



**New Mexico Higher Education Department
Capital Projects Committee Meeting
Animas Conference Room
2044 Galisteo Street, Suite 4
Santa Fe, NM 87505**

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

9:30 a.m.

MINUTES

1. Call Meeting to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:31am

2. Roll Call of Committee Members

Present were Chairman Campos, Member Jorgensen, Member Trujillo, Member Martinez, Member Guillen, and Member Brown

3. Approval of Agenda

Approved

4. Approval of Minutes from October 8, 2025, Capital Projects Committee Meeting

Approved

5. Announcements:

- a. Next Capital Projects Committee Meeting will be held on ~~December 10~~ **Thursday December 11, 2025**.
- b. Reminder, capital outlay forms and instructions for reauthorizations are available online at the nmlegis.gov. Deadline is ~~February 3~~ **Sunday, February 1, 2026 by 3:00pm**. Review all projects with a reversion date of June 30, 2026. If you are pursuing a reauthorization for any project(s), reach out to the NMHED capital division.
- c. Reminder, the form to request capital funding through the Governor's office is available online at nmlegis.gov and through the Governor's website. It opened Saturday, November 1 and will close Monday, December 15. If you have questions, reach out to DFA IPDD.
- d. NMHED offices will be closed November 27th and 28th, 2025.



Projects to be reviewed

**6. Eastern New Mexico University-Roswell – \$1,809,030
Instructional Technology Center Roof Replacement**

Presenters: Dr. Shawn Powell, President, ENMU-RO

ENMU–Roswell presented a roof replacement for the Instructional Technology Center, replacing a 25-year-old system damaged during the 2023 hailstorm and addressing additional deterioration previously identified in the campus Facility Master Plan. Insurance proceeds will cover the hail-related portion, with institutional capital reserves supporting master-plan repairs included in the project scope. The committee reviewed the distinction between construction-only costs and total project funding and emphasized ensuring roof insulation meets current energy-code requirements. ENMU–Roswell noted sustained increases in enrollment and program capacity pressures in aviation maintenance, nursing, welding, and HVAC, underscoring the importance of stabilizing core infrastructure.

Approved

**7. New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology – \$950,000
Bureau of Geology Seismic Instrumentation Installation**

Presenters: Alex Garcia, Director Capital Projects, NMIMT; J. Michael Timmons, Director and State Geologist, Bureau of Geology; Urbi Basu, Research Scientist/Manager, NMIMT

New Mexico Tech requested approval to procure and install new and upgraded seismic monitoring stations across southern New Mexico and statewide. The deployment expands the Permian Basin network for induced-seismicity monitoring and modernizes legacy stations near Socorro while establishing New Mexico's first integrated, public-facing statewide seismic network. Real-time data will support regulators, researchers, and industry following injection-related seismic events. Committee dialogue addressed installation timelines, RFP status, coordination with Texas' TexNet, machine-learning detection of micro-events, land-lease arrangements (primarily BLM/state parcels), and data applications for hazard assessment.

Approved



8. Northern New Mexico College – \$516,864.69
NNMC Metal Trades Building Roofing Replacement

Presenters: Hector Balderas, President, NNMC; Theresa Storey, Chief Financial Officer, NNMC; Shawn Madrid, Director of Facilities, NNMC

NNMC proposed replacing the original 46-year-old roof on the Metal Trades Building, a core instructional facility supporting 11 trades and cultural heritage programs. The project follows significant recent interior upgrades and aligns with the institution's efforts to revitalize aging facilities across the Española campus. NNMC reported notable enrollment growth in trades coursework and described the building's transformation from underutilized space to an active workforce-training hub. Committee members reviewed contractor vetting, expected construction duration, and prior patch-repair history and emphasized verifying roof-insulation levels to meet current standards.

Approved

9. University of New Mexico-Valencia – \$1,200,000
UNM Valencia Business and Technology Classroom and Lab Renovation

Presenters: Dr. Garnett Stokes, President, UNM; Teresa Costantinidis, Executive VP, Finance & Administration, UNM; Tabia, Murray Allred, Executive Director, Institutional Support Services, UNM

UNM presented a partial renovation (12,750 SF of the 30,580 SF Business & Technology Building, built 1986) on the Valencia campus to modernize aging classrooms, labs, and support space. Scope includes new interior walls and finishes, LED lighting, ceiling replacement, removal of abandoned baseboard heaters, HVAC upgrades, replacement of non-code-compliant windows, installation of blinds, and construction of a new exterior kiln area with a steel-framed sloped roof for covered outdoor work. UNM noted that additional classroom capacity on campus will minimize disruption during construction.

Approved



10. University of New Mexico – \$547,508

Ortega Hall Repairs and Upgrades

Presenters: Dr. Garnett Stokes, President, UNM; Teresa Costantinidis, Executive VP, Finance & Administration, UNM; Tabia, Murray Allred, Executive Director, Institutional Support Services, UNM

UNM requested targeted structural and roof repairs to Ortega Hall (built 1971) to maintain safe occupancy for approximately five years until a new Humanities building is completed and occupied. The project addresses spalling and cracking concrete elements caused by moisture and freeze-thaw cycles, along with localized roof and weatherproofing repairs near the central skylight. UNM emphasized that scope is limited to essential life-safety and liability mitigation, given Ortega's long-term demolition plan following completion of the new Humanities facility (anticipated fall 2028). Committee members expressed concern about investing in a building slated for removal but acknowledged the need to protect occupants and manage risk after other relocation options were exhausted.

Approved

11. University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center – \$2,400,000

REVISION - UH Main - Central Utility Plant - Electrical Switchgear Upgrade

Presenters: Dr. Michael Richards, Executive Vice President, UNM Health Sciences; Enrico Volpato, Executive Director, UNMH Facility Services, UNMH; Gregory Smith, Interim Director, UNMH Planning & Construction

UNM Hospital returned with a revision to the UH Main Central Utility Plant electrical switchgear upgrade, increasing total project authority from \$1.7M to \$2.4M. The project replaces five switchgear units that protect, isolate, and synchronize power from the hospital's emergency generators. After a state price agreement, the contractor determined that the existing, interconnected gear could not be replaced one unit at a time as originally assumed; work must instead proceed in two phases (three switchgear, then two), each supported by rental generators and temporary cabling to maintain emergency power. The added cost is driven primarily by temporary generation and revised means and methods. UNM plans to use current authority to procure custom-engineered equipment (approx. \$1.4M, six-month lead time) and cover the \$700,000 overage by reprioritizing internal capital funds. Committee questions addressed lifespan (25–30 years), future temporary-power docking capability, and tariff/supply-chain risk.

Approved



12. New Mexico State University-Alamogordo – \$625,000

Townsend Library Wind Damage Roof Replacement

Presenters: Berta Zubiata, University Architect, NMSU; Jose Loera, Executive Director, NMSU

NMSU–Alamogordo sought approval to replace the roof on the 13,862 SF Townsend Library (built 1982), which is exhibiting separation, blistering, and wind damage. The existing system was last replaced in 2001 with a 15-year warranty. NMSU will remove and replace the roof in accordance with current manufacturer specifications and energy code. Core testing of the lightweight concrete substrate will determine whether the system can be re-used or if a full tear-off to the deck and tapered insulation system is required; either approach will be designed to meet R-value requirements. The new system will carry a 20-year warranty. Risk Management Division (RMD) will fund the project, with the campus covering a \$2,500 deductible. Committee members highlighted the unusually strong insurance coverage and reiterated expectations for current energy-code compliance.

Approved

13. New Mexico State University – ~~\$1,517,226~~ **\$1,529,445**

Arrowhead Park Multi-Use Path

Presenters: Berta Zubiata, University Architect, NMSU; Jose Loera, Executive Director, NMSU

NMSU presented a multi-use path project, converting an auto-oriented corridor into a more pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly area. The project is consistent with the Arrowhead Park master plan and will tie into the broader campus trail system to support walkability, safety, and future research-park development. Scope includes new ADA ramps, concrete sidewalks, asphalt path paving, temporary traffic control, and installation of permanent signage and striping. Design was initiated in January 2025 and completed in August 2025; construction is planned for December 2025 through May 2026. Funding totals \$1,529,445, with support from state transportation (NMDOT) resources and a match from Arrowhead Center, Inc. It was confirmed that although infrastructure is owned by the NMSU Board of Regents, maintenance responsibilities are funded through lease-revenue O&M payments established in the master ground lease and Research Park Act agreements. The committee requested a clear demonstration of the maintenance funding formula since Arrowhead Center revenues do not appear in capital submissions.

Approved contingent on the following:

- Provide annual maintenance and operations (M/O) costs documentation



14. New Mexico State University – \$2,050,000

Baseball Field Turf Replacement

Presenters: Berta Zubiato, University Architect, NMSU; Jose Loera, Executive Director, NMSU

NMSU presented a full synthetic-turf replacement for the baseball facility, replacing aging synthetic turf and natural-grass outfield areas (last installed 2015). The project modernizes field quality, improves durability, reduces irrigation, and decreases maintenance associated with mowing, reseeding, and field lining. Turf maintenance will be absorbed by NMSU Grounds and offset by reduced natural-grass upkeep. Committee members raised concerns about the athletic department's significant deficit and requested documentation of forthcoming budget adjustments already discussed with campus leadership.

Approved contingent on the following:

- Provide annual maintenance and operations (M/O) costs documentation
- Provide planning framework documentation that Regents approved

15. New Mexico State University – \$7,000,000

Drilling Domestic Well #11

Presenters: Berta Zubiato, University Architect, NMSU; Jose Loera, Executive Director, NMSU

NMSU requested funding to drill and construct a replacement for Well No. 11, a high-capacity potable and agricultural supply well tied to the campus district system. The existing well—one of several aging wells dating back to the 1970s—has been capped, and the new design incorporates EPA AWIA security requirements, chlorine-gas injection to reduce long-term operational costs, high-efficiency motors, and a well house with improved site security. Location is constrained by Office of the State Engineer requirements and alignment with existing utility corridors. Committee questions focused on water-rights implications, cost drivers, prior capping timelines, utility-rate structures, and whether city water was a viable alternative. NMSU noted recent utility business-model changes and rate adjustments approved by the Regents to support long-term R&R.

Approved contingent on the following:

- Provide utility rate schedule documentation
- Provide policy changes and business model documentation



16. New Mexico State University – \$31,650,000
NMRC Reforestation Center

Presenters: Berta Zubiarte, University Architect, NMSU; Jose Loera, Executive Director, NMSU

The university consortium (NMSU, NMHU, UNM, and EMNRD) led by NMSU presented Phase 1 of the New Mexico Reforestation Center in Mora, responding to severe statewide post-fire reforestation needs. Phase 1 constructs two 19,783 SF greenhouses and a 19,630 SF head house, expands nursery capacity from ~300,000 to 1 million seedlings annually, and includes utility and road improvements. Additional phases will add administrative space, seed-bank facilities, and three more greenhouses. The project is supported by state general funds, federal USDA grants, and research appropriations. Committee members emphasized the project's statewide importance, requested long-term economic development estimates for Mora and surrounding communities, and discussed timeline expectations for reforesting the Hermits Peak/Calf Canyon and Ruidoso fire scars.

Approved

17. Adjourn

Adjourned at 11:38am