



**MINUTES**  
**Montana Board of Regents**  
Conference Call Meeting  
February 11, 2011

The board convened by conference call at 1:30 PM.

Roll call indicated a quorum present.

**Regents Present:**, Clayton Christian, Chair, Steve Barrett, Lynn Hamilton, Angela McLean, Major Robinson, Teresa Borrenpohl, and Commissioner of Higher Education Sheila Stearns, *ex officio*, all by phone. Governor Brian Schweitzer, *ex officio*, was represented by Dan Villa by phone. Regents Todd Buchanan, Angela McLean, and Superintendent Denise Juneau, *ex officio*, were excused.

Sites represented by phone were: Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE), MSU-Bozeman, MSU-Billings, MSU-Northern, MSU-Great Falls COT, UM-Missoula, MT Tech, UM-Western, UM-Helena COT, Flathead Valley Community College, Dawson Community College, Miles Community College, and the Office of the Governor.

**Friday, February 11, 2011**

Approval of Minutes

- January 13, 2011 Minutes
- January 18, 2011 Conference Call Minutes

Regent Stephen Barrett moved approval of the January 13, 2011 minutes and January 18, 2011 conference call meeting minutes. Motion passed 6-0.

**INFORMATION**

Legislative Update

Commissioner Stearns reported on bills of interest to the Montana University System (MUS) and explained legislative subcommittee action and executive action to date related to the MUS. Several decision packages are yet to be acted upon. She said the MUS is tracking legislation involving a wide range of issues from budgets, bonding, workers' compensation, pay plan, student health insurance and electing the board.

Regent Steve Barrett noted that he is supportive of the bonding bill as long as the bill is consistent with BOR priorities.

**ACTION**

- a. Amendment of Authorization for ADA Modifications; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 150-2008-C0211*
- b. Amendment of Authorization for Roof Replacement; MSU-Billings *ITEM 150-2701-C0211*



c. Authority Approval for Renovation of HPER Building; MT Tech *ITEM 150-1501-C0211*

Regent Barrett asked about the increase of authority requested for the renovation of the MT Tech HPER Building in comparison to the original request. Chancellor Frank Gilmore said the engineers had given the wrong estimate in the original proposal primarily on the mechanical part of the project. MT Tech was also surprised that the project came in as high as it did and as much over the original estimate as it did. He noted that MT Tech has made some reductions in the project by 7%, as allowed by law, and that they will use some auxiliary funds for the additional costs. Chancellor Gilmore said the campus explored the possibility of bidding the project, but found out the bids would come in even higher. The redesign also increased the square footage for the project to meet the needs of the students.

Deputy Commissioner Mick Robinson, OCHE, verified that the Architecture and Engineering Division (A&E) at the Department of Administration said the square footage cost would be even higher if this would go out for re-bid and A&E recommended going forth with the project as it was bid.

Regent Hamilton questioned the meaning of terms in the two items involving Intercap loan contract amendments. Craig Roloff and Mick Robinson clarified that “net pledged revenue” refers to the monies which are pledged for the underlying bonds, and the “other lawful purpose money” is money which is excess after the bond indebtedness is paid. Student building fees and other auxiliary fees are part of net pledged revenue and also part of other lawful purpose money. The Board of Investments clarified the contracts to indicate that any net pledged revenue, from auxiliary funds or elsewhere, would be available to repay the Intercap loan, if needed. President Cruzado reiterated her pledge that student fees will not be raised to pay the loan for the Stadium. Regent Borrenpohl clarified that the students are aware that student fees are included in these terms.

Regent Barrett moved approval of action items a-c. Motion passed 6-0.

- 2:00 PM Executive Session
• Honorary Degree; MSU-Northern

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 PM.

Approved by the Board of Regents on

Date

Date

Sheila M. Stearns
Commissioner of Higher Education
and Secretary to the Board of Regents

Clayton Christian
Chair, Board of Regents