-Timeline for 2027-29 Tuition and Fees, University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine (Agenda Item 22) – (Continued)

President Sandoval stated that he will seek approval for the full amount of any proposed increases to be allocated to the state-supported operating budget of UNR Med during the June 11-12, 2026, quarterly meeting.

21. Approved-Life Sciences Building Naming Rights, UNR (Agenda Item 27) – The Board approved the naming of the “Davidson Life Sciences Building”, in accordance with the terms set forth in the Gift Agreement and granted authority to the Chancellor to execute the Gift Agreement and all other documents necessary to effectuate these naming rights, following review and approval by the Chancellor and Chief General Counsel to ensure conformance to the terms and conditions approved by the Board of Regents, and for the Chancellor to approve such other variation of name for the building name that includes “Davidson” (Ref. BOR-27 on file in the Board Office).

President Sandoval presented the proposal for a \$30 million naming gift from philanthropist Robert M. Davidson. The gift marks a significant milestone in the funding and development of the new Life Sciences Building. Mr. Sandoval noted that the total project cost for the facility is \$137 million. He further explained that the funding is a collaborative effort involving a \$68.5 million state investment (enacted via Senate Bill 4 during the 36th special session with Governor Lombardo's approval), a \$30 million gift from Mr. Davidson, and ongoing fundraising efforts through the UNR Foundation. President Sandoval highlighted that the planned building will be an approximately 80,000 square foot, four-story academic and research facility. It will be located in the Mathewson Gateway District, across from the Tulloch Business Building. It will serve as a cornerstone for research, economic development, and the proposed veterinary school. President Sandoval highlighted Mr. Davidson's long-standing Wolf Pack partnership. He detailed previous transformational contributions including support for the Davidson Academy (2006), a \$16 million gift for the Mathematics and Science Center (2007), and funding for the engineering building's clean room (2025). President Sandoval requested the Board's favorable consideration to honor Robert M. Davidson through this naming, celebrating an enduring partnership that supports the University's research excellence and workforce readiness.

During the discussion, Regent Del Carlo spoke in favor of the proposal and shared a personal tribute to the donor, noting he is a citizen of Incline Village and a former appointee to the Board. Regent Del Carlo praised Mr. Davidson and his late wife for their immense contributions to humanity and education, specifically citing the success of the Davidson Academy. She highlighted the significance of his choice to reinvest his wealth into the education system, calling his generosity truly outstanding.

President Sandoval echoed these sentiments, and expressed deep gratitude on behalf of the University. He remarked that Mr. Davidson's impact on the state of Nevada and humanity is immeasurable.

21. Approved-Life Sciences Building Naming Rights, UNR (Agenda Item 27) – *(Continued)*

Regent Arrascada moved approval of naming of the “Davidson Life Sciences Building”, in accordance with the terms set forth in the Gift Agreement and granted authority to the Chancellor to execute the Gift Agreement and all other documents necessary to effectuate these naming rights, following review and approval by the Chancellor and Chief General Counsel to ensure conformance to the terms and conditions approved by the Board of Regents, and for the Chancellor to approve such other variation of name for the building name that includes “Davidson.” Regent Brager seconded. Motion carried.

22. Information Only-Institutional Performance Metrics, NSU (Agenda Item 20) – Acting President Amber Lopez Lasater presented data and metrics on NSU’s progress in achieving the strategic goals adopted by the Board of Regents. The metrics presented include those identified by the Board to ensure comparability and alignment with the NSHE Strategic Plan *(Ref. BOR-20 on file in the Board Office)*.

Regent Arrascada left the meeting.

Regent Brager left the meeting.

Dr. Lopez Lasater emphasized that the metrics are not isolated data points but reflections of the institution's architecture. She stated that NSU’s structures, academic pathways, and community engagement are intentionally designed to align with student needs and regional economic opportunities. Acting President Lopez Lasater noted that the typical NSU student profile is female, Hispanic, and often first-generation or Pell-eligible, which necessitates an access-focused institutional design. Dr. Lopez Lasater noted that NSU has maintained steady growth in fall student counts, with a strategic focus on expanding graduate programs, including master’s degrees in Speech-Language Pathology, Nursing Leadership, and Education Specialist programs. She highlighted a 500% growth in concurrent enrollment since Fall 2018. Acting President Lasater identified this as a major mobility lever, noting that over 700 incoming students in Fall 2025 were former concurrent enrollment students. Dr. Lopez Lasater emphasized that NSU remains intentionally affordable, aided by COVID-19 relief funds and specific investments, such as a \$6 million scholarship contribution from the Clark County School District (CCSD).

She further highlighted that early investment in dual enrollment has shown a high return on investment, leading to better retention and improved performance in core subjects like math and English. Acting President Lopez Lasater celebrated that NSU is on track to surpass the 10,000-graduate threshold during the May commencement. Dr. Lopez Lasater attributed the upward trajectory in the 150% graduation rate to refinements across academic faculty and student support services.

22. Information Only-Institutional Performance Metrics, NSU (Agenda Item 20) – (Continued)

Dr. Lopez Lasater additionally noted the data indicates that Pell-eligible students are performing at nearly identical rates to their non-Pell peers, validating NSU's student success strategies and structural effectiveness in closing equity gaps. Acting President Lopez Lasater presented an overview of workforce alignment, noting that NSU graduates are entering critical fields such as nursing, elementary education, psychology, business, and criminal justice. Dr. Lopez Lasater reaffirmed NSU's commitment to refining its design to remain aligned with student mobility and Nevada's workforce needs.

Regent Arrascada returned to the meeting.

23. Approved-Procedures and Guidelines Manual Revision, RN to BSN Tuition and Fees, NSU (Agenda Item 21) – The Board approved a revision to the Procedures and Guidelines Manual (Chapter 7, Section 9) aligning NSU RN to BSN program non-resident tuition and fee rates with approved increases in the per credit registration fees for academic years 2026-27, 2027-28, and 2028-29 (Ref. BOR-21 on file in the Board Office).

Dr. Lopez Lasater explained that the proposed revision aims to align the non-resident tuition and fee rates for the RN to BSN program with the per-credit registration fee increases approved by the Board earlier this year. Dr. Lopez Lasater noted that this alignment is intended to ensure institutional equity, specifically to prevent out-of-state students from paying a lesser amount than in-state students.

Regent Brown moved approval of a revision to the *Procedures and Guidelines Manual (Chapter 7, Section 9)* aligning NSU RN to BSN program non-resident tuition and fee rates with approved increases in the per credit registration fees for academic years 2026-27, 2027-28, and 2028-29. Regent Del Carlo seconded. Motion carried. Regent Brager was absent.

24. Information Only-Procedures and Guidelines Manual Revision 2027-29 Tuition and Fees, UNLV Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine (Agenda Item 23) – University of Nevada, Las Vegas Interim President Chris Heavey presented the proposed 2027-29 biennium tuition and fee structure for the UNLV Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine (Procedures and Guidelines Manual Chapter 7, Sections 4 and 19). The proposal maintains the existing tuition and fee levels, with no increases for the 2027-29 biennium, and requests an adjustment to the distribution of fees to support reserves for the Medical Education Building. Final action on the proposed tuition and fees is scheduled to occur at the June 11-12, 2026, Board of Regents meeting (Ref. BOR-23 on file in the Board Office).

Interim President Heavey proposed to increase the portion of the registration fee allocated to the Capital Improvement Fund to 5%. The adjustment aims to create a reserve for the maintenance of the medical education building by reducing the amount previously allocated to the state operating budget. Interim President Heavey noted that this change would have no financial impact on students as the overall fee remains stable.

25. Information Only-Procedures and Guidelines Manual Revision, 2027-29 Tuition and Fees, UNLV School of Dental Medicine (Agenda Item 24) – University of Nevada, Las Vegas Interim President Chris Heavey presented the proposed 2027-29 biennium tuition and fee structure for the UNLV School of Dental Medicine (*Procedures and Guidelines Manual Chapter 7, Sections 6 and 21*). The proposal maintains the existing tuition and fee levels, with no increases for the 2027-29 biennium. Final action on the proposed tuition and fees is scheduled to occur at the June 11-12, 2026, Board of Regents meeting (*Ref. BOR-24 on file in the Board Office*).
26. Information Only-Procedures and Guidelines Manual Revision, 2027-29 Tuition and Fees, UNLV William S. Boyd School of Law (Agenda Item 25) – University of Nevada, Las Vegas Interim President Chris Heavey presented the proposed 2027-29 biennium tuition and fee structure for the UNLV William S. Boyd School of Law (*Procedures and Guidelines Manual Chapter 7, Sections 5 and 20*). The proposal reflects an increase in tuition and fees of approximately 3.5% in FY28 and 3.5% in FY29, including the summer term tuition and fees. The proposal also includes a revision to the second seat deposit deadline listed in the *Procedures and Guidelines Manual*, Chapter 7, Sections 5.C and 11.A. Final action on the proposed tuition and fees is scheduled to occur at the June 11-12, 2026, Board of Regents meeting. (*Ref. BOR-25 on file in the Board Office*).
27. Approved-Early Childhood Education Campus Building Naming, UNLV (Agenda Item 28) – The Board approved naming the expanded early childhood education campus located at the UNLV Maryland Campus as the Marlow Early Childhood Education Campus in recognition of significant philanthropic support provided by an anonymous donor family to support the growth of early childhood education facilities and programs at UNLV (*Ref. BOR-28 on file in the Board Office*).

Pursuant to NRS 281A, Regent Carvalho disclosed her status as a graduate student at UNLV. She stated that the independence of judgment of a reasonable person would not be materially affected and she will vote on the matter.

Interim President Heavey detailed that the expansion adds three buildings, effectively doubling the facility's size and increasing capacity by 72 to 80 students to address a waitlist of approximately 120 individuals. Dr. Heavey clarified that the project was funded by an anonymous donor (over \$10 million) who selected the Marlow name. Interim President Heavey confirmed that the Marlow Early Childhood Education Campus will serve as the overarching name for the campus, while existing buildings will retain their naming in honor of Lynn Bennett.

Regent Carvalho moved approval of naming the expanded early childhood education campus located at the UNLV Maryland Campus as the Marlow Early Childhood Education Campus in recognition of significant philanthropic support provided by an anonymous donor family to support the growth of early childhood education facilities and programs at UNLV. Regent Brown seconded. Motion carried. Regent Brager was absent.

28. Information Only-Employee Contract Buyouts Report (Agenda Item 19) – Chief Counsel James Martines presented a report on employee contract buyouts for each institution and System Administration for calendar year 2025, pursuant to Board policy (*Title 4, Chapter 3, Section 49*), (*Ref. BOR-19 on file in the Board Office*).

Regent Brager returned to the meeting.

Chief General Counsel Martines noted the report covers buyouts resulting from notices of contract termination or non-renewal under Code Section 5.9. Mr. Martines explained that the policy allows for buyouts of notice periods (e.g., a six-month buyout for a one-year notice period) to achieve long-term cost savings and secure separation agreements. He noted that specific details remain confidential under personnel record codes. The report highlighted a significant decrease in buyouts following the implementation of annual Board reporting and policy reviews initiated in 2018-2019. Chief General Counsel Martines stated that while the average number of buyouts from 2019 to 2022 was 18 per year, the current report reflects only seven.

Regent Del Carlo emphasized that what gets measured matters, highlighting that the policy has successfully reduced the average number of buyouts from 18 per year down to seven in 2025. She described this as a judicious use of limited funds and encouraged the Board to maintain the policy, suggesting it incentivizes better hiring and employee improvement plans.

Chief General Counsel Martines further explained that certain litigation settlements, such as those involving the EEOC or diverse legal claims, are separate from this specific policy and are not included in this report. He noted that the Board may request a separate list of litigation settlements if desired.

29. Information Only-Institutional Performance Metrics, DRI (Agenda Item 26) – Desert Research Institute President Kumud Acharya presented data and metrics on DRI's progress in achieving the strategic goals adopted by the Board of Regents (*Ref. BOR-26 on file in the Board Office*).

President Acharya highlighted DRI's 65-year history of addressing global environmental challenges. He emphasized DRI's commitment to conducting science that provides immediate solutions for human and environmental health, working closely with communities across Nevada and the world. Dr. Acharya shared that after the January 2025 LA wildfires, DRI scientists, led by Faculty Senate Chair Dr. Vera Samburova, conducted toxicological sampling of ash and burnt materials to provide data-driven mitigation strategies for community rebuilding. President Acharya also highlighted the Nevada Heat Lab led by Ariel Shannard. The lab focuses on extreme heat events and social vulnerability. Recent studies evaluated the effectiveness of cooling stations in Southern Nevada, noting that Reno and Las Vegas are the fastest-warming cities in the country. Dr. Acharya described a collaboration with NASA and Google utilizing satellite data to monitor evapotranspiration. The program is being considered for permanent USGS funding via federal legislation. Additionally, the Nevada Water Initiative is currently assisting the State Engineer's office by updating 70-year-old groundwater databases. DRI is assisting the Department of Defense with gap crossing models in diverse terrains (Panama, Alaska,

29. Information Only-Institutional Performance Metrics, DRI (Agenda Item 26) – *(Continued)*

Yuma) and is developing tools to monitor the high energy and water demands of Nevada's growing data center industry. President Acharya promoted the Research Immersion Internship program which has provided 102 paid, 16-week internships, primarily targeting first-generation community college students in non-STEM fields. Dr. Acharya added that in 2025, DRI's STEM programs reached 43,000 students and 37,000 community members. Those include the Nevada Robotics program and the distribution of Green Boxes, with 60 new boxes dedicated to AI and computer science education funded by a \$2.7M Department of Education grant. President Acharya noted a strategic shift in faculty demographics, increasing Rank 2 and 3 faculty to ensure long-term institutional stability. DRI's revenue is trending upward, reaching approximately \$70M in FY25. President Acharya detailed major funding sources including the DoD and DOE (37%), with non-federal sources making up 28%. He further noted that for every \$1 of state funding received, DRI brings an additional \$4.95 into the State of Nevada. Dr. Acharya stated that the institution's endowment stands at approximately \$50M as of June 2025, with philanthropic fundraising growing to \$2.5M annually. He shared highlights from the Curiosity Lab and May the Science Be With You events, which successfully bridge the gap between complex research and public understanding. Dr. Acharya presented one-minute video illustrating the collaborative mission of Nevada's research institutions.

Regent Boylan inquired about the library-style lending program for robots and drones mentioned during the presentation. President Acharya confirmed that DRI currently offers students and teachers the opportunity to borrow this equipment for classroom use at no cost. The program is currently targeted toward K-12 and higher education students to support STEM learning. However President Acharya noted that the program might be opened to the general public in the future if inventory allows. Dr. Acharya emphasized that those programs are supported through grant funding.

Vice Chair Goodman raised concerns regarding the environmental impact of large-scale data centers and their significant consumption of water and electricity. President Acharya explained that while many corporations have internal sustainability plans to minimize their carbon and water footprints, the industry is currently moving at a rapid winner-takes-all pace. He clarified that DRI's role as a non-biased entity is to provide public data regarding resource usage to ensure transparency. Dr. Acharya further noted that government accountability and federal administration efforts are necessary to maintain public affordability and resource management. Regent Brown commented on the state's role in managing data center growth, suggesting that Nevada could curtail incentives if necessary, but noted that DRI serves as a protective layer by monitoring these impacts. Regent Brown commended DRI for its high level of engagement, noting that despite receiving only 1.5% of NSHE's overall budget, the leadership maintains a constant presence at meetings. Regent Brown further highlighted the May the Science Be With You event and the Green Box initiative as successful examples of DRI's ability to remain world-renowned while maintaining a hyper-local impact.

Items 30 through 36 were taken together.

30. Approved-Workforce Committee – The Board accepted the report of the Workforce Committee and approved the Committee recommendation (*Committee report on file in the Board Office*).

Information Items

- Discussion centered on Credit for Prior Learning and statewide efforts to improve alignment and consistency.
- Dr. Fred Steinmann from UNR UCED and Andrew Woods from UNLV CBER presented a program demand gap analysis and sector projections, highlighting workforce trends and 14 target occupation sectors aligned with the state’s growing industries.
- A systemwide update on CPL implementation and workforce planning was also provided, including progress from the Fall 2025 CPL Conference, ongoing efforts to standardize portfolio assessment, and upcoming priorities for 2026 focused on transparency, alignment, and expansion.

Action Item

The Board approved the following recommendation of the Workforce Committee:

- Approval of the minutes of the June 25, 2025, meeting of the Workforce Committee (*Ref. WF-2 on file in the Board Office*).

31. Approved-ad hoc Nevada State University Presidential Search Committee – The Board accepted the report of the ad hoc Nevada State University Presidential Search Committee meeting held on February 6, 2026, and approved the Committee recommendation (*Committee report on file in the Board Office*).

Information Items

- Chair Carvalho along with Dr. Gabriel Esteban and Mary Kennard from Academic Search reviewed the president search process which included a proposed timeline; recruitment and screening of applicants; semifinalist candidate interviews to be conducted by the Search Chair, in consultation with the Chancellor and search consultants; selection of finalist candidates by the Search Chair; on-campus open forums with each finalist; in-person interviews with the Search Committee; and the recommendation of a nominee, or nominees, for consideration by the full Board of Regents (*Ref. NSU PSC-3 on file in the Board Office*).
- The Committee reviewed and discussed the draft President Leadership Profile and directed the search consultants to revise the draft based on comments received at the meeting, with final review and approval by the Committee Chair (*Supplemental Material – Ref. NSU PSC-4 on file in the Board Office*).
- The Committee reviewed and approved the advertising plan including venues in which to place announcements, as well as direct outreach methods (*Ref. NSU PSC-5 on file in the Board Office*).

31. Approved-ad hoc Nevada State University Presidential Search Committee – *(Continued)*

Action Item

The Board approved the following recommendation of the ad hoc NSU Presidential Search Committee:

- Approval of the minutes from the November 24, 2025, meeting (*Ref. NSU PSC-2 on file in the Board Office*).

32. Approved-Security Committee – The Board accepted the Security Committee report and approved the Committee recommendation (*Committee report on file in the Board Office*).

Information Items

- Chair Boylan advised on interesting things that have happened at different campuses since the last meeting including emergency management training.
- Vice Chancellor and Chief General Counsel James Martines presented an update on the University Police Department External Evaluation required by the Board of Regents *Handbook*, Title 4, Chapter 1, Section 12.14.
- Arnold Vasquez, Chief of Police, University Police Services, Southern Command, presented Southern Command's 2025 Annual Activity Report.
- Eric James, Chief of Police, University Police Services, Northern Command, presented the Northern Command's 2025 Annual Activity Report.
- Thomas Dobbert, Chief Information Security Officer, System Computing Services, presented an update on NSHE cybersecurity.

Action Item

The Board approved the following recommendation of the Security Committee:

- Approval of the November 18, 2025, meeting minutes (*Ref. SEC-2 on file in the Board Office*).

33. Approved-Audit, Compliance and Title IX Committee – The Board accepted the Audit, Compliance and Title IX Committee report and approved the Committee recommendations (*Committee report on file in the Board Office*).

Information Items

- NSHE Human Resources representative Sherry Olson provided general remarks on Title IX regulations.
- Chief Internal Auditor Lauren Tripp presented a revision to the Code (Title 2, Chapter 9, Section 9.2) to provide clarification on documentation within the department and the confidentiality of department documentation.
- Chief Internal Auditor Lauren Tripp provided general remarks regarding departmental updates, initiatives, and alignment related to ongoing risk assessments and themes observed

33. Approved-Audit, Compliance and Title IX Committee – *(Continued)*

Action Items

The Board approved the following recommendations of the Audit, Compliance and Title IX Committee:

- The November 20, 2025, meeting minutes *(Ref. AC-2a on file in the Board Office)*.
- Follow-up Responses to Audit Reports: Acceptance of the follow-up responses to the following audit reports:
 - Change in Leadership, GBC *(Ref AC-2b on file in the Board Office)*.
 - Special Course and Differential Program Fees, UNLV *(Ref. AC-2c on file in the Board Office)*.
- School of Dental Medicine, UNLV: The report and institutional response to the UNLV School of Dental Medicine audit for the period of July 1, 2024, through May 31, 2025.
- Uniform Guidance Audit Report, NSHE: The results of the NSHE Single Audit (Uniform Guidance) for the year ended June 30, 2025.
- Internal Audit Department Work Plan and Status Report: The Internal Audit Work Plan for the six-month period ending June 30, 2026, and the Internal Audit Department Status Report for the six-month period ended December 31, 2025. *(Ref. AC-7 on file in the Board Office)*.

34. Approved-Health Sciences System Committee – The Board accepted the Health Sciences System Committee report and approved the Committee recommendation *(Committee report on file in the Board Office)*.

Information Items

- Dr. Marcia Turner, NSHE Associate Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences, highlighted key opportunities for NSHE programs to apply for the Nevada Health Authority's \$180 million Rural Health Transformation grant program.
- Dr. Alison Netski, Interim Dean of the UNLV Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine, provided an overview of the school's academic, administrative, and clinical operations.
- Dr. Shawn Gerstenberger, Acting Dean of UNLV School of Dental Medicine, provided an overview of the school's academic, administrative, and clinical operations, highlighting key priorities and ongoing initiatives.

Action Item

The Board approved the following recommendation of the Health Sciences Committee:

- Approval of the September 4, 2025, meeting minutes. *(Ref. HSS-2 on file in the Board Office)*.

35. Approved – Academic, Research, and Student Affairs Committee – The Board accepted the Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee report and approved the Committee recommendations (*Committee Report on file in the Board Office*).

Pursuant to NRS 281A, Regent Carvalho disclosed that she is a graduate student at UNLV, but stated her independence of judgment would not be materially affected and she will vote on the item.

Information Items

- Associate Vice Chancellor Renee Davis presented for information and discussion proposed revisions to Board policy (*Title 4, Chapter 12, Sections 2 and 8*).
- Associate Vice Chancellor Renee Davis presented information on reduced credit baccalaureate programs.
- Associate Vice Chancellor Renee Davis provided an overview of challenges and opportunities associated with NSHE’s general education approach.
- UNR Executive Vice President and Provost Jeffrey Thompson presented preliminary information on a proposed College of Veterinary Medicine.

Action Items

The Board approved the following recommendations of the Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee:

- The December 4, 2025, meeting minutes (*Ref. ARSA-2a on file in the Board Office*).
- Elimination of the following programs at WNC:
 - Associate of Applied Science in Construction Technology, Craft Training: Carpentry emphasis (*Ref. ARSA-2b on file in the Board Office*).
 - Associate of Applied Science in Construction Technology, Craft Training: Electrical emphasis (*Ref. ARSA-2c on file in the Board Office*).
 - Associate of Applied Science in Construction Technology, Craft Training: Plumbing emphasis (*Ref. ARSA-2d on file in the Board Office*).
- Nominations for 2026 Regents’ Awards (*Ref. ARSA-3 on file in the Board Office*).
- Elimination of the following programs at WNC:
 - Associate of Applied Science in Accounting (*Ref. ARSA-4a on file in the Board Office*).
 - Associate of Applied Science in General Business (*Ref. ARSA-4b on file in the Board Office*).
 - Associate of Applied Science in Management (*Ref. ARSA-4c on file in the Board Office*).
- Establishment of the following organizational units at UNLV:
 - Nevada General Curriculum Access Center (*Ref. ARSA-5a on file in the Board Office*).
 - Nevada Institute of Cybersecurity (*Ref. ARSA-5b on file in the Board Office*).
- Establishment of the Nevada Forest and Woodland Restoration Institute at UNR (*Ref. ARSA-6 on file in the Board Office*).
- Associate of Applied Science in Construction Management at TMCC (*Ref. ARSA-7 on file in the Board Office*).
- Elimination of the Associate of Applied Science in Mechatronics and Electronics at WNC (*Ref. ARSA-8a on file in the Board Office*).

35. Approved – Academic, Research, and Student Affairs Committee – (Continued)

- Associate of Applied Science in Technology, Mechatronics and Electronics emphasis at WNC (*Ref. ARSA-8b on file in the Board Office*).
- Revision to Board policy (*Title 4, Chapter 14, Section 29*) defining no-cost Open Educational Resources (OER) and low-cost course materials (*Ref. ARSA-10 on file in the Board Office*).
- A temporary exemption for CSN from the co-requisite program to offer an experimental math program (*Refs. ARSA-13a and ARSA-13b on file in the Board Office*).

36. Approved-Business, Finance and Facilities Committee – The Board accepted the Business, Finance and Facilities Committee Report and approved the Committee recommendations (*Committee Report on file in the Board Office*):

Pursuant to NRS Chapter 281A, Regent Downs disclosed his employment at Western Nevada College (WNC) with respect to the summer teaching agenda item. He clarified that his pay is self-supporting from student fees, and under legal counsel's advice, he confirmed he would vote as his judgment remained unaffected.

Information Items

- NSHE Chief Financial Officer Chris Viton presented the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Capital Improvement Fee Report.
- NSHE Chief Financial Officer Chris Viton presented the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 General Improvement Fee Report.
- NSHE Chief Financial Officer Chris Viton presented the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Activities and Programs Fee Report.
- NSHE Chief Financial Officer Chris Viton presented the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Gift Accounts Report.

Action Items

The Board approved the following recommendations of the Business, Finance and Facilities Committee:

- The December 4, 2025, meeting minutes (*Ref. BFF-2a on file in the Board Office*).
- Acceptance of the NSHE Real Property Inventory Report for Calendar Year 2025 (*Ref. BFF-2b on file in the Board Office*).
- Acceptance of the Second Quarter Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Report of Budget Transfers of State Supported or Self-Supporting Operating Budget Funds between Functions (*Ref. BFF-2c on file in the Board Office*).
- Acceptance of the Second Quarter Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Report of Fiscal Exceptions on Self-Supporting Budgets (*Ref. BFF-3 on file in the Board Office*).
- Acceptance of the Calendar Year 2025 Summer Session Budget to Actual Comparison and Calendar Year 2026 Summer Session Budgets (*Ref. BFF-4 on file in the Board Office*).

36. Approved-Business, Finance and Facilities Committee – (Continued)

- A Resolution allowing NSHE, on behalf of UNR and UNLV, to issue up to \$40,775,000 of fixed-rate tax exempt universities revenue bonds to refinance the existing 2016A Universities Revenue Bonds for debt service savings subject to established Board of Regents approved debt management guidelines (*Ref. BFF-9 on file in the Board Office*).
- The 2025 TMCC Facilities Master Plan (*Ref. BFF-10 on file in the Board Office*).
- A Resolution pertaining to the issuance of obligations for the purpose of financing campus facilities for NSU; authorizing the Vice Chancellor of Budget and Finance/Chief Financial Officer to arrange for the sale of obligations; and providing other matters pertaining thereto authorizing the issuance of NSHE certificates of participation in a maximum principal amount of up to \$3.6 million to support the financing of the new waterline (*Ref. BFF-11 on file in the Board Office*).
- A Lease Extension with the Nevada Department of Wildlife for property located at the UNR Valley Road Field Lab Experiment Station, 1100 Valley Road, Reno, Nevada, and granting authority to the Chancellor to execute the Lease Extension, any non-material or corrective amendments to the Lease Extension, and any other ancillary agreements, documents, or applications that may be required to implement the Lease Extension (*Ref. BFF-12 on file in the Board Office*).
- A Resolution authorizing the University to enter into the following agreements related to the Davidson Academy of Nevada: 1) Ground Lease by and between the Board of Regents, on behalf of the University of Nevada, Reno, and Corelink-DA Holdings LLC, a Nevada limited liability company affiliated with the Davidson Academy and the Davidson Institute for Talent Development; 2) Fourth Amended Lease Agreement by and between the Board of Regents, on behalf of the University of Nevada, Reno, and the Davidson Academy of Nevada; and 3) Amendment to the Agreement Regarding the Davidson Academy of Nevada dated November 11, 2005, between the Board of Regents, on behalf of the University of Nevada, Reno, and the Davidson Institute for Talent Development; and granting authority to the Chancellor to execute the Ground Lease and related agreements and any non-material or corrective amendments to the agreements, as well as any ancillary documents and disclosures necessary to implement the terms of the agreements (*Ref. BFF-13 on file in the Board Office*).

Regent Boylan moved approval of Agenda Items
30-36. Regent Carvalho seconded. Motion carried.

37. Information Only-New Business – Vice Chair Goodman requested a faculty summer salary comparison from all the institutions based on public comments heard earlier in the meeting.

Regent Del Carlo requested that the Board invite Dr. Taormino from CSN to present his 90-minute seminar on AI to the Regents.

Regent Downs requested an agenda item to discuss collective bargaining, specifically to understand the current status across institutions and provide direction to institutional leadership. He also requested a review of the definition of good faith bargaining and a

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

discussion regarding binding arbitration, seeking perspectives from legal counsel outside of the System.

Regent Arrascada requested updates regarding the \$70 million in student fees and the recently acquired building by UNLV on Maryland Parkway.

Prior to moving to public comment, Chair Brooks expressed extensive gratitude to the various teams that facilitated the quarterly meeting at the College of Southern Nevada (CSN).

38. Information Only-Public Comment – None.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Prepared by: Klaas H. Van Der Wey
Special Assistant and Coordinator to the Board of Regents

Submitted for approval by: Keri D. Nikolajewski
Chief of Staff to the Board of Regents